

# NICOR NEWS: AUTUMN 2020

## *Thanks from all of us at Team NICOR*

During this unprecedented and difficult time some of the hospital audit teams continued to upload data to NICOR on a weekly basis. This has supported NICOR working along with others to provide useful information and advice to the government. An additional output from this is the COVID-19 report (see below for more details). We could not have done this without your support. *Weekly data submission - world first!* **Thank you!** Thank you to every one of you: clinicians and audit team members in the hospitals, NICOR staff and clinical colleagues, information governance and management staff in the NHS organisations. *If we continue this practice of weekly data submission, we can realise our vision of reporting real world data in real-time!*

## *NCAP Contract Extension*

We are delighted that our commissioners (NHS England and the Welsh Government) agreed, via HQIP, to extend our NCAP funding contract for a further 2 year period, until June 2022. This includes the NHS treated patients in England and Wales only.

The Scottish Government has agreed (via a direct contract) to continue to fund four of the six NCAP domains (namely NAPCI, NACSA, NCACRM and NCHDA) until March 2021. It is anticipated that during this period a longer term solution would be implemented for all Scottish centres to submit data to all six domains of NCAP.

## *NICOR COVID-19 Special Report*

NICOR has been working with research teams from Keele University and the Universities of Oxford and Leeds, as well as with colleagues from NHS Digital and NHS England on the impact of COVID-19 on patients with cardiovascular disease. The NCAP data that the audit teams have been submitting to NICOR on a weekly basis is used in this report.

As a result the NICOR COVID-19 Report was published on 10 September and is available on the NICOR website [here](#). This report also serves as a useful backdrop to the national environment in which the national cardiac audits are conducted.

## *NICOR Data—Publications*

Calling all applicants who have published papers or conference presentations using NICOR data: We need to update our records for reporting purposes. Please send a copy of your publications / citation details to Akosua Donkor at: [nicor.datarequests@nhs.net](mailto:nicor.datarequests@nhs.net)

## *NCAP Reports for 2020 and 2021*

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we had to make some changes to our normal audit cycle timelines and publication schedule. We extended the data submission deadline to

After the publication of the COVID-19 Report on 10 September 2020, we plan to publish the **NCAP 2020 Annual reports** covering 2018/19 data on **10 December 2020**. This will include the aggregate report, the summary reports for each audit domain, and a patient and public facing report.

During 2021 we plan to publish our 2021 Annual reports (containing 2019/20 data) as usual.

## *Find us online*

Web: [www.nicor.org.uk](http://www.nicor.org.uk)

Twitter: [@CardiacAudit](https://twitter.com/CardiacAudit)

Email: [bartshealth.nicor-generalenquiries@nhs.net](mailto:bartshealth.nicor-generalenquiries@nhs.net)

## Other NICOR News

### *New Clinical Lead for Congenital Heart Disease*

Dr Abbas Khushnood, from Newcastle, has been appointed as the new Domain Clinical Lead for the NCHDA following Dr Rodney Franklin's recent retirement. Please join us in congratulating Dr Khushnood on his appointment. As a clinician, with a background in management, he is very much looking forward working with the DEG, NICOR team and the centres in order to take the NCHDA to the next level. **Welcome to NICOR, Dr Khushnood!**

We are very grateful to **Dr Franklin** for his hugely valuable and important contribution and for his sterling service to the NCHDA, NICOR, the profession and the congenital heart disease community. **Thank you, Dr Franklin! We wish you a long and a very happy retirement.**



### *New Online Reporting Tools Launched!*

Recently NICOR was delighted to launch new data tools to assist hospitals with the national cardiovascular audits. In the first instance, these data tools are being made available within the NICOR IT platform to the hospitals participating in two of the audits:

- ◆ **The National Audit of Percutaneous Coronary Interventions**, championed by the British Cardiovascular Intervention Society
- ◆ **The National Adult Cardiac Surgery Audit**, championed by the Society of Cardiothoracic Surgery in Great Britain and Ireland.

The tools allow hospitals to go live into the NICOR databases to seek information on:

- ◆ Data completeness
- ◆ The designated quality improvement (QI) metrics – showing how they stand against the national average and the best centres
- ◆ A reporting tool that allows hospitals to set up their own queries.

For more info: <https://www.nicor.org.uk/for-hospital-clinical-and-audit-teams/online-reporting-tools>

### *NICOR Patient Representative Group (PRG) Chair appointed*

The NICOR Patient Representative Group is our steering and strategic group for patient and public engagement and involvement.

We are delighted to announce that following a recruitment process, **Sarah Murray** has been appointed as the Chair for the group. Sarah has a background in law and extensive experience in senior management in healthcare and patient and public engagement (including with SCTS).

She has already started in the role, about which she says "I am delighted to be appointed chair of the Patient Representative Group and am looking forward to working with all my new colleagues and patient representatives to put the patient at the centre of our future strategies and to focus on quality outcomes"

A very warm welcome, Sarah! We are very much looking forward to working with you!