The International Network for Evaluating Outcomes of very low birth weight, very preterm neonates (iNeo): A protocol for collaborative comparisons of international health services for quality improvement in neonatal care

Prakesh S. Shah, Shoo K. Lee, Kei Lui, Gunnar Sjörs, Rintaro Mori, Brian Reichman, Stellan Håkansson, Laura San Feliciano, Neena Modi, Mark Adams, Brian Darlow, Masanori Fujimura, Satoshi Kusuda, Ross Haslam, Lucia Mirea, on behalf of the International Network for Evaluating Outcomes of Neonates (iNeo)

Additional file 1: iNeo data variables for collection with explanatory notes

ID	Unique ID assigned by you or we will assign at coordinating center	
Country	Code for country (alphabetical list)	Potential values: 01 = Australia/New Zealand, 02 = Canada, 03 = Israel, 04 = Japan, 05 = Sweden, 06 = Switzerland, 07 = Spain, 08 = UK
Center	Code number only to be sent to iNeo	You need to prepare a list of centers and keep this code with you at your coordination center. In future surveys we will send link with center as code number and then we can link some of physical, organizational, environmental factors to the outcomes. The center assignment will be determined by the network but as a guide we suggest that the center that provided highest level of care (level 3 care) be assigned to that baby. If a baby has been admitted to two tertiary level units before discharge home then the first tertiary level NICU will be assigned to the baby. Potential values: The center number will lie between 001 and 999
Demographics		
Gestational age	Weeks	Potential values: Range from 22 to 44
Gestational age	Days	Potential values: Range from 0 to 6
Birth weight (kg)		For units that can provide exact birth weight we would prefer this information. For units that have limitations or concerns regarding privacy, please provide BW info in 100 g intervals starting at 200-299, 300-399 etc. Potential values: a. Direct weight

		b. Range of weight 1 = 200-299 2 = 300-399 3 = 400-499 4 = 500-599 5 = 600-699 6 = 700-799 7 = 800-899 8 = 900-999 9 = 1000-1099 10 = 1100-1199 11 = 1200-1299 12 = 1300-1399 13 = 1400-1499 14 = 1500-1599 15 = 1600-1699 16 = 1700-1799 17 = 1800-1899 18 = 1900-1999 19 = >2000
Birth year info	Year	Data will be entered as 2007 onwards
Birth quarter info	Quarter	Potential values: 1 = January-March 2 = April-June 3 = July-Sept 4 = Oct-Dec
Age at NICU admission		Potential values: hh:mm If admitted at birth then enter 00.00 Unknown or missing – leave blank

Sex	Potential values:
	1 = Male 2 = Female
	3 = Ambiguous
Motornal aga	4 = Unknown/missing
Maternal age	In 5 year groups starting at 11 years. Potential values:
	1 = 11–15
	2 = 16–20
	3 = 21–25
	4 = 26–30
	5 = 31–35
	6 = 36–40
	7 = 41–45
	8 = 46–50
	9 = 51–55
	10 = 56–60
	11 = >61
	12 = Unknown
Antenatal details	12 - STIIGIOWII
Antenatal	Potential values:
Corticosteroid use	1 = Yes
	2 = No
	3 = Unknown/missing
If YES, was it	Potential values:
Complete/Incomplete	1 = Complete (at least 2 doses that are 12 hours apart
	and 12 hours passed since last dose)
	2 = Incomplete
	3 = Unknown/missing
ROM Duration	Potential values:
	1 = <24 hours (includes zero hours or rupture at the time

		of birth) 2 = 24 hours to 1 week
		3 = >1 weeks 4 = Unknown/missing
Maternal High blood	Includes all hypertensive	Potential values:
pressure	disorders (pregnancy-induced	1 = Yes
	and otherwise)	2 = No
	,	3 = Unknown/missing
Maternal diabetes	Includes all glucose	Potential values:
	homeostasis disorders	1 = Yes
	(pregnancy-induced and	2 = No
	otherwise)	3 = Unknown /missing
Birth details		
Mode of delivery		Potential values:
		1 = Vaginal
		2 = Caesarean section
		3 = Unknown/missing
Presentation	At birth or closest to the time of	Potential values:
	birth	1 = Vertex
		2 = Breech
		3 = Other
		4 = Unknown/missing
Births this pregnancy	If one fetus dies in-utero, code	Potential values:
	pregnancy as twin/triplet as	1 = Singleton
	appropriate and not singleton or	2 = Twin
	twin based on live births	3 = Triplet
Birth order		4 = Higher order Potential values:
Dirur Order		1 = First
		2 = Second
		3 = Third
		J - IIIIIU

