



AARMY NEWSLETTER

WWW.AARMY.CO.UK/

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Our Aims:

1. Facilitate large scale multi-centre audit and research in the Yorkshire and Humber Deanery.
2. Allow trainees to participate, lead and continue their projects as they rotate between the hospitals in the region.
3. Increase the opportunity for anaesthetic trainees to participate in the research and provide opportunity to meet the requirements of Annex G of the Royal College of Anaesthetists training program.
4. Attract funding for research, audit and quality improvement projects.
5. Provide a network of communications and a voice for trainees interested in such projects

Dear all,

Welcome to the Anaesthetic Audit and Research Matrix of Yorkshire's (AARMY) [April](#) newsletter. AARMY is an audit and research matrix comprising of anaesthetic trainees in East and West Yorkshire. We will give regular updates regarding current and upcoming projects, meetings and national profile, as well as enthusing you to become involved in our work.

PROJECT UPDATES

POPULAR

POPULAR is a European prospective multi-centre observational study looking at **PO**st-anaesthesia **PUL**monary complications **A**fter the use of muscle **R**elaxants (<http://www.esahq.org/POPULAR>). Data collection has been completed in many hospitals already. It has been a project that AARMY has supported.

BYOD

BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) is a new project which AARMY are currently hoping to take on. BYOD seeks to facilitate data centralisation by registering personal devices to collect anonymised project data and upload it to a central point. This eliminates data collection via paper copies which then require transcription for upload. It will be a major advantage to have this up and running for future projects although it still requires local R&D approval. We hope this will be a future data collection tool we will use.

COMS

COMS (Cardiac Output Monitoring Study) was the first national project coordinated by RAFT (Research and Audit Federation of Trainees, supported by the NIAA). This survey describes the number, type and availability of COM in UK anaesthetic practice. AARMY, along with many other audit and research networks collected data during Summer 2014 from the majority of hospitals in East and West Yorkshire. Data from 67 trusts were collected and results will be publishing shortly. Please see <http://www.rafrtrainees.com/> for further information. [An abstract from this work is being presented by AARMY's very own Caroline Thomas on behalf of RAFT at the ARS spring meeting.](#)

FUTURE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

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We welcome and would like to promote ideas for projects from anyone training in the Yorkshire region. These projects could run across the whole of Yorkshire, rather than being isolated within each sub-region. The aim is to run these initially on a regional level, with the proposer having full ownership of the project as per the AARMY constitution but with AARMY support.

Following our last newsletter, we have had a proposal from a fellow trainee, Dr. Smales ST3. Dr. Smales has already audited and implemented his idea in Harrogate and Scunthorpe with success. Following NAP4, the majority of anaesthetic departments have difficult airway trolleys. Dr Smales has however proposed looking at developing robust systems in dealing with other anaesthetics emergencies, in the form of dedicated Emergency Anaesthetics trolley to improve theatre safety. The AARMY committee feels this will be a great project to undertake and we are excited to present this idea at the RAFT Project Development Meeting in [June as the next RAFT annual project](#). We will keep you updated on the progress

ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS

There have been 2 abstraction submissions to the **ARS**, with brief summaries below:

1. *Impact of NICE guidance and CQUINS on uptake of Cardiac Output Monitors across the NHS: A trainee led national survey*

The Research and Audit Federation of Trainees (RAFT) undertook a national survey to 1) describe the current intra-operative use of Cardiac Output Monitors (COMs) in operating theatres throughout the NHS 2) determine the impact of NICE recommendation (NICE MTG3) and CQUIN payment schemes on COM uptake and 3) test the utility of the network to undertake such a survey.

The commonest reason advanced for COM purchase was neither CQUIN nor NICE guidance, but 'clinical opinion'. We saw no evidence of preferential ODM purchase over other COMS following NICE MTG3. COM use is not standardised; access to guidelines, training and disposables is variable.

2. *Incidence of suspected perioperative anaphylaxis - a multicentre snapshot study. An Anaesthetic Audit and Research Matrix of Yorkshire (AARMY) Project.*

Our results appear to confirm suspicion that such events are under-reported, with only 3 of 13 referred on for further investigation with appropriate serial mast cell tryptase measurements. We also found an incidence of confirmed anaphylaxis higher than commonly reported, at 1:2297. Possible barriers to reporting may include misconceptions about the referral process as well as failures in correctly identifying the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis

UPCOMING MEETINGS

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1. Anaesthetic Research Society (ARS) Spring Meeting

- April 21-22nd 2015
- RCOA, London
- Dr. Rob Jackson and Dr. Caroline Thomas, on behalf of AARMY, have submitted the above abstracts. AARMY was one of only 3 groups that managed a 100% coverage of sites in the region, so our data was a complete representation of the current situation. [This is a great achievement for AARMY and everyone who contributed and our efforts have been rewarded by an AARMY trainee presenting the data at the ARS spring meeting.](#)

2. On the **29th May** there will be a morning of **post-FRCA teaching on audit, research and innovation** held at the Postgraduate Education Centre at Pinderfield Hospital, Wakefield. It will start at 9am. In the afternoon (same venue), the **Yorkshire Society of Anaesthetists (YSA)** registrars Martin Boylan prize meeting will take place. At the YSA meeting, there will be 2 prizes; one for anaesthetics and one for critical care submissions. Closing date is 5 pm on Tuesday 12th May. Queries to Dr. Lumb (Andrew.lumb@nhs.net).

3. RAFT Summer Meeting at GAT conference

- 17-19 June 2015
- Renold Building, University of Manchester
- **University of Manchester.**

RAFT is a trainee led national umbrella group to support all the anaesthetic research and collaborative groups that have sprung up cross the UK in the last few years. They aim to facilitate national anaesthetic, trainee led projects. The first national project was with the Cardiac Output Meonitor Survery (COMS).

The AAGBI GAT ASM 2015 will give an opportunity for RAFT national project 2015 ideas to be presented. Submission deadline 7th April 2015.

4. Regional Trainees Conference

- **October 20th, 2015**
- Dr. Hossenbaccus at Scunthorpe Hospital is arranging a regional (East and West Yorkshire) trainees conference in October.
- Dr. Anne-Mair Hammond-Jones will be giving a talk on 'AARMY: A lot to gain and contribute'. A 30 minute talk on AARMY, it's latest projects and how trainees can benefit from it.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND WEBSITE

Our new website is found at <http://www.army.co.uk/home.html>

If you are interested in playing a more active role in audit and research at a regional and national level, please register with us via the 'Contact' form on our website. If you have previously registered and are still keen to be involved, please re-register so we have an up-to-date mailing list. We will then send you a registration form to complete.

THE AARMY COMMITTEE

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