30/06/14

Dear Colleagues,

**MODELLING NEONATAL CARE PATHWAYS: COSTS AND CONSEQUENCES FOR THE FUTURE**

(Research Ethics Committee Reference: 14/NW/0349)

I am writing to all lead clinicians who are members of the UK Neonatal Collaborative to invite them to participate in this research study jointly undertaken between The Infant Mortality and Morbidity Studies (TIMMS) with Prof. Elizabeth Draper and Dr. Bradley Manktelow, and the Neonatal Data Analysis Unit.

This research project aims to investigate the care pathways which babies take throughout their neonatal stay, considering the different levels of care they can receive along the way: intensive care, high dependency and standard care amongst others. It will investigate time spent at the different levels of care. Differences in care pathways will be investigated between neonatal networks. Finally, a preliminary health economics analysis will be undertaken. The research is funded by the National Institute for Health Research, and its findings will form part of my PhD in Medical Statistics.

We are seeking your agreement to extract information from the National Neonatal Research Database on babies admitted to your neonatal unit from 1st January 2011 until 31st December 2016. We will use data related to the baby, the care the baby received and demographic data about the parents. No identifiable data will be needed and you will not be required to provide any additional data or obtain R&D site approval for this project.

For more information about this project please see the enclosed leaflet. Printed copies of the leaflet are available upon request and a copy of the Research Ethics approval is also included.

Please sign and return the attached form to me by August 1st 2014 at the latest. If you have queries, please contact me, contact details can be found overleaf.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Seaton

**AGREEMENT**

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□ I am happy for data from the neonatal unit named below to be included in this study

□ I DO NOT want data from the neonatal unit named below to be included in this study

Name of neonatal unit: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of NHS Trust: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Lead Clinician: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Lead Clinician: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Authorship of publications arising from this study will be “[NAMED AUTHORS] and members of the UK Neonatal Collaborative”. As this is a study using data held in an existing database, participation does not require NHS R&D permission from Trusts contributing data, but only from the NHS Trust holding the database, Chelsea & Westminster NHS Foundation Trust.

Please return this form by post or scanned email to:

Sarah Seaton

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