

YORKSHIRE CANCER NETWORK Chemotherapy Group

Minutes of the meeting held on
Wednesday 25th October 2006, 2.30 - 4.30pm
Room 1, YCRN Conference Suite, Cookridge Hospital

Present:	Dr M Crawford Professor P Taylor	Airedale NHS Trust
	Ms P Daynes	Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust
	Mrs C Hedges	Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust
	Ms S McGonigle	Leeds North East PCT
	Mr P Deady Mr P Howard Prof L Kay Ms K Kozłowska	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
	Ms K Norton	Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust
	Mr J Hancock	North Yorkshire and York PCT
	Prof C Twelves	University of Bradford
	Dr D Jackson (Chair) Ms E Jeffers	York Hospitals NHS Trust
	Ms L Carroll Mr P Melling Mr D Thomson	Yorkshire Cancer Network

1. Welcome and Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mr A Alldred, Dr A Anthoney, Dr J Dent, Dr D Dodwell, Dr D Gilson, Mr I Hammond, Dr S Kinsey, Dr S Kumar, Dr L Newton, Dr S Picton, Prof M Seymour and Ms C Sleigh.

2. Minutes from the last meeting

The minutes were agreed as being an accurate record.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Community based chemotherapy

Mr Thomson summarised the 'Whittington Cancer Unit Ambulatory Cancer Care Operational Policy' that was circulated with the agenda. The Network has been approached by Bradford & Airedale Teaching PCT to undertake work on community based chemotherapy. After a group discussion it was agreed that Mr Thomson will take this project forward with Ms Toovey, Prof Twelves and Bradford & Airedale Teaching PCT and present a project plan at the next meeting. Prof Twelves suggested they also produce guidelines on the basic principles for the delivery of community based chemotherapy.

ACTION: Mr Thomson, Ms Toovey, Prof Twelves and Bradford & Airedale PCT to produce project plan and present at next meeting

3.2 NICE drug uptake

Mr Thomson ensured members had received the paper 'Uptake of NICE Approved Cancer Drugs' circulated with the agenda. It has been agreed to provide the YCN Management Board with an update on the uptake on NICE drugs at their meetings. Mr Thomson will produce a paper to facilitate discussions on how the group can approach this at the next meeting.

ACTION: Mr Thomson to produce paper for next meeting

YCN Trastuzumab in the treatment of early breast cancer

Mr Thomson reported that following the publication of the NICE Guidelines on Trastuzumab the YCN Breast Cancer Group have revised their guidance on Trastuzumab in the treatment of early breast cancer. He tabled this document and summarised the changes made. It was agreed this document should be circulated for a two week consultation.

Mr Thomson said the group should consider undertaking an audit on Herceptin uptake across the Network at the start of 2007.

ACTION: Miss Carroll to circulate YCN guidelines for 2 week consultation (actioned 10.11.06)

Herceptin Homecare sub-group

Mr Deady tabled and summarised the draft tender specification for the Yorkshire and Humber regional trastuzumab homecare service. Following a group discussion Miss Carroll agreed to circulate this paper for a 2 week consultation. To progress this further it was felt that detail on cost impact for the delivery of this product should be provided.

ACTION: Miss Carroll to circulate paper for a 2 week consultation (actioned 10.11.06)

3.3 PbR and Chemotherapy HRGs

Mr Thomson tabled the guidance for coders 'High Cost Drugs'. This will be discussed further at the next meeting. Mr Thomson suggested the Network consider producing a list of codes for their list of approved regimes.

ACTION: To discuss chemotherapy PbR at the next meeting

3.4 Membership

Mr Thomson reported that Dr Andrew Clark, Director of Public Health, North Yorkshire and York PCT has suggested it may be beneficial to have commissioner and public health representation on the YCN Chemotherapy Group. Ms McGonigle agreed to approach Dr J Fear, Director of Public Health, Leeds PCT. This will also be raised at the YCN Commissioning Group.

Mr Thomson has spoken to relevant colleagues regarding having Patient-Carer representation on the group.

ACTION: Ms McGonigle to speak to Mr Jon Fear

4. Feedback from local Chemotherapy Groups

Mr Thomson agreed to circulate the draft feedback proforma which is to be completed by a nominated representative from each Trust prior to each meeting.

ACTION: Mr Thomson to circulate draft proforma

4.1 Airedale

The day unit at Airedale is now at full staff capacity. The documents for the new septic unit will be out for tender shortly.