		4 = Forth 5 = Unknown/missing
Place of birth	Inborn applies to tertiary care hospital where NICU is located. Outborn includes those babies who needed to be transferred to NICU after birth for ongoing neonatal care from facility other than hospital in which they are cared for	Potential values: 1 = Inborn 2 = Outborn 3 = Unknown/missing.
Immediate postnatal care		
Need for intubation	Within first 30 minutes of birth	Potential values: 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unknown/missing
Need for CPAP	Within first 30 minutes of birth	Potential values: 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unknown/missing
Need for CPR during initial stabilization	CPR includes chest compression and/or epinephrine within first 30 minutes of birth	Potential values: 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unknown/missing
Apgar at 1 minute		Potential values: 0–10, Unknown/missing = Leave blank
Apgar at 5 minutes		Potential values: 0–10 Unknown/missing = Leave blank
Admission status		

Re-admission		Potential values: 1 = Yes
		2 = No
		3 = Unknown/missing
Admission Head	Up to one decimal point	Potential values:
Circumference (cm)		15.0 cm to 99.9 cm
		Unknown/missing = 0.0
Admission length	Up to one decimal point	Potential values:
(CM)		15.0 cm to 99.9 cm
		Unknown/missing = 0.0
Admission	Up to one decimal point	Potential values:
temperature (°C)		20.0° C to 45.0° C
		Unknown/missing = 0.0
Severity of illness	Whatever score is used by	SNAP, SNAPII, SNAPPE, CRIB, CRIB II, TRIPS
score used	network	Data will be collected on all scores.
		Analyses will be performed based on standardized scores
		to compare severity of illness on admission scores as
		adjusted data
		Please enter score in your range
Neonatal course		
Duration of	Days or hours (use midnight as	Number range from 0–10000 (depending upon unit: hours
Supplemental O ₂	cut-off)	or days)
		If not applicable as infant did not receive it then put zero
		If missing/unknown then leave blank
Duration of CPAP	Days or hours (use midnight as	Number range from 0–10000 (depending upon unit: hours
	cut off)	or days)
		If not applicable as infant did not receive then put zero
		If missing/unknown then leave blank
Duration of	Days or hours (use midnight as	Number range from 0–10000 (depending upon unit: hours
mechanical ventilation	cut off)	or days)
		If not applicable as infant did not receive it then zero

		If missing/unknown then leave it blank
Duration of TPN in days	Days/hours (use midnight as cut off)	Number range from 0–10000 (depending upon unit: hours or days) If not applicable as infant did not receive then put zero If missing/unknown then leave blank
Surfactant	Yes/no	Potential values: 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unknown/missing
Diagnoses/Procedures		
PDA	Clinical or echocardiographic diagnosis. We will collect information on method most commonly used in separate survey.	Potential values: 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unknown /missing
Indomethacin or other NSAID for PDA treatment		Potential values: 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unknown /missing
Surgical ligation		Potential values: 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unknown /missing
RDS	Clinical and/or radiological criteria	Potential values: 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unknown /missing
Air leak	Includes Pneumothorax, Pneumomediastinum	Potential values: 1 = Yes 2 = No

		3 = Unknown /missing
Air leak requiring	Needle paracentesis or chest	Potential values:
drainage	tube to be included	1 = Yes
		2 = No
		3 = Unknown/missing
BPD at 28 days (need	X-ray is not mandatory	Potential values:
for supplemental		1 = Yes
oxygen)		2 = No
		3 = Unknown/missing
BPD at 36 weeks	X-ray is not mandatory	Potential values:
(need for		1 = Yes
supplemental oxygen)		2 = No
		3 = Unknown/missing
Postnatal steroid use	Only systemic use (Not inhaled	Potential values:
for BPD	steroid use)	1 = Yes
		2 = No
		3 = Unknown/missing
NEC (diagnosed using	Stage 2 or higher only	Potential values:
Bell's criteria)		1 = Yes
		2 = No
0 ()/50		3 = Unknown/missing
Surgery for NEC		Potential values:
(laparotomy/drainage)		1 = Yes
		2 = No
IVII (most severe	Classification could be	3 = Unknown/missing
IVH (most severe		Potential values:
grade) prior to	SEH/GMH, IVH, VE, IPE	0 = No hemorrhage
discharge		1 = Grade 1 hemorrhage or subependymal hemorrhage
		or subependymal cucst or germinal matrix hemorrhage
		2 = Intraventricular hemorrhage without ventricular

