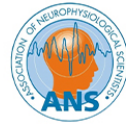
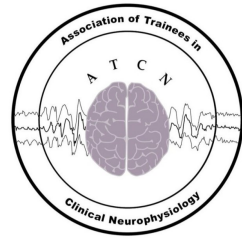
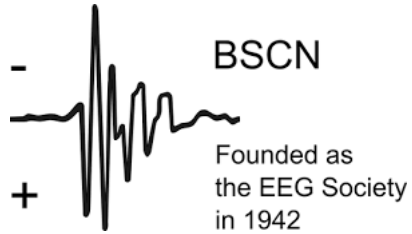


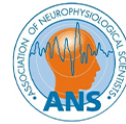
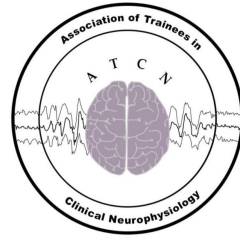
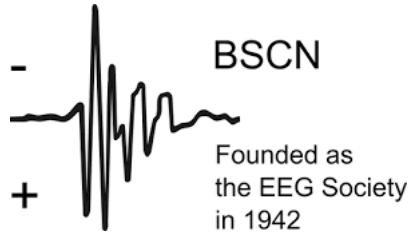
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Title of Project	<u>Neonatal EEG national service evaluation</u>
Reasons for project	<p>Seizures in the neonatal period are the most common neurological emergency and are associated with high morbidity and mortality. The incidence of seizures in term infants is about 3/1000 live births, which is higher in preterm infants where it can reach 13%. Most neonatal seizures (80%) occur within the first week of life. EEG is increasingly used for optimising the management of neonatal seizures.</p> <p>There are no national guidelines for neonatal EEG recording and reporting. Indeed, there is a paucity of guidelines worldwide e.g. American Clinical Neurophysiology Society (ACNS) in process. At the last National Audit Meeting of the British Society for Clinical Neurophysiology (BSCN) in 2019 (before COVID-19), there was a preference raised to prioritise neonatal EEG as the next national service evaluation project. Now that the BSCN has restarted the National Audit initiatives in 2023 (post COVID-19), a clinical group has been formed, dedicated to this project.</p>
Aims and objectives	<p>The aim is to formulate minimum standards and national guidelines for neonatal EEG. The main objectives are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Phase 1: Assessing the number and distribution of centres as well as the type of recordings for neonatal EEG nationwide; 2) Phase 2: Assessing the contents of the reports; 3) Formulation of standards/guidelines: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Optimising the use of neonatal EEG to capture events; b) Ensuring safety, consistency and comparison between recordings from different sites nationwide; c) Facilitating the adoption of neonatal EEG by more centre for promoting equality of care;



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	<p>d) Allow auditing of the procedure(s) in future against reasonable standards tailored to the national service provision and patient population.</p>
<p>Methods</p>	<p>The sample will come from all participating Neurophysiology departments in the UK (about 104 departments) and will include neonates (<44 weeks post-menstrual age) having a scalp EEG. The project will be formed of two phases. Each phase will have an electronic survey. Surveys will be carried out using the BSCN's registered SurveyMonkey account to facilitate distribution and submission of results compared to previous paper service evaluations. The clinical team (below) involved in the project will still be responsible for the data analysis. General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) will be followed in accordance with current NHS practice. No identifiable patient information will be collected.</p> <p>The links to the two forms will be sent to all UK neurophysiology departments in the UK with the aim to receive a response from at least 60%.</p> <p>The aim of Form A is to assess what types of neonatal EEG investigations are being carried out and how. Form A can be found at: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FMFYGBP. Responses will be collected approximately between December 2023 and February 2024. Surveys will be distributed to the consultants on the BSCN membership list. Members of the ANS will be notified of the service evaluation but will not be sent the individual surveys to avoid duplication. Two weeks from the initial distribution, a reminder will be sent out. Approximately a month after the initial distribution, the heads of departments who have not yet responded will be individual email reminders (from the database of previous service evaluations). If 60% response rate is reached at any of those stages, further reminders/notifications will not be sent. If there is less than 60% response rate, a final reminder will be issued.</p>



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	The aim of Form B is to assess the contents of the last 5 neonatal EEG reports, which would allow comparison for audit purposes following the emergence of standards/guidelines. Form B can be found at: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HRRV2WT . A similar schedule of reminders will be followed to that for Form A above.
Timescale	Data collection for Phase 1 will be approximately between December 2023 to February 2024 and data collection for Phase II will be around Spring 2024. Presentation of data and provisional guidelines will be at the next National Audit Meeting, within 2 years of starting the project.
Who is involved in project (clinical group)	Members of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>British Society for Clinical Neurophysiology Committee;</u> - <u>Association of Neurophysiological Scientists;</u> - <u>Association of Trainees in Clinical Neurophysiology Committee.</u>
What will happen to results	Presentation at National Audit Meeting organised by BSCN and ANS. Subsequent submission for publication of the findings and recommended national guidelines to professional journals. All participating centres will be acknowledged in resulting publications.