PHE Integrated Screening Outcomes Surveillance Service

We are pleased to announce that our team at UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health has been awarded the recently advertised tender from Public Health England’s Infectious Diseases in Pregnancy Screening Programme to establish the Integrated Screening Outcomes Surveillance Service (ISOSS). This will build on the NSHPC experience and processes, in addition to our prior studies on syphilis (the SASS study) and hepatitis B (the PHE Hepatitis B in Pregnancy Audit).

The goal of the ISOSS is to collect, analyse and report obstetric and paediatric data on HIV, syphilis and hepatitis B in pregnant women and children in order to:
- assess key outcomes of the IDPS Programme and its impact on prevention of vertically-acquired HIV, hepatitis B and syphilis
- protect the health of women with and infants exposed to these infections.

We are looking forward to developing this service, in partnership with our respondents, and expect congenital syphilis surveillance to be launched in 2019.

NSHPC at HIV Glasgow (28 - 31 October 2018)

Come and see Helen present at the ‘What Women Want’ Joint session in collaboration with the European AIDS Clinical Society (EACS) and Women Against Viruses in Europe (WAVE) at 10:30 on Wednesday 31 October

More details here: http://www.hivglasgow.org/scientific-programme-2018

Poster: Successes and emerging challenges in prevention of vertical HIV transmission in the UK and Ireland. (Helen Peters, Kate Francis, Rebecca Sconza, Anna Horn, Claire Thorne)

Paediatric reporting - important changes

Form updates
You may have noticed that head circumference at birth and duration of infant prophylaxis have been added to our paper forms. These changes have been made in response to input from respondents. We look forward to receiving data on these in your next submissions.

Infection status
- Notification forms for all UK/Ireland born HIV-exposed children should be submitted within six months of birth
- Infection status is only established through the follow-up form: test results and dates are vital for calculating the vertical transmission rate for the UK and Ireland

Online reporting pilot:
- Over the next few weeks we will be piloting the new paediatric reporting system with a sample of respondents. Please keep an eye out for notifications and updates on this.
- The paediatric reporting system is designed to interact with the pre-existing maternity reporting system
- We expect the system to be up and running for all paediatric respondents in the new year

Please note: NSHPC reports are part of Infectious Diseases in Pregnancy Screening Programme service specification (Section 5)
NSHPC team update

We are very happy to announce that NSHPC Research Assistant Rebecca Sconza has been awarded a place on the UCL-Birkbeck MRC Doctoral Training Programme.

Rebecca has worked on the NSHPC since 2015. She coordinated the NSHPC’s maternity data collection, co-led the development of the online reporting system for maternity respondents, and presented NSHPC work and findings at conferences both in the UK and overseas.

On behalf of all of Rebecca’s colleagues, we wish her all the best in the next chapter of her life - as a PhD student. Respondents may still hear from Rebecca every now and then, as she will continue to do some part-time work for us.

Breastfeeding surveillance: update

Many thanks to the units who have already participated in the breastfeeding enhanced surveillance. Data collection has been carried out for over 30 cases so far. As this is the first time data on breastfeeding under the new BHIVA guidelines has been collected, it will provide valuable insights to inform future guidelines as well as surveillance and monitoring processes.

New paper on NRTI backbones and pregnancy outcomes: a European cohort collaboration

Heather Bailey et al on behalf of The European Pregnancy and Paediatric HIV Cohort Collaboration (EPPICC) Study Group

- As one of the largest studies of HIV in pregnancy in Europe, the NSHPC is a major contributor to EPPICC. This pooled analysis using data from studies across Europe investigated whether specific nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NRTI) backbones are associated with risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes (i.e. preterm delivery and SGA infants) among pregnant women starting ART in pregnancy.
- This provides real life data to add to the evidence from the PROMISE clinical trial
- Results support the safety of Tenofovir with either 3TC or FTC initiated in pregnancy with respect to gestation length and birthweight

In press with AIDS

Maternity countdown to paperless!

A huge thank you to all our respondents who have caught up with historical backlogs and outstanding paper forms over the last few months.

There are just 200 forms to go until we can say a final goodbye to paper maternity forms. Please help by returning any outstanding forms to the NSHPC promptly.

If you have any problems completing online maternity forms, please let us know how we can help. In particular, we are happy to provide training and support to new respondents.

ETHICS approval MREC/04/2/009; CAG Ref: 15/CAG/0190

Current NSHPC funding, gratefully acknowledged, is primarily from Public Health England’s HIV and STI Department and Infectious Diseases in Pregnancy Screening Programme.