



Pan-London Perioperative Audit & Research Network

NEWS

Issue 5 - Autumn 2017



MULTI-CENTRE

RESEARCH

AUDIT

PUBLISH

COLLABORATE

- Our new project evaluating maternity information on anaesthesia (**QUAIL**) to start in late November 2017
- New project on bariatric surgery airway management selected by audience vote at the **PLAN Annual General Meeting** in September 2017
- **ALPINE** study on post-op pulmonary complications following emergency laparotomy surgery and **iOPS** study of intra-op FiO2 submitted for publication
- The **DREAMY** study, investigating accidental awareness under general anaesthesia, has recruited over 800 patients and continues nationwide
- New chair and vice chair appointed: Kate Grailey (Bart's) & Clare Morkane (North Central), replacing Peter Odor (St. George's) & Helen Laycock (Imperial)

Plenty of exciting news to share with you on our progress over the past 6 months. Most importantly, we are now **launching our next project, QUAIL, to start in November**. QUAIL is a 2 day snap-shot audit of the quality of information given to mothers for labour and delivery (read on for details), in which we will be pioneering a new Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) approach to multi-centre data collection.

Peter Odor and **Helen Laycock** are stepping down as Chair and Vice chair respectively. They have both done fantastic work and been involved since the beginning of PLAN. Peter approaches the end of his 3 year term as chair, but will continue to support PLAN and concentrate on his role as Chief Investigator of the **DREAMY** study. Helen now has an academic clinical lectureship post, but will also continue to offer her extensive expertise to the network.

Kate Grailey will be the new PLAN chair. Kate is a North East trainee and is due to start her MD soon. **Clare Morkane** will be the new vice chair, Clare is a North Central trainee **Emma Casey** will be taking over from Harriet Kemp as a North West trainee representative and committee member.

You too can help steer and organise the network! Join our committee to represent trainees across your School of Anaesthesia in London. We have reps from each school, communicate using web-based project management tools and hold committee meetings every 2-3 months. **Register your interest to get involved by contacting us on: PLAN@uk-plan.net**

New Project

QUality of Anaesthetic Information given for Labour (**QUAIL**)

Guidelines from the OAA and AAGBI recommend that all expectant mothers, irrespective of birthing plan, are provided with up-to-date, good quality, evidence based information regarding analgesia for labour and anaesthesia for caesarean section. This information should initially be given in the antenatal period and then re-visited if needed during labour. We are responsible for ensuring our patients have been given fully informed consent for a procedure. In order to do this the women must have had sufficient time prior to labour to consider their analgesic and anaesthetic options and the risks and benefits involved.



We are conducting a survey of recently delivered mothers across London to elicit what information they received and where they received it during their preparations for birth and whether they feel this was good enough to prepare them for labour. The project will run for two non-consecutive 24-hour periods on the post-natal ward. Investigators will be asked to identify eligible mothers, give them an information leaflet and then ask them to complete an on line survey using a hand held device (iPad etc).

To get involved contact: **Rebecca Brinkler at rebeccabrinkler@gmail.com**

PLAN Annual General Meeting 2017

We held our [2017 AGM](#) in Senate House, in September. The turn out from trainees and consultants was good, providing an enthusiastic audience for our speakers. **The AGM is an opportunity to hear updates and information on past, current and future PLAN projects and to find out how you can contribute to the network.**

This year we had a range of speakers, including our own Alex Wickham, who gave a talk entitled 'turn your dreams into reality'. He shared insight into how he managed to successfully run RAFT's national [iHypE](#) project earlier this year. Alex described how he had a keen interest in research, but did not want to take time out of training for a formal research degree. He was able to use PLAN as a platform for his QUINCE project, which was then selected to run as a RAFT project. The dedication and amount of time Alex poured into this project was phenomenal, however it is paying off, he's presented at international level and the manuscript is being prepared. **His top tips to succeed with any project: work hard, be nice to people and look after yourself!**

Steve Yentis provided an open Q&A session, generating interesting discussions on what the barriers are in the UK to good research, the problems with the taxonomy of projects, and how to avoid research misconduct. **Asako Shida**, a research fellow from Chelsea and Westminster, talked on HRA and REC issues. Dr Shida succinctly explained the IRAS, integrated research application system - no mean feat in 30 minutes! **Duncan Wagstaff**, a HSRC fellow, talked about how to get involved at a national level with research. HSRC fellows have run projects such as NELA, SNAP1/2 and the current PQIP project. **Andre Vercueil**, a Consultant Anaesthetist and Intensivist from Kings College Hospital, gave the final keynote speech titled 'Donation based research'. This was a fascinating talk on the issues surrounding organ donation. Dr Vercueil highlighted the importance of observational data collection, which has allowed organ donation research to evolve, but the major ongoing issues in this area are family consent and organ quality and utilisation.



We had 3 high quality presentations from trainees who pitched their projects to the audience, for selection as a PLAN project. These were:

- **Preoperative Anaesthetic management of Cervical CERclage, the AnCCER project. Dr Priya Shinde**
- **Bariatric Issues during General Anaesthesia relating to the Airway, BIGAA. Drs Lauren Barraclough and Becky Black.**
- **Anaesthetic Management of Major Maxillofacial Cancer Flap Surgery. Drs Jennifer Kim and Elizabeth Cervi.**

Following a lively question and answer session, the PLAN committee put the decision into the hands of the audience, by asking them to fill in a standardised scoring form for each project. We are very excited to announce that the winner of the PLAN project section process 2017 was...

Bariatric Issues during General Anaesthesia relating to the Airway (BIGAA)

The background to this project stems from the NAP4 study which found obese patients are twice as likely to develop serious airway problems during a general anaesthetic than non-obese patients. Guidelines issued by the AAGBI and SOBAUK have 16 key recommendations for the preoperative management of the obese surgical patient.



Currently it is not known whether the lessons from NAP4 and the subsequent guidelines have had any constrictive impact.

The project will involve an online survey (one per institution) and a week of observational data collection.

The project aims to answer the following questions:

1. What proportion of elective surgery is carried out on overweight or obese patients?
2. Are anaesthetics being modified, and appropriate equipment made available, for obese patients?
3. Are modifications leading to a reduction in airway problems?

Stay tuned for further information. PLAN aims to run this project in 2018.

Congratulations Becky Black and Lauren Barraclough!

Would you like to get involved with PLAN?

Register your interest: PLAN@uk-plan.net

Find out more and join the mailing list: www.uk-plan.net/participate