

# YORKSHIRE CANCER NETWORK Chemotherapy Group

Minutes of the meeting held on  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2006, 2.30 - 4.30pm  
Room 1, YCRN Conference Suite, Cookridge Hospital

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Present:	Professor P Taylor	Airedale NHS Trust
	Dr L Newton	Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
	Ms P Daynes	Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Trust
	Mr J Hancock	Craven, Harrogate and Rural District PCT
	Mrs C Hedges	Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust
	Ms S McGonigle	Leeds North East PCT
	Mr P Howard Dr D Gilson Professor L Kay (Chair) Dr S Picton	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
	Ms K Norton	Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust
	Mr A Bower	South Leeds PCT
	Ms A Crockett Dr D Jackson Ms E Jeffers	York Hospitals NHS Trust
	Ms L Carroll Mr P Melling Mr D Thomson	Yorkshire Cancer Network
	Ms F Halstead Ms C Sleigh	Yorkshire Cancer Research Network

## 1. Welcome and Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mr A Alldred, Dr M Crawford and Dr D Dodwell.

## 2. Minutes from the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as being an accurate record.

## 3. Matters Arising

### 3.1 Declarations of conflict of interest

None.

### 3.2 ToR

Members reviewed the draft terms of reference. Mr Thomson agreed to make the amendments discussed.

**ACTION: Mr Thomson to make amendments to ToR**

### **3.3 Membership**

The membership of the group was reviewed. Mr Thomson agreed to make the amendments to reflect the comments raised.

A discussion regarding the circulation of consultation documents to non surgical oncologists took place. Members suggested having a separate mailing list for the non-surgical oncologists across the YCN. Miss Carroll will discuss this further with Dr Gilson.

The group supported the suggestion to seek nominations for a public health representation on the group.

Prof Kay asked if nominations for a new Vice Chair and Chair could be sent to Miss Carroll by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2006. It is proposed the Chair and Vice Chair should be a combination of a Trust Chief Pharmacist and Non-surgical Oncologist (from different Trusts) and will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

Prof Kay asked for further comments on the ToR and membership to be sent to Miss Carroll.

**ACTION: Mr Thomson to make amendments to the membership**

**Miss Carroll to speak to Dr Gilson regarding a mailing list of non surgical oncologists**

**Network to seek nominations for a Public Health representative**

**Further comments on ToR and Membership to be sent to Miss Carroll**

**Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair to be sent to Miss Carroll**

### **4. Feedback from local chemotherapy groups**

Members were asked to provide feedback on;

- Whether the Trust (or organisation/body) they represent has agreed the YCN NICE policy document
- Local new drug submissions/approvals
- Peer Review Action Plans
- Financial arrangements for new drugs

Mr Thomson thanked members for sending him the ToR and minutes for their locality chemotherapy group and asked if they could add him to their mailing list to receive future minutes etc. The group agreed with Mr Thomson's suggestion for the YCN Chemotherapy Group to set a minimum specification for locality group ToR to ensure consistency across the YCN.

Mr Thomson agreed to circulate a draft proforma prior to the next meeting.

**ACTION: All to add Mr Thomson to Locality Chemotherapy mailing list**

**Mr Thomson to circulate draft proforma**

### **Airedale**

Prof Taylor said it would be beneficial if there could be a Network consensus view on the use of Bisphosphates. A group discussion followed. The group acknowledged this work would link into the central process for D&T approval however highlighted the importance communication flows between trusts are in place before this work can progress. The group agreed to primarily address the different clinical decisions across the network prior to commissioning issues.

The consent clinic has been asked to also support the haematology service.

## **Bradford**

Dr Newton will clarify if Bradford has agreed the YCN NICE policy document.

Pre printed prescriptions are now being used for haematology.

**ACTION: Dr Newton to clarify if YCN NICE Policy has been agreed**

## **Calderdale & Huddersfield**

The NICE policy document was taken to the local Trust Medicines Management Committee and was agreed. This group is keen to take forward a network approach for the new drugs policy.

Calderdale & Huddersfield Trust board did not approve the prescriptions charging policy. Ms Daynes highlighted the implications this had caused as patients must now pay for everything. Patients are being encouraged to pay for pre payment certificates. Although this policy was approved by the YCN Management Board Mr Thomson emphasised it is the localities decision/responsibility whether to implement it. The YCN Management Board has agreed to review the implementation of this policy across the YCN in a year's time. This will be discussed further with the Pharmacy Group.

Cetuximab has been approved for a patient with colorectal cancer.