4.2 Bradford

No update given.

4.3 Calderdale & Huddersfield

Elotinib had been approved by the PCT.

Mr Howard emphasised the importance of an agreed set of patient selection criteria from the YCN Lung Group.

4.4 Mid Yorkshire

The NICE policy document has been approved with exception to the audit section. The prescription charging policy is to be taken to the next Trust Board meeting. The new Aseptic unit will be opened in December 2006 and the Pontefract Aseptic unit will be closed.

4.5 Harrogate

Mrs Hedges reported that they are in the process of completing a policy on methotrexate and ectopic pregnancy.

The Medicines Management Sub group for Chemotherapy have produced a draft paper on Zometa with a view to cost savings.

The first four patients have started on homecare Imatinib

4.6 Leeds

Leeds is experiencing pharmacy staffing issues that will impact on the chemotherapy capacity in the New Year. The haematology and oncology staff are therefore looking at different ways of working.

The Leeds Drug & Therapeutic Group has agreed the use of Sunitinib for GIST and renal cell carcinoma however this was not supported by the SMC.

4.7 York

Ms Jeffers reported that from 1st October 2006 the aseptic unit was put onto 24 hour expiry and summarised how this has impacted on the service.

The work being under taken on chemo care is ongoing and a new project manager has been appointed.

Discussions with relevant colleagues on how York approach the implementation of NICE guidance and how they approach high cost drugs that sit outside the NICE guidance are taking place.

5. YCN Guidelines

Mr Thomson tabled the revised YCN Chemotherapy Development Group Nursing Chemotherapy Administration Guidelines. Miss Carroll agreed to circulate these for a four week consultation. Ms Kozlowska and Mr Thomson agreed to present the final document at the next meeting.

ACTION: Miss Carroll to circulate guidelines for comments (actioned 10.11.06)

Ms Kozlowska and Mr Thomson to present final document at next meeting

6. Process for new drugs in YCN

Mr Thomson reminded colleagues of the paper 'process for new drugs in the YCN' that was consulted almost a year ago. Mr Thomson, Dr Jackson and Mr Tinkler are working together to discuss how the non surgical oncology sub groups of the NSSG become more formalised within the Network.

It is anticipated they an educational event will be held in the New Year where this process can be addressed.

7. Capacity Planning – update

The chemotherapy planning oncology resource tool (C-PORT) is now available as a web based toolkit. Mr Thomson is awaiting the national timings within this document so they can be compared to the Network timings.

8. Computerised Prescribing – update

Mr Thomson tabled and summarised the YCN Chemotherapy E-Prescribing Sub-Group minutes for the meeting that took place on Monday 17th October 2006.

9. Horizon scanning – update

Mr Thomson agreed to circulate the Horizon scanning paper at the next meeting.

ACTION: Mr Thomson to circulate at next meeting

10. Education and training

Ms Kozłowska informed the group that her secondment as Chemotherapy Project Facilitator for the Network had come to an end. She presented on this project at a National Skills for Health conference.

Discussions on setting a training programme for clinical oncologist, medical oncologists and haematologists have been undertaken and it is anticipated this will commence in March 2007.

11. Status of Guidelines from NICE in Cancer Network – update

After a group discussion it was agreed to pilot the process for the two agents (bevacizumab and Lapatinib) in the Trusts that have agreed and signed off the NICE policy document. Mr Thomson will circulate the appropriate documentation.

ACTION: Mr Thomson to circulate relevant documentation

12. YCN approved regimes

Mr Thomson has populated the Breast, Gynae, Upper GI and Lung regimes and has approached non surgical oncologists to overview these documents prior to wider circulation.

13. Any other business

- Mr Thomson encouraged the group to read the Cancer Network Pharmacist Forum minutes for the meeting that took place on 6th September 2006 and the Chemotherapy Development Minutes for the meeting that took place on 26th September 2006 circulated with the agenda.
- Mr Jackson highlighted the need for a better Network consensus view on what supported medicines are appropriate to each unit. Mr Thomson explained the database will continually be updated to add any new recommendations. A group in Leeds has been formed to look at antimetetics and policies and the YCN Pharmacy Group is linking into this group.
- The group agreed to have the 2007 meeting dates on a rolling day (Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays). Miss Carroll will circulate the dates with the minutes.

14. Date of next meeting

**Wednesday 20th December 2006, 2.30pm,
YCRN Meeting Room 1, Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital.**