66%, 95%, and 64% of cases respectively. Level of consciousness, motor activity, muscle tone, pupil size and reaction to light were similarly inadequately documented.

This quality improvement initiative aimed to educate doctors in a tertiary neonatal unit regarding the importance of systematic evaluation and documentation of neonatal encephalopathy using the Modified Sarnat Score.

Methods An education session for all medical staff working in the neonatal unit was held, outlining the importance of appropriate use and documentation of the Sarnat Classification in clinical practice. Index cards were issued to all staff, describing the individual components of the score and those techniques necessary to elicit the relevant neurologic signs. A teaching video, demonstrating neurological assessment of a neonate using the Modified Sarnat Score, was recorded and uploaded to the official hospital website. Anonymous questionnaires were obtained to assess effectiveness of teaching.

Results In total, 17 Healthcare Professionals attended the education session, with a mean of 8 years experience working in Paediatrics. 58% (n=10) had previously received education on the Sarnat Score. 47% (n=8) had used the Sarnat Score previously in clinical practice. Lack of formal training on the score was the main reason cited amongst those who had not used the score previously. 23% (n=4) correctly identified the individual components of the score prior to education. 12% (n=2) correctly scored $\geq 80\%$ of the clinical scenarios provided. Following education, 71% (n=12) correctly scored $\geq 80\%$ of the clinical scenarios provided. All staff (n=17) found the education session informative, and felt more confident using the Sarnat Score following the session. 58% (n=10) felt that further education on the Sarnat Score was required.

Conclusion It is recognised that the neurological assessment of infants is challenging, particularly for inexperienced clinicians. The validated Sarnat classification system is a valuable resource in the clinical assessment of neonates with encephalopathy. This clinical tool provides physicians with a standardised approach to systematic neurological examination and documentation of pertinent neurological findings.

P178 DEVELOPMENT OF A CARE PATHWAY FOR CHILDREN WITH EDWARD'S SYNDROME

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Edward's syndrome (Trisomy 18) occurs in approximately 1 in 10,000 live births and is characterised by low birthweight, micrognathia, low-set ears, occipital prominence, clenched fists with overlapping fingers, rocker-bottom feet, cardiac and renal anomalies and developmental delay.

In the past Edward's syndrome has been regarded as a lethal condition, with little intervention other than comfort care being offered following delivery. However, it has become clear that with medical intervention the prognosis for children with Edward's syndrome is better than previously thought, with 5 -10% surviving beyond their first birthday.

Paediatricians have the challenge and the opportunity of helping families face an uncertain future and should engage collaboratively with them to focus on positive life-goal management plans, hopes and aspirations. However some doctors

may feel unprepared to manage children these children and have been criticised by parents who say they have focused too much on end-of-life plans, not giving their child a fair chance and creating 'self-fulfilling prophecies' limiting a child's chances.

Along with professionals and parents we have developed guidelines to assist health professionals, giving them a framework for the management of children with Edward's syndrome to try to ensure high quality, evidenced based practice for each individual child. The guideline includes management following diagnosis (antenatal or postnatal); care of mother and baby following delivery; discharge planning; follow up in the community; care in the first weeks, months and year of life; and care of the older child.

The guideline, which will be presented, aims to aid both paediatricians and parents. Ideally parents should feel that as their child grows and develops an individualised care plan is in place and they are clear as to what is going to happen in the future in order to support both them and their child.

P179 PROMOTING AWARENESS OF CLEFT CARE: IMPROVING COLLABORATION & COMMUNICATION

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Background Cleft lip and/or palate affects approximately 1 in 700 live births worldwide. 50% of the Irish cohort present as a cleft of the palate alone. Up to a third are not detected within the first 24 hours of life. Averages of 60% with lip involvement are diagnosed on antenatal scanning. Cleft Teams accept referrals upon diagnosis, collaborating and communicating with local services on a Hub & Spoke model to provide care. Delays in diagnosis and referral times can have a negative impact on the child and family. Some 400 syndromes are associated with clefting, most within the rare diseases category, and may not be diagnosed until months or years after birth.

Aims

- Promote awareness of how cleft care is organized in Ireland.
- Encourage enhanced collaboration & communication with local hospital and community based services to improve diagnosis rates and referral times.
- Highlight the need for on-going monitoring by key health care professionals (HCPs).

Methods

- Audits of timing of diagnosis demonstrated.
- Interventions planned by the Cleft Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNSp) detailed.
- Areas for improved working links are discussed.

Results On-going audit demonstrates upward trends in diagnosis rates – 82% diagnosis in the 1st 24 hours of life for 2018 birth cohort with cleft palate only. Education sessions provided by the CNSp to HCPs have received positive feedback. Liaison with Public Health Nurses is proving successful for weight monitoring and cleft surgery planning.

Discussion Although cleft is a specialist area of practice it affects on average 80 families a year in the Republic of Ireland. The Cleft CNSp has a role to educate and collaborate