



# NASH

National Audit of Seizure management in Hospitals

September 2010

## NASH Leads



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## NASH Timetable:

### Oct 2010

Steering Group ratifies proformas

Proformas and link to web data collection tool disseminated to interested sites. Pilot study sites begin collecting data

### Dec 2010-Jan2011

Results of pilot phase analysed

### Feb-Apr 2011

Data collection

### May 2011

Initial data analysis, including individual Trust reports.

### June 2011

Further data analysis at national and regional level exploring the relationships between organisational and clinical variables.

# NASH

## National Audit of Seizure management in Hospitals

Welcome to the NASH newsletter. This will give you further information about the study and how you can help in its success.

### The Study

Epilepsy is common and each presentation to A&E represents a "failure" in control. Care of epilepsy is variable and there are many patients who are unknown to the specialists and who have not had the opportunity to be optimally controlled. Little is known about the organisation of epilepsy care across the UK.

By examining key aspects of antecedent care in the community, care of the acute episode and the follow up including the access to appropriate investigations and advice, NASH aims to

1. Describe and understand the organisation of care available for epilepsy.
2. Describe the variations in care actually delivered; and
3. Set out options and opportunities for improving care and to share those with the hospitals, with patient organisations and with NHS managers hopeful that together they can act to effect improvement

### Data Collection and How you can Help

NASH will focus upon 30 consecutive cases presenting with a seizure to the Emergency Department.

The NASH Steering Group is currently refining the proformas. Our experience of other audits is informing this process and we aim to finalise a questionnaire that will contain only questions which will provide us with useful information, questions that are unambiguous and that will only take around 20-30 minutes to complete for each patient.

The clinical proforma will collect data about management in the emergency department, management prior to arrival in the emergency department, and onward care of patients.

In addition to the clinical proforma, there will be a short organisational proforma for you to complete.

The data will be collected using a secure password protected web-entry system. Direct web entry avoids tran-

scribing errors and allows help notes and data checks to be incorporated at every step. We are dependent on hospitals collecting data locally and thus are seeking your help.

In early October all sites will be sent copies of the proformas and a link to the web data collection tool. In addition a small number of sites will be undertaking a small pilot study. Even if you are not taking part in the pilot, it would be a good idea to start recording the first 30 cases who fulfil the inclusion criteria and present to your Emergency Department after October 1st.

In December we will start to look at the results of the pilot study and take note of any feedback that sites have, ahead of the study proper commencing in February 2011. The timetable for NASH is shown on the left hand side of this page.

We hope that you will be able to work with us in what we feel is an important and much-needed study.

If you want to find out more about NASH or have any queries about the study, please email [info@nashstudy.org.uk](mailto:info@nashstudy.org.uk)

### Who's on board?

The NASH Steering Group oversees the project and is involved in all major decisions. The group contains representatives from each of the UK nations, the International League Against Epilepsy, the Association of British Neurologists, the College of Emergency Medicine, the Epilepsy Nurses Association and Epilepsy Action.

Since we began contacting Trusts in June, we have heard back from over 135 Trusts (74% of those contacted), with 130 of these indicating that they wish to either take part or find out more about the study. These are shown on the map to the right.

### Sites expressing an interest in NASH

