

**YORKSHIRE CANCER NETWORK AND
HUMBER & YORKSHIRECOAST CANCER NETWORK
Haematology Group**
Minutes of the meeting held on
Friday 10th March 2006, 2.00pm
YCRN Room 1, Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital

Present:

Ms L Newton	Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Dr A Bynoe Dr C Hall	Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust
Ms H Mitchell Dr R Patmore (Chair) Dr M Shields	Humber & Yorkshire Coast Cancer Network
Dr D Gilson Dr M Gesinde Dr A Jack (HMDS) Dr R Johnson Mr R Jones (HMDS)	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Ms H Greenwood Dr K Patil Dr D Wright	Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust
Ms P Ansell Dr L Bond Dr M Howard Prof E Roman (EGU) Ms A Smith (EGU)	York Hospitals NHS Trust
Miss L Carroll Mr B Tinkler Mr D Thomson	Yorkshire Cancer Network
Mr K Nowell Mrs A Nowell	Yorkshire Cancer Network User Partnership Group

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Dr B Allagoa, Dr L Bond, Mr D Bowen, Dr M Chapple, Dr A Cuthbert, Dr A Garry, Dr P Hillmen, Dr S Jaliha, Dr S Kinsey, Dr L Parapia, Ms C Scott and Dr A Williams.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

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

3. Matters arising

• **Haematology provision at Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Trust**

Dr Gilson reported there are now two consultants appointed at Huddersfield and the team plan to meet locally once a week. Leeds is currently auditing their MDT and this is also being monitored through the Regional Audit Group.

4. Network Audit

Ms Smith and Mr Jones gave a presentation on the previously agreed Network audit 'the management of haematological malignancies within the Yorkshire and Humber & Yorkshire Cancer Networks'. A group discussion followed. Mr Tinkler felt there should not be a separate private and public website link and suggested further debate needs to take place on this. Discussions with the audit group are taking place to clarify what data should be included on the website and how it should be reported. Dr Patmore encouraged feedback from members on what should be reported noting that funding has been secured to employ someone for two years to take this work forward. The Network must also consider how this data can be used to decide how they can manage some of the rarer disorders and Dr Patmore welcomed suggestions on this. Mr Nowell said this data would be useful to share with commissioners when planning for services.

ACTION: All to contact Dr Patmore with suggestions on what should be reported

5. Cancer Waiting Times

Ms Mitchell, Quality and Information Manager for the H&YCCN introduced herself to the group and ensured members had received the latest CWT data circulated with the agenda. She explained the Health Care Commission will be closely monitoring Q4 data (data that ends March 2006) and there is an expectation that all data is uploaded and complete.

Dr Gilson explained Leeds are still receiving some radiotherapy referrals by post and emphasised the importance referrals are sent by phone/fax to ensure the 62 day target is met. Mr Tinkler noted that Leeds has agreed that patients referred within 31 days will be treated within 62 days.

6. Peer Review

- **Process and notification**

Mr Tinkler summarised the Peer Review process highlighting key colleagues that will be involved. Evidence must be available 6-8 weeks prior to the pre visit and a deadline for updating the evidence onto CQUINS must be agreed. Mr Tinkler encouraged colleagues to register on CQUINS.

Dr Patmore reminded colleagues that he had been elected as the Haematology Group nominated member having the Lead responsibility for integrating service improvement in the functions of the Group at the meeting that took place on Friday 17th December 2004.

Dr Gilson was elected to be the NHS employed member responsible for Users' issues and information for patients and carers and agreed to take on this role.

Mr Nowell said the group may find it beneficial to read the Peer Review report from the visits that have taken place.

- **Self assessment and preparation**

Mr Thomson explained the group should undertake a self assessment against the NSSG and Board measures noting there will also be some locality MDT measures that require the MDT sign-off i.e. audit, clinical trials and the Network will co-ordinate this approach with the localities.

- **Timescale**

As the dates for the Network visit clash with ASH and the Network agreed to contact the Zonal Team to see if the date can be changed. *Since the meeting the timetable has being amended to avoid ASH and the Network pre visit and visit are now joint.*

7. Chemotherapy

The YCN Chemotherapy group are working towards standardising the process for the approval of new drugs.

- Velcade position paper

The Velcade paper was formally agreed by the group.

- Horizon scanning

Mr Thomson summarised the Horizon scanning paper noting this will be tabled at each of the NSSG. Mr Thomson highlighted that the database has currently only received input from commissioner representatives within the YCN. The importance of working towards joint policies across both Networks was emphasised. Mr Thomson said he will adapt the costs to include the H&YCCN. He asked colleagues to review this paper and send him any comments.

