How to Use this Guide

The key messages, logos, one pagers and social graphics contained or linked in this guide are intended to be used as is to keep messages about INC and its topics, i.e., NAESS, long-term outcomes, neonatal seizures, etc. consistent. If you’d like to make modifications, please email incinfo@c-path.org with your requests/ideas.

The sample social copy included in the Social Toolkits can be modified to be written in your “voice” as needed. Please reach out with any questions. Thank you.

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Challenge
The last drug that significantly impacted survival in preterm neonates was approved more than 30 years ago and, to this day, neonates continue to be treated as therapeutic orphans, underserved by the drug development community and continually lacking safe and effective therapies. Currently, less than one percent of registered trials are in neonates and the vast majority of drugs — approximately 60 to 90 percent — in this population are used off-label, greatly impacting any objective evaluation of their safety and efficacy. Providing much needed treatments for this neglected subset of the population requires the engagement of the global neonatal community — families, health care providers, academic scientists, regulators, pharmaceutical investigators, advocacy organizations and funders — to focus on the needs of the neonate by sharing their data, knowledge and expertise in order to advance medical innovation and regulatory science.

**Need**

With the collaboration of stakeholders within the neonatal community, practical tools can be developed and incorporated into clinical trials, which will then lead to more successful, efficient trials, providing this population with significantly increased and higher-quality treatments.

**Objective & Specific Aims**

Our mission is to communicate the work of C-Path’s International Neonatal Consortium (INC) to the larger neonatal communities in support of a positive research culture and inclusivity of multiple stakeholder perspectives in the NICU.

- Communicate INC progress within INC and to the larger neonatal community
- Amplify and support the perspective of all stakeholders
- Promote positive research culture for neonates as we address their unmet drug development needs
- Measure, revise, refine and iterate
Communications Strategy

Develop key messages for the global neonatology community using the content of INC’s impact from the perspective of each stakeholder group:

**Stakeholders include:**
- Parents
  - Advocacy groups
- Nurses
  - Societies/Professional Groups/Partners
- Neonatologists
  - Societies/Professional Groups/Partners
- Regulatory Agencies
- Industry Representatives

**Key Messages for Stakeholders:**
- NAESS
- Assessment of long-term neurodevelopmental outcome (LTO) following trials of medicinal products in newborn infants
- Recommendations for the design of therapeutic trials for neonatal Seizures

**Target Audience: Global Neonatal Community**

- **Parents**
  - NICU Parent Network (US-based)
  - EFCNI (EU-based)
  - Others, such as Irish Neonatal Health Alliance, Alliance for Black NICU Families and other smaller groups, but most fit under the other two umbrellas.
  - thezaky.com

- **Nurses**
  - COINN (LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter)
  - NANN
  - AWHONN
  - ANN.Healthy Newborn Network
  - Chifa Listerve
• **Neonatologists**
  - Neonatal research networks in different countries / regions.
  - NICHD, Neonatal Research Network
  - NICHD, Pediatric Trials Network
  - Vermont Oxford Network
  - EuroNeoNet: European Neonatal Network
  - EFCNI: European Foundation for the care of newborn infants
  - Society for Pediatric Research
  - European Society for Pediatric Research
  - iNEO: International Network evaluating Neonatal Outcomes
  - Australia-New Zealand Neonatal Network (ANZNN)
  - Canadian Neonatal Network (CNN)
  - Israeli Neonatal Network (INN)
  - Neonatal Research Network of Japan (NRNJ)
  - Swedish Neonatal Quality Register (SNQ)
  - UK Neonatal Collaborative (UKNC)
  - American Academy of Pediatrics, Section of Neonatal Perinatal Medicine
    (similar sections of other pediatric associations)
  - American Academy of Pediatrics, Section of Clinical Pharmacology and
    Therapeutics and Section on Advances in Therapeutics and Technology

• **Regulatory Agencies**
  - Registered Lobbyists US/EU
  - Pediatric Cluster (FDA/EMA)

