

**YORKSHIRE CANCER NETWORK
Lead Clinicians Group**

Minutes of the meeting held on
Thursday 23rd January 2006, 10.00am
YCRN Room 1, Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital

Present:

Dr P DaCosta	Airedale NHS Trust
Dr C Bradley	Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Mr B MacDonald	Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Trust
Dr A Crellin	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Mr R Sundaram	Mid Yorkshire NHS Trust
Mr D Alexander	York Hospitals NHS Trust
Prof M Baker	Yorkshire Cancer Network
Miss L Carroll	
Mr S Duffy	
Ms F Stephenson	
Mr B Tinkler	

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mr J Harrison and Prof M Seymour.

2. Minutes from the last meeting

Miss Carroll agreed to amend the minutes of the meeting that took place on Thursday 19th July 2005 to reflect Dr Hunter's comments received regarding the upper GI IOG implementation update.

Other than this the minutes of the meeting were agreed as an accurate record.

ACTION: Miss Carroll to amend minutes

3. Matters Arising

• **Airedale Oncology**

Mr Tinkler reported he is producing a report on the proposed future oncology service in Airedale and Bradford. This report will be completed by the end February 2006 and submitted Chief Executives at the PCT's and Hospital Trusts.

A second Consultant Haematologist is to be appointed in Bradford at the end of January 2006.

4. Herceptin for Early Breast Cancer

Mr Duffy ensured members had received the Network position paper on Herceptin.

5. Cancer Waiting Times

Mr Tinkler ensured members had received the latest YCN CWT data for urgent referral to first seen (14 days), decision to treat to treatment (31 days) and urgent referral to treatment (62 days). Members discussed the data and reasons for breaches in detail. An area of concern is the achievement of the 62 day target particularly for urology and colorectal patients.

Mr Tinkler acknowledged the hard work being undertaken locally to improve the targets.

Mr Tinkler explained that a transfer process has been agreed and the Service Improvement Team is working towards the implementation of this. Leeds has agreed that patients referred for radiotherapy within 31 days will be treated within 31 days. Members gave an update on the back log of work individual Trusts had.

Prof Baker raised his concerns regarding MDT co-ordinators who are under increasing work pressure due to the amount of time they are spending on tracking patients

An in depth discussion took place regarding the process and management of the patient pathway in particular the MDT cycle. Dr Crellin felt earlier decisions and the ownership/management of particular parts of the patient pathway would speed up this process.

Members discussed the function of their MDTs, whether there is active leadership and how effective the training for Chairs (if given) is. It was noted Lead Clinicians time spent on individual MDTs is limited.

After a group discussion Mr Duffy suggested they undertake work to map MDT function. It was highlighted that SOP's (where available) have been loaded onto CQUINS. It was suggested this work could be progressed with the Service Improvement Team and rather than map then improve the current service/pathways, aim to develop a "gold standard service".

Mr Duffy acknowledged the need for training and support for the MDT Chairs. Members agreed with his suggestion to have a Network initiated programme to progress this work.

ACTION: Mr Duffy to take forward Network initiated programme

6. Improving Outcomes Guidance implementation update

Mr Duffy tabled the NICE timetable for cancer service guidance and technology appraisals (9th November 2005).

The Sarcoma guidance has been delayed by one/two months. The Brain Tumour Guidance will now be published in September 2006 and the anticipated publication date for the Breast Cancer Guidelines is February 2008.

7. Specialist Cancer services

The Specialist Cancer Services Programme for 2006/7 to relevant colleagues. For any questions regarding the investment plan please contact Prof Baker.

Dr Alexander highlighted importance of a date being confirmed for Urology service reconfiguration for the York, Harrogate and Leeds pathway, noting this would help them address interim issues and promote management engagement and discussion between hospitals.

ACTION: Network Lead team to discuss date for urology service reconfiguration for York, Harrogate and Leeds

8. Leeds Cancer Centre update

Prof Baker updated the group on the progress of the New Oncology Wing.

It is anticipated a mobile PET scanner will be on site by July 2006 and it has been agreed the fixed plant will be in the NOW. After an in depth discussion Mr Tinkler proposed a group is to be established with appropriate clinical representation to discuss the Network process/ protocols for referral to PET noting the Health Authority commissioning the independent sector should be involved in this.

Dr Crellin gave an update on Leeds radiotherapy waiting times. The eighth LINAC has been installed and is awaiting software. It is anticipated this will be in use by April 2006.

ACTION: Mr Tinkler to take forward PET discussion Group meeting

9. Peer Review – Report and feedback

The Network has received the second draft Peer Review report. The final report will be published on 7th April 2006. Following the publication the Network is required to produce a remedial action plan highlighting how the areas in need of improvement will be addressed and developed.

Mr Tinkler said this report will be sent to the Lead Clinicians, Lead Managers and Lead Nurses for information.

ACTION: 2nd draft report to be sent to Lead Managers, Lead Nurses and Lead Clinicians (actioned 02.02.06)

10. Feedback on local issues

No further discussion took place.

11. Any other business

Members discussed the approach they could take to ensure the quality of work undertaken during the Peer Review Process is sustained. Mr Duffy noted this is only achievable if the NSSG continue to work effectively with support from the Lead Clinicians and organisations. Mr Duffy suggested holding an additional meeting with Chairs of the groups to discuss this further. Members present felt this meeting would be beneficial. Mr Duffy said he will speak to Ms Carol Ferguson and Mr Peter Deedling to discuss the best approach.

Dr Crellin highlighted that Leeds have reviewed their spinal cord compression pathway and treatment and will present a written paper at the next meeting.

ACTION: Dr Crellin to send paper to Miss Carroll prior to next meeting

Mr Duffy to speak to Ms Ferguson and Mr Deedling

12. Date of next meeting

**Thursday 27th April 2006, 10.00am, YCRN Conference Suite,
Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital.**

Action Points raised at the meeting on Tuesday 23rd January 2006			
Agenda Item:	Action	By whom:	Completion date:
2	Minutes to be amended	Miss Carroll	ASAP
5	Network initiated programme to be taken forward	Mr Duffy	
7	Date for Urology service reconfiguration	Mr Duffy	
8	PET Discussion	Mr Tinkler	
9	Second Draft report to be sent to Lead Clinicians, Lead Nurses and Lead Managers	Miss Carroll	02.02.06
11	Spinal Cord Compression paper to be sent to Miss Carroll	Dr Crellin	Prior to 27 th April
11	Lead Clinician and NSSG Chair meeting	Mr Duffy	