

NEWSLETTER

April 2026



This month we said goodbye to our Data Analyst, George. George had worked tirelessly over the past two years to obtain a trust wide data sharing agreement and most recently was working on a process to retrieve the data securely. George left us with this farewell statement *"I will be leaving the network to join the Neonatal ODN for the South East. I have enjoyed my two years with the network, and it has been a privilege to work with so many people making an incredible difference to people's lives. I am sure the network will continue to go from strength to strength and I look forward to following the progress"*.

We wish George the best of luck in his new role.

This quarter we are busy planning our upcoming events. We have our **cardiac network meeting and maternal medicine for midwives** in May, a **cardiac themed case conference** in June and our **network business meeting** in July - see diary dates below.

A reminder that our **Patient Experience Survey** went live on **1st January and runs until 30th June**. The leaflet with QR code has been sent previously. Please offer those you see the opportunity to complete the survey.

Cardiac Referrals - please can referrals only be sent to ANC.cardiac@uhs.nhs.uk and not to individual clinicians. Please could you also ensure the patient name and NHS number is in the subject line.

Obstetrics

Our **Thyroid guidance** and updated **Hypertension guidance** are due at UHS governance on 1st May.

We are working on a resource for patient counselling regarding the implications of taking, and stopping, **biologics in pregnancy**. A regional scoping questionnaire was completed. We already have contacts with resp, rheum and gastro teams who prescribe biologics, and Abi is building contacts in dermatology. Once the first draft is complete, these contacts will be included in the first consultation, along with our regional obstetric colleagues. Abi has also made the first draft of a guideline for **anti-coagulation strategies for women with mechanical heart valves** in pregnancy.

Midwifery

We are now working with the **national critical care network nursing leads on improving resources for ICU staff nationally** so the previous Wessex Wide VLE work will support this. We have also **linked with ED** to start some work on **breathlessness pathways** and also an **obstetric checklist**.

If you have any links for ED who may want to be involved, please let us know.

Obstetric Physicians

Jack Milln will be joining the team in July as our **new Obstetric Physician**. We are busy planning his first few weeks, which will largely be spent visiting regional sites and meeting colleagues. If you have not already provided us with your availability to **welcome Jack to your site**, there is still chance to do so. These meetings will be a mix of in person and Teams depending on local preference and Jack's availability.

Network Referrals

ALL maternal medicine referrals and advice requests should be sent to:

WessexObstetricMedicine@uhs.nhs.uk

(or **ANC.Cardiac@uhs.nhs.uk** for cardiac)

Please include NHS no and relevant information in all emails

MDT's

Network clinicians and trainees are welcome, contact us for links:

- **Cardiac (operational only)** Monthly, first Thursday, 1400.
- **Haematology:** Monthly, third Monday, 1400 (**please ensure referral forms are completed for all new referrals**)
- **Asthma & Difficult Airways:** Monthly, fourth Thursday, 0900

Diary Dates

- **15th May - Maternal Medicine for Midwives**
- **19th May - Joint Cardiac Network Education Day**
- **12th June - Case Conference - cardiac theme**
- **24th July - Network Business Meeting**