• **Industry Representatives**
  - For trade associations with active pediatric work groups, send one pager
    to staffer who is point person for pediatric work group
    - BIO
    - EFPIA
  - For trade associations without pediatric working groups the approach
    would be ask if their members would like to self-select into an email
    distribution group for INC publication/project key message
    - PhRMA
    - IFPMA
    - JPMA

• **Societies/Pro Groups/Partners**
  - American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics
  - American Society for Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics
  - Canadian Society for Pharmacology and Therapeutics
Communication Resources

Key Messages - Neonatologists

Neonatal Adverse Event Severity Scale (NAESS)
- Infant safety is critically important in both clinical care and research.
The Neonatal Adverse Event Severity Scale (NAESS) is the first tool to provide a standardized, infant-specific framework to consistently assess severity of the most commonly reported events experienced among critically ill infants.

Parents, nurses, pharmacists, neonatologists, and clinical research team members all play important roles in recognizing changes to an infant’s baseline condition, identifying possible AEs, and promoting safety culture.

Establishing tools that promote consistent, reproducible assessment of the safety of an intervention is critically important in clinical care, research and safety surveillance.

Long-term Outcomes

C-Path International Neonatal Consortium publication conceptualizes recommendations for outcome assessments in neonatal therapeutic trials.

Investigational medicinal products (IMP) for neonates can impair or improve long-term outcomes through direct effects on the brain or indirect effects on other developing organ systems.

Identification of reliable and impactful outcome assessments is a critical step in early protocol design that requires input from parents, health care providers, regulators, and sponsors.

Assessments need to be tailored to the expected harms and benefits of the investigational medicinal product without excluding the assessment of unexpected impacts.

Outcome assessments may occur at different time points throughout childhood; plans should balance of benefits costs, and burdens of assessments to the researcher and families thereby enhancing family participation and achieving high quality, meaningful data. (supplemental materials outline specific assessments at different ages)

The involvement of parents, the use of harmonized global assessment instruments, and the collection of high-quality, standardized electronic health data can minimize the burden and costs of long-term outcome assessments.
Neonatal Seizures

Two general messages regarding neonatal drug development not specific to seizures:

- Neonatal clinical trials and drug development programs are needed to ensure that safe and effective therapies are available for critically ill newborns. Clinical care can be complicated by an absence of treatment options or inadequately studied treatments.

- Neonates are a unique, vulnerable population in whom clinical trials are difficult to perform. The advocacy and input of parents can enhance trial design and potential success of a trial.

Four key messages related to therapeutic trials for neonatal seizures:

- Seizures, one of the most common neurologic emergencies in neonates, are associated with significant mortality and neurodevelopmental disability. In fact, seizures are more common in neonates than any other age group. There is a critical need for safe and effective treatments for seizures in neonates.

- Phenobarbital, often the first-line medication for neonatal seizure management, is efficacious in only 40-50% of neonates with seizures.

- The INC published comprehensive recommendations for clinical trial design components of anti-seizure medications in neonates with valuable input from clinical care providers, researchers, nurses, industry, regulatory agencies, and parent advocacy groups. They specifically provide recommendations for inclusion/exclusion criteria, choice of comparator arms for treatment, consent, and outcome measures to facilitate the conduct of trials evaluating anti-seizure drugs or treatments for neonates. The supplement provides a literature review and drug specific discussion regarding formulations.

- This paper provides essential guidance to efficiently develop a regulatory clinical trial of anti-seizure treatments in neonates to determine which medications are safe and effective.

INC Logo & Images

- Logo & Brand Guidelines
- Graphic Assets
General Talking Points

International Neonatal Consortium

- In 2015, C-Path, launched the International Neonatal Consortium, INC, to bring together multidisciplinary stakeholders in a pre-competitive way to serve unmet drug development needs in neonates, with the common cause of developing safe and effective medical products for neonates.

- Critical Path Institute’s International Neonatal Consortium, INC’s, mission is to accelerate the development of safe and effective therapies for neonates.

Neonatal Adverse Event Severity Scale (NAESS)

- The Neonatal Adverse Event Severity Scale, NAESS, is the first neonatal-specific adverse event severity grading instrument.