ACTION: Mr Thomson to amend paper to include H&YCCN

All to send Mr Thomson comments on the Horizon scanning paper
david.thomson@leedsth.nhs.uk

- Regimen approval

The haematology regimes have been signed off by Dr Patmore and the Chair of the Chemotherapy Group and are available on the YCN website. Mr Thomson summarised the comments he had received on the regimes.

It was agreed that PABLOE on the Hodgkin's regime list should be removed from the Network list.

It was agreed that CHOP-14 should not be on the approved regimen list.

He then summarised the content of the following regimes tabled for discussion and approval;

- C Z-Dex to be added to the list for myeloma.
- In-patient ESHAP-R to be added to the list for non-Hodgkins
- FC-R to be added to the list for non-Hodgkins
- FLAG to be added to the list for relapsed AML/ALL
- HYPER-CVAD to be added to the list for relapsed ALL

A group discussion followed regarding out-patient ESHAP regimens. It was agreed that out-patient ESHAP regimens should not be added to the approved list.

Alterations were required to two approved regimens;

- CVP – the cyclophosphamide dose was quoted as 600mg/m² and is to be changed to 750mg/m².
- CHOP/CHOP-R – the prednisolone dose was quoted as 50mg/m² and is to be changed to a flat dose of 100mg.
- CHOP – recommendation to reduce the vincristine dose in patients > 70 years should be changed to say "at clinicians discretion".

Mr Thomson explained that high dose methotrexate use in lymphoma as CNS prophylaxis is inconsistent across the Network. Doses of 3g or 1g are being used, dosing is given either in-between or after CHOP doses and the number of cycles used is also variable. He questioned if a regimen should be produced to clarify this. After an in-depth group it was agreed that there should be a separate protocol for methotrexate which stated that the preferred protocol is 3g/m², given for 3 cycles after CHOP chemotherapy is complete, although clinician choice will be highlighted.

ACTION: Mr Thomson to make amendments discussed to the regimens

Mr Thomson to produce approved regimen forms for those regimens to be added

- Fast Rituximab Audit

Mr Thomson ensured members had received the draft Rapid infusion of Rituximab audit paper circulated with the agenda. A group discussion followed. Members present felt it was not necessary to undertake an audit and therefore Mr Thomson agreed to produce an approved fast Rituximab regimen. It was agreed that fast-Rituximab should be the preferred Network administration protocol.

ACTION: Mr Thomson to produce a regime on fast Rituximab

- Septrin Prophylaxis

At the YCN Infection meeting that took place on 8th March 2006, the group asked if the following questions could be put forward to the Haematology Group;

1. *Would the Haematology Group feel that development of a consensus policy, on the use of Prophylactic Septrin for patients with cancer would be of value?*
2. *If so, would the members of the Haematology Group be willing to facilitate a fact find to assess existing practices?*
3. *Would one or more members of the Haematology Group be willing to participate in a joint working group with members of the YCN Infection Group?*

Members present felt it was important they primarily see what local policies they have across the Network on Septrin Prophylaxis and discuss this further at the next meeting.

ACTION: Miss Carroll to email the Haematology Lead at each Trust to ask if they can send their local policies on Septrin Prophylaxis (actioned 18.04.06)

8. Regional Guidelines

The revised guidelines are now available on the YCN website. Members agreed with Dr Patmore's suggestion to hold a smaller review date soon so the update day in two years time will be quicker.

Mr Nowell said he was surprised there is no reference to psychological support in terms of clinical support and input. He felt that the resource/facilities highlighted are very demanding and asked how many hospitals can meet them. Dr Patmore explained that the Action Plan produced identifies work that will be undertaken to develop and work towards this level of care.

9. Any other business

Dr Patmore reported that the LRF have asked if they can hold an information day at one of the Network meetings. This information fair will take place prior to the Haematology meeting on 8th September 2006.

Dr Patmore reported that he is attending the Haematology Nurses Group meeting in June 2006 to discuss how interactions between the groups can improve.

The TYA (Teenage and young Adult) Guidelines are now finalised and will be made available on the YCN website. Sue Morgan will be circulating information packs to all consultants and Nurse Specialists in the next few weeks.

10. Date of next meeting

****Friday 23rd June 2006**, 2.00pm
YCRN Meeting Room 1, Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital
(Lunch will be provided from 1.30pm)**

**** Please note this date has changed, please ensure that the 9th June is removed from your diary****