PVL or persistent parenchymal opacity	Persistent intraparenchymal echolucency or cysts identified on US or MRI	dilatation 3 = Ventricular dilatation with intraventricular hemorrhage 4 = Intraparenchymal echogenicity suggestive of hemorrhage or infarction with or without IVH 5 = Unknown/missing 6 = No exam Potential values: 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unknown/missing
		4 = No exam
International ROP criteria	In either eye, record the worst stage	Potential values: 0 = No ROP 1 = Stage 1 ROP 2 = Stage 2 ROP 3 = Stage 3 ROP 4 = Stage 4 ROP 5 = Stage 5 ROP 6 = Unknown/missing 7 = No eye exam done
Treatment for ROP	Anti-VEGF or laser	Potential values: 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unknown/missing
Early onset sepsis	Infection within 72 hours (3 days) of birth – positive blood and/or CSF for pathogenic organism	Potential values: 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unknown/missing
Early onset sepsis	If yes – organism	Potential values: 1 = E Coli 2 = GBS

		3 = Other Gram negative bacteria
		4 = Other Gram positive bacteria 5 = Fungal
		6 = Viral
		7 = Other
		8 = Unknown
Late onset sepsis	Infection after 3 days (or 72	Potential values:
Late offset sepsis	hours of age) – positive blood	1 = Yes
	and/or CSF for pathogenic	2 = No
	organism	3 = Unknown/missing/ Not applicable in case of death
	organion	prior to 3 days
LOS episode 1	Organism	Potential values:
	If multiple organisms are grown	1 = E Coli
	in culture consider most virulent:	2 = GBS
	Virulence should be counted as:	3 = Other Gram negative bacteria
	Fungal – Gram negative	4 = Other Gram positive bacteria
	(including E coli), Gram positive	5 = Fungal
	(including GBS), viral,	6 = Viral
	mycoplasma, other, in that	7 = Other
	sequence.	8 = Unknown/missing
LOS episode 1	Postnatal age in days	Value range from 3 to 500
		Leave this blank if only one episode of sepsis
LOS episode 2	Organism	Potential values:
	If multiple organisms are grown	1 = E Coli
	in culture consider most virulent:	2 = GBS
	Virulence should be counted as:	3 = Other Gram negative bacteria
	Fungal – Gram negative	4 = Other Gram positive bacteria
	(including E coli), Gram positive	5 = Fungal
	(including GBS), viral,	6 = Viral
	mycoplasma, other, in that	7 = Other
	sequence.	8 = Unknown/missing

LOS episode 2	Postnatal age in days	Value range from 3 to 500
		Leave this blank if only one episode of sepsis
LOS episode 3	Organism	Potential values:
	If multiple organisms are grown	1 = E Coli
	in culture consider most virulent:	2 = GBS
	Virulence should be counted as:	3 = Other Gram negative bacteria
	Fungal – Gram negative	4 = Other Gram positive bacteria
	(including E coli), Gram positive	5 = Fungal
I	(including GBS), viral,	6 = Viral
	mycoplasma, other, in that	7 = Other
	sequence.	8 = Unknown/missing
LOS episode 3	Postnatal age in days	Value range from 3 to 500
LOS episode 4	Postnatal age in days	Value range from 3 to 500
LOS episode 5	Postnatal age in days	Value range from 3 to 500
Congenital anomalies	Major congenital anomaly –	Potential values:
	defined as those life-threatening	1 = Yes
	or likely to affect quality of way	2 = No
	to a significant degree	3 = Unknown/missing
Specified list to be	If yes to above	Please mention all congenital anomalies you have for
developed based on		a particular infant. If they are coded, please give code
ICD-10		number (ICD code). Centrally we will separate them in
		major and minor groups
Discharge Information		
Age at	Postnatal age in calendar days	Number varies from 1 to 1000
Discharge/death		If died before 24 hours – enter duration in hours and add
		"h" at the end
Delivery Room Death		Potential values:
		1 = Yes
		2 = No
Death	Prior to discharge from NICU	Potential values:
		1 = Yes

	2 = No
Cause of death if	Again any free text would be acceptable for this item and
available	we will group them centrally.
Discharge destination	Potential values:
	1 = Home
	2 = Level 2 or HDU
	3 = SCBU
	4 = Pediatric ward
	5 = PICU
	6 = Out of area/country
	7 = Rehabilitation/palliative care
	8 = Unknown/missing
	9 = Other
	10 = Unknown
Breastfeeding/breast	Potential values:
milk at discharge	1 = Yes
	2 = No
	3 = Unknown/missing
Oxygen at discharge	Potential values:
	1 = Yes
	2 = No
	3 = Unknown/missing
Weight at	In Kg, range 0.000 to 20.000
discharge/death	Leave blank if unknown (especially in case of death)