- NAESS is the first tool to provide a standardized, infant-specific framework to consistently assess severity of the most commonly reported events experienced among critically ill infants.

- The NAESS is a valuable tool that can help inform pharmacovigilance reviews, pediatric safety reports, and benefit/risk assessments.

- NAESS mapping to MedDRA terms allows for standardized and consistent safety comparisons between medications and across trials throughout the world.

- The NAESS is designed to allow for revisions and expansion of terms as utilization increases and progress is made in systematizing the assessment of AEs in newborns.

Long-term Neurodevelopmental Outcomes (LTO)
Currently, there is significant uncertainty over the role of assessment of long-term neurodevelopmental outcome in neonatal clinical trials.

INC has developed a framework to determine the need, nature, and duration of LTO assessments in trials involving newborn infants and outline assessments for outcomes as direct or indirect consequence of intervention.

This framework calls for the strategic involvement of parents and patient advocates aimed at balancing benefits, costs and burdens of assessments to the researcher and families.

**Design of Therapeutic Trials for Neonatal Seizures**

- Seizures, one of the most common neurologic emergencies in neonates, are associated with significant mortality and neurodevelopmental disability. In fact, seizures are more common in neonates than any other age group.

- There is a critical need for safe and effective treatments for seizures in neonates.

- The INC publication, *Recommendations for the design of therapeutic trials for neonatal seizures*, includes comprehensive recommendations for clinical trial design components for anti-seizure medications in neonates with valuable input from clinical care providers, researchers, parents, nurses, industry, and regulatory agencies. This coordinated approach of stakeholder input can encourage the development of medications that are effective to specifically treat neonatal seizures.

- New parents may be surprised to hear that there are very few clinical trials designed specifically for neonates and even fewer for neonatal seizures. Clinical trials for new anti-seizure medications are essential and NICU graduate parents provided important input.

- Parent’s shared experiences and opinions regarding trial safety, long-term outcomes and caregiver burden were incorporated into each study recommendations.

**FAQs**

- Find FAQs on C-Path’s INC website, [https://c-path.org/inc](https://c-path.org/inc)
Social Media & Social Media Toolkits

- **C-Path Social Page Tags**
  - LinkedIn: @Critical Path Institute (C-Path) (auto populates)
  - Facebook: @Critical Path Institute (auto populates)
  - Twitter: @CPathInstitute
  - YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/c/CriticalPathInstitute](https://www.youtube.com/c/CriticalPathInstitute)

- **Social Media Hashtags**: #CPath #INC #NAESS #longtermoutcomes #seizures #neonatal #neonatology #nicu #preemie #premature #healthcare #neonatologist #collaboration #pediatric #clinicaltrials #consortium #globalhealth

- **Toolkits**
  - Parents
  - Nurses
  - Neonatologists/Physicians
  - Regulators
  - Industry

Email Campaigns

Example emails would go out to INC members and INC master stakeholder list. The call to action (CTA) to stakeholder groups is that they share it with their networks, but for ease this would be one message that fits all.

**EXAMPLE**

As a [stakeholder group] member, working with the Critical Path Institute’s International Neonatal Consortium (a global collaboration formed to forge a predictable regulatory path for evaluating the safety and effectiveness of therapies for neonates), [I/we] would like [you/organization name] to be aware of resources developed by INC to support the development of therapies for neonates.

Linked please find the recently published Neonatal Adverse Event Severity Scale paper additional resources to help amplify our message, including social media toolkits at c-path.org/inc/resources.

If possible, please cascade to your [network/members] that would also be interested in this information, as applicable. If distribution is prohibited, please consider querying your membership for their interest to opt-in to an email distribution list, to be used by INC to distribute relevant industry papers and high-level message summaries regarding development of neonatal therapies as they become available.