**ACTION: Mr Thomson to discuss the implementation of the prescriptions charging policy with the YCN Pharmacists**

## **Mid Yorkshire**

Ms Norton will clarify if Mid Yorkshire has agreed the YCN NICE policy document.

Ms Norton highlighted the difficulties her Trust has obtaining the approval for new drugs (they are still awaiting for a decision on the approval for Velcade submitted in September 2005). A discussion on obtaining non payment by results money in for chemotherapy took place. Mr Howard said he will circulate further information on this.

Mr Philip Shaw has been appointed as the new Chief Pharmacist.

Funding for an Aseptic unit at Pinderfields has been approved.

Ms Norton prompted a group discussion on the use of Thalidomide. Mr Thomson agreed to discuss this further with Ms Norton after the meeting.

**ACTION: Ms Norton to clarify if the YCN NICE policy has been approved**

**Mr Howard to circulate further detail**

**Ms Norton to discuss use of Thalidomide with Mr Thomson**

## **Harrogate and District**

The YCN NICE Policy document will be taken to the locality meeting in July 2006.

A local Medicines Management Group has recently been formed.

## **Leeds**

The Peer Review visit highlighted the need for Network approved regimes. Preparation for the move to the NOW is ongoing. Work is being undertaken to update chemo care and on the development of a data management system.

## York

The NICE policy document has been shared with the relevant colleagues at the Trust but there has been no formal sign-off.

There is a D&T financial arrangement that anything above £25 thousand must have commissioner approval. In April 2006 commissioning colleagues at the PCT agreed NICE approved drugs are approved for funding, however a formal mechanism for this is being awaited.

A commissioning group has been established across the two PCTs (CHARD and Selby and York PCT).

**ACTION: All to include Mr Thomson in circulation list for local chemotherapy groups  
Mr Thomson to circulate proforma**

**Mr Thomson to produce a minimum specification for local Chemotherapy Groups ToR**

### **5. Financial arrangements for new cancer drugs in 2006/07**

Mr Howard agreed to circulate a paper on Financial arrangements for new cancer drugs in 2006/07 with the minutes.

The group agreed with Mr Thomson's suggestion to produce a work plan for HRG's/activity in 2007. Mr Thomson, Mr Howard, Ms McGonigle volunteered to progress this work. Mr Alldred was also nominated. Mr Thomson will Lead on this.

**ACTION: Mr Thomson to arrange meeting to take this work forward**

**Mr Howard to circulate paper**

### **6. Capacity planning**

The Chemotherapy Development Group is continuing to work towards the production of the capacity planning toolkit.

### **7. Dose banding of cytotoxics**

### **8. Herceptin**

NICE has published preliminary guidance on the use of Herceptin. It is felt completion of the approval form should still take place. Mr Thomson will raise this at the YCN Breast Group meeting.

The Herceptin Home Care Tender Sub-group met on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2006 and have drafted a specification. It is anticipated this will be taken to the September YCN Chemotherapy Group meeting for formal approval.

### **9. Computerised prescribing**

Mr Thomson tabled the YCN Chemotherapy E-prescribing update paper. Mr Thomson summarised the YCN proposed approach noting the deadline for business cases is 30<sup>th</sup> September 2006. An in depth group discussion took place. Members agreed to confirm with their Trusts (by 6<sup>th</sup> June 2006) they are happy to proceed with this proposal. Prof Kay suggested they obtain information on the software costs and Trust costs for the hardware. Miss Carroll agreed to arrange a project meeting in preparation.

**ACTION: All to confirm with Trusts they are happy to proceed with YCN approach**

**Miss Carroll to arrange project group meeting**

**Mr Thomson to discuss completion of approval form with YCN Breast Group**

Due to limited time it was agreed the future agenda items will be discussed at the next meeting;

**10. EPO model**

**11. Horizon scanning**

**12. Education and training**

**13. Status of Guidance from NICE in cancer Network**

**14. YCN Approved Regimes**

**15. Any other business**

- The YCN Pharmacist Group has agreed to produce guidelines for Hepatic and Renal Dysfunction for each cytotoxic agent. Mr Thomson agreed to circulate a Gantt chart on the progress of the guidelines.
- The YCN Chemotherapy Development group are reviewing their Adult Chemotherapy Extravasation Policy (patient information will be considered). Dr Gilson suggested Jane Archer, Patient Information and Support Manager for the Network is involved in this work.

**ACTION: Mr Thomson to circulate Gantt chart**

**16. Date of next meeting**

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2006, 2.30pm,  
YCRN Meeting Room 1, Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital.**