

## BACKGROUND

A.T.A.I.N (**A**voiding **T**erm **A**dmissions **i**n the **N**eonatal **U**nit) programme is a national initiative 'to reduce avoidable causes of harm that can lead to infants born at term being admitted to a neonatal unit'.



Infant- maternal separation has damaging effects on bonding, breastfeeding and maternal mental health. Term admissions also present a significant, avoidable cost to the NHS.

Four clinical areas are reviewed: **respiratory conditions, hypoglycaemia, jaundice and perinatal hypoxia.**

## AIMS

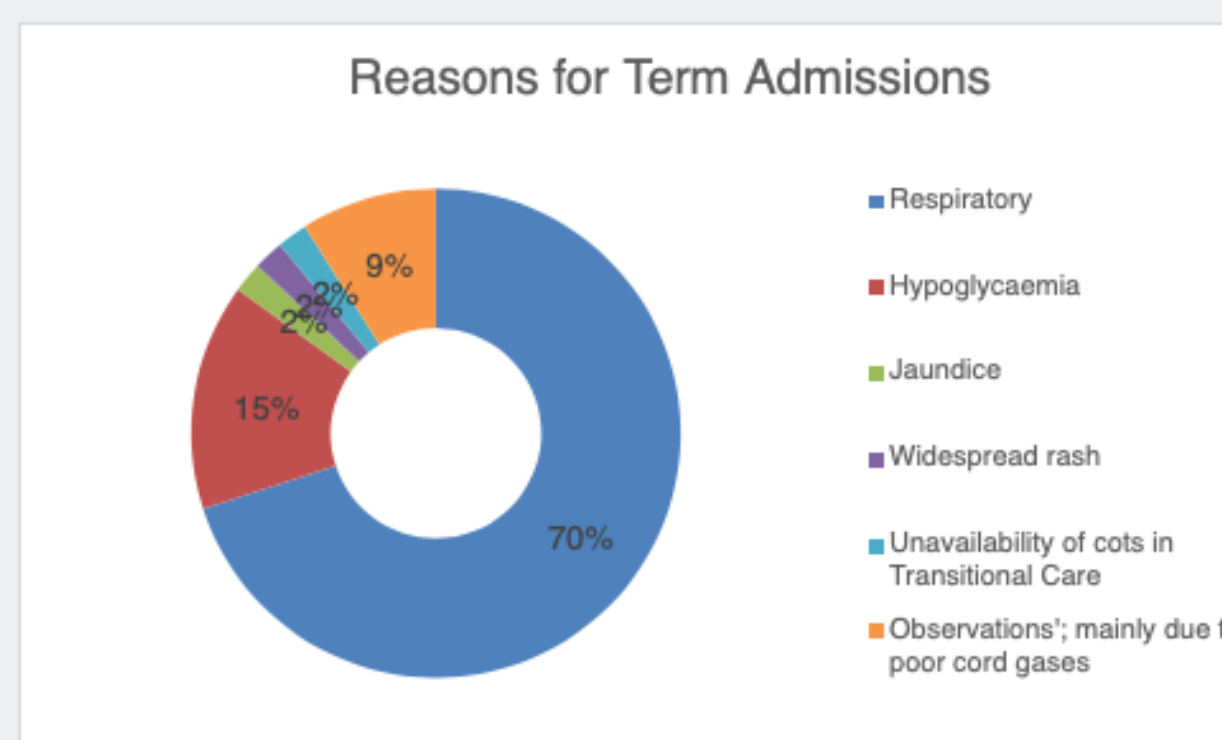
We extracted data from Badgernet and our electronic records and collated them with outcomes of the local A.T.A.I.N meetings. Our aims were to identify if the team is compliant with the guidelines and if the term admissions could have been avoided.

## RESULTS

Between March- May 2023, 354 babies were admitted in the Neonatal Units of Leeds. 46 infants (13%) were >37 weeks with no associated congenital abnormality which could justify their admission.



### REASONS FOR TERM ADMISSIONS



- 32/46 (70%) were admitted due to respiratory symptoms
- 21/32 (66% of the 'respiratory' babies) required support- 2/21 (9.5%) of those, remained in the Unit for <24 hours and their admission was marked as 'avoidable'.

The local guidelines for 'management of respiratory distress' was not followed in 7/32 (22%) of the 'respiratory' cases; if to be followed, the babies could have stayed with their mothers.

From the remaining 14 infants:

- 7 (15% of total 'unexpected' term admissions) were diagnosed with hypoglycaemia
- 1 (2%) was admitted with jaundice
- 1 (2%) for widespread rash (found to be neonatal lupus)
- 1 (2%) due to unavailability of Transitional Care cot
- 4 (9%) for 'observations', most of which were associated with perinatal hypoxia  
3/14 of those admissions could have been avoided (as per ATAIN meeting decision)

**Total of 10 cases in three months (22%)**

## CONCLUSION

- Compliance with the guidelines and senior support on the decision making can reduce the number of avoidable term admissions in our Unit.
- Trainees of all levels in any neonatal unit of the region (NICU, LNU, SCBU), should be encourage to complete the **NHS E -learning for healthcare (elfh NHS England): Avoiding Term admissions into Neonatal Units**

### REFERENCES:

- E-learning for healthcare (elfh NHS England): Avoiding Term admissions into Neonatal Units
- LHTT Guidelines on management of neonatal respiratory distress in first 24 hours of life