Please contact the INC team at incinfo@c-path.org, if you have questions.
Kind regards,
Mary Short

**INC PPT Slides**
- Neonatologists Key Messages Slides

**Videos**
- INC Overview Video

- INC “In a Word” Video

[Image of INC logo and slide]

[Image of video player]

c-path.org/inc/resources
One Sheets

- **INC One Sheet**

- **INC NAESS One Sheet**

Papers/Publications:

- Inter-rater reliability of the neonatal adverse event severity scale using real-world Neonatal clinical trial data
- Method of Blood Pressure Measurement in Neonates and Infants: A Systematic Review and Analysis
Communications Timeline Planning & Measurement

Creating an Outreach Effort and Timeline for Messaging
The following table is a list to plot moments, events and ideas to track the people and places/events that can help us get the word out. Think about the next 12 months where as a group we can consider creating communications amplification opportunities:

Could the moment provide a good opportunity to reach our target audiences with a key message about INC?

Planning Tips:
- Review the opportunities table below
  - Are you attending/presenting at any of these events?
  - Is there awareness you can share with your networks around a particular event or awareness week, i.e., National Nurses Week, etc.
- Give yourself time to plan and select materials from the toolkit
- Focus on the opportunities that are a match for the stakeholder key message you are using
- Share your plans to use our toolkit materials with the INC Communications WG
- Track your communications here: bit.ly/plan_inc_comms

The opportunities below will help to inform a short term and then longer term communications plan for INC. If you have additional opportunities to add, you may do so here.

Opportunities Table:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER 2021</td>
<td>FDA Meetings, Conferences and Workshops</td>
<td>FDA</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/7-9</td>
<td>Giving Voice to the Silent Burden: Maternal Mental Health Technical Consultation</td>
<td>Healthy Newborn Network</td>
<td>Virtual event</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/8-11</td>
<td>Fall 2021 National Neonatal, Advanced Practice, &amp; Mother Baby Nurses Conferences</td>
<td>Academy of Neonatal Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/11</td>
<td>Virtual neonatal minicon</td>
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<td>Virtual event</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10 - 11</td>
<td>20th International Attachment Conference, virtual conference</td>
<td></td>
<td>Virtual event</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/14</td>
<td>4th Congress of joint European Neonatal Societies (jENS)</td>
<td>Athens, Greece</td>
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<td>9/13 - 19</td>
<td>Neonatal Nurses Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/13 - 15</td>
<td>NANN's VIRTUAL 37th Annual Conference</td>
<td>NANN</td>
<td>Virtual event</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/14 - 18</td>
<td>jENS 2021 congress</td>
<td>ESPR</td>
<td>Virtual event</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/15 - 16</td>
<td>Postpartum Hemorrhage CoP Virtual Annual Meeting</td>
<td>Healthy Newborn Network</td>
<td>Virtual event</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/21 - 22</td>
<td>Global Breastfeeding and Lactation Symposium</td>
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<td>9/22</td>
<td>Focus on Pharmacology Virtual Series</td>
<td>ASPET</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Organizer/Location</td>
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<td>9/24 - 25</td>
<td><strong>Unpacking the NICU Parent Leader Journey</strong></td>
<td>NICU Parent Network Virtual event</td>
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<td>9/28</td>
<td><strong>Strengthening capacity for health innovation in Africa</strong></td>
<td>H3D-F and IFPMA partnership Virtual event</td>
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<td><strong>OCTOBER 2021</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) Meeting</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10/5 - 21</td>
<td><strong>2021 Newborn Screening Symposium</strong></td>
<td>Association of Public Health Laboratories Virtual event</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/8 - 12</td>
<td><strong>AAP National Conference &amp; Exhibition</strong></td>
<td>American Association of Pediatrics Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/9 - 13</td>
<td><strong>AWHONN convention</strong></td>
<td>AWHONN Virtual event</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/10 - 19</td>
<td><strong>International Conference on Neonatology</strong></td>
<td>Paris, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/18 - 21</td>
<td><strong>Council of International Neonatal Nurses, INC (COINN)</strong></td>
<td>COINN Alliance of Global Neonatal Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/19 - 20</td>
<td><strong>2021 INC Scientific Workshop</strong></td>
<td>INC Virtual event</td>
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<td>10/27 - 28</td>
<td><strong>BIO Patient &amp; Health Advocacy Digital Summit</strong></td>
<td>BIO Virtual event</td>
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<td><strong>NOVEMBER 2021</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11/8 - 10</td>
<td><strong>Neonatal Pharmacology Conference 2021</strong></td>
<td>Medical University of South Carolina Charleston, South Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/11 - 12</td>
<td><strong>Advances and Controversies in Neonatal Medicine</strong></td>
<td>Vanderbilt University Medical Center Nashville, Tennessee</td>
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[Link: c-path.org/inc/resources]
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/15 - 17</td>
<td><strong>Miami Neonatology 2021</strong></td>
<td>University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/16 - 19</td>
<td><strong>SBER21 and AER21</strong></td>
<td>PRIM&amp;R Virtual event</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/17</td>
<td><strong>World Prematurity Day</strong></td>
<td>World Prematurity Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>DECEMBER 2021</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12/5 - 8</td>
<td><strong>Hot Topics in Neonatology</strong></td>
<td>Nemours Children’s Health System, National Harbor, MD</td>
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<td><strong>2022</strong></td>
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<td><strong>JANUARY 2022</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1/2 - 6</td>
<td><strong>37th Annual Obstetrics, Gynecology, Perinatal Medicine, Neonatology, and the Law</strong></td>
<td>Center for Human Genetics, Orlando, Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/10 - 14</td>
<td><strong>BIO Partnering at JPM</strong></td>
<td>BIO Virtual event</td>
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<td><strong>FEBRUARY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2/23 - 25</td>
<td><strong>NEO Conference</strong></td>
<td>Mednax San Diego, CA</td>
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<td><strong>MARCH</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3/15</td>
<td><strong>iCAN 2022 Summit</strong></td>
<td>iCAN Lyon, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/16 - 19</td>
<td><strong>American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics</strong></td>
<td>ASCPT Gaylord Rockies Resort &amp; Convention Center Denver, CO</td>
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<td>3/29 - 31</td>
<td><strong>Drug Information Association - Europe meeting</strong></td>
<td>DIA - EU Hybrid/Brussels</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>April 2022</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Organizer</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/21 - 4/25</td>
<td>PAS Meeting: Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) Meeting</td>
<td>International Biomedical</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/4 - 6</td>
<td>Neonatal &amp; Pediatric Airborne Transport Conference</td>
<td>International Biomedical</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/19 - 23</td>
<td>Drug Information Association - Global Annual Meeting</td>
<td>DIA</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/7 - 11</td>
<td>American Academy of Pediatrics National Conference &amp; Exhibition</td>
<td>AAP-NCE</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/12 - 15</td>
<td>22nd Annual International Perinatal Bereavement Conference (IPBC)</td>
<td>Pregnancy Death and Infant Loss Alliance (PDILA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/16 - 20</td>
<td>2021 Newborn Screening Symposium</td>
<td>Association of Public Health Laboratories</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/14 - 18</td>
<td>PRIM&amp;R Annual Conference</td>
<td>PRIM&amp;R</td>
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### LINKS OF INTEREST

- Alliance for Black NICU Families
- The Zacky
Measurement:

- Reports Showing INC Web Content Engagement
- Social Media Engagement Reports
- Email Campaign Results
- **INC members: The INC Communications Workgroup** would like to track your communications activities regularly. If you plan to use any materials on social media, at a meeting, for a blog, etc., please send an email to incinfo@c-path.org with the following information:
  - Date of Activity
  - Name
  - Stakeholder
  - Opportunity/Event
  - Key Message Used
  - Comm Materials Used
  - Social Network (LI, FB, IG, Twitter)
  - Social Copy Used (if any)
  - Relative Link(s)
Additional Communication Touchpoints

- Resource Tab on INC
- C-Path and Stakeholder Social Profiles
- C-Path and Stakeholder Newsletters
- C-Path and Stakeholder Email Distribution Lists
- Annual Meetings and Workshops
- Webinars/Presentations
- Blogs & Podcasts

Thanks for all you do to support INC!

If you have any questions about this Toolkit, please email incinfo@c-path.org