

YORKSHIRE CANCER NETWORK

Infection Group

Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 6th June 2005, 10.00am
YCRN Meeting Room 1, Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital

Present:

Dr P Godwin	Airedale NHS Trust
Dr D Birkenhead	Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Trust
Prof K Kerr (Chair)	Harrogate & District NHS Foundation Trust
Dr T Collyns Dr R Hobson Dr G Smith	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Dr N Todd	York Hospitals NHS Trust
Miss L Carroll Ms F Stephenson	Yorkshire Cancer Network

1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies were received from Dr R Barton, Dr P McWhinny, Ms K Midgley, Mr B Tinkler, Ms E Ward, Ms S Whiteley and Dr N Young,

2. Minutes from the last meeting

Since the last meeting Ms Porter has informed Dr Young that the NOW will receive the same water as SJUH, with an extra coarse filter at source only. The plan is to use terminal tap filters on the wards with immunosuppressed patients.

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

3. Matters arising

- **NOW**

Prof Kerr read out the response he had received from Ms Porter, Specialist Advisor in Infection Control regarding the microbiological concerns the group had on the ventilation arrangements for the NOW.

"The chill beam cooling/heating system is being used on all wards that do not have full ventilation (oncology and surgery wards). Incoming air to those wards will be internally filtered but not to heat the standard. The patients will have the facility to open the windows. The chill beam system is designed to cut out if the window is opened. Haematology wards and the ICU will be fully ventilated, Haematology ward air will be filtered to heat the standard. We have been assured that the ICU will also be to this standard but are awaiting schematic representation of this unit"

- **Neutropenic Dietary Guidelines**

Although Prof Kerr has not had a response to the email sent to Cravendale asking them what filtration systems they use for their pure filtered milk it is his understanding that this is filtered then pasteurised.

The group reviewed the 'safe eating for immunocompromised cancer patients' and 'Safe eating for patients following a bone marrow transplant' guidelines that were circulated with the agenda. Prof Kerr said he would make the agreed amendments to the document prior to circulation to the group.

Ms Stephenson agreed to circulate the revised guidelines to the YCN User Information sub group for their comments.

ACTION: Prof Kerr to make the amendments to the 'safe eating for immunocompromised cancer patients' and 'Safe eating for patients following a bone marrow transplant' guidelines

Ms Stephenson to circulate the guidelines to the YCN User Information Sub group for their comments

- **Educational meeting**

Prof Kerr informed members that the YCN Infection Educational event will be taking place on Friday 4th November 2005 at The Pavilions of Harrogate, Great Yorkshire Showground. The group discussed the structure of the day.

Three case presentations will take place in the morning. Prof Kerr is awaiting a response from Dr Hale to see if he can present a viral case. Dr Godwin agreed to present a microbiological case with Dr Hobson. Dr Collyns said he will contact Ms Midgley and Miss Carroll agreed to email the Lead nurses to see if they know any patient who willing to discuss their perspective of going through a transplant or a nurse or social worker willing to present on protective isolation issues.

For the afternoon session Prof Kerr reported that Ms Liebersbach and/or Ms Ward are presenting on the dietary guidelines. Dr Smith agreed to do a presentation on prevention of infection in asplenic patients. Prof Kerr thought it would be beneficial if they had a presentation on intravenous line infection. Ms Stephenson agreed to contact Cath Miller to see if she could nominate someone to present on this.

ACTION: Dr Collyns to contact Ms Midgley and Miss Carroll to email the Lead Nurses to see if they know of any patient who will be willing to discuss their perspective of going through a transplant or a nurse or social worker willing to present on protective isolation issues

Ms Stephenson to contact Cath Miller to see if she can nominated someone to present on intravenous line infection.

- **Policy for producing guidelines?**

Ms Stephenson explained that although the network does not have a policy for the production of guidelines some Trusts within the network do i.e. the LTHT policy. NICE has also produced a policy on producing guidelines. Miss Stephenson said she will email the LTHT policy to the group.

Ms Stephenson explained that the clinical guidelines produced by the network site specific groups are being produced in response to the publication of the national Improving Outcomes Guidance. Ms Stephenson said she follow through the networks plan to link with local Trusts and clinical governance on the production of guidelines and to establish what process individual Trusts have on the production and distribution of guidelines.

ACTION: Ms Stephenson to see if Trusts have guidance on the production and distribution of guidelines and forward to the chair.

4. Work of the sub-groups

- **Fungal sub-group**

No discussion took place.

- **Viral sub-group**

Prof Kerr said he will email Miss Carroll the revised 'Policy for the prevention and Control of Varicella-Zoster Infections' for circulation to the group.

ACTION: Prof Kerr to email Miss Carroll the 'Policy for the prevention and Control of Varicella-Zoster Infections' for circulation to the group.

5. Asplenic patients – Guidelines

Dr Smith highlighted that the original 'Guidelines for the Prevention and Treatment of Infection in Patients with an Absent of Dysfunctional Spleen' produced in 1996 and published in the BMJ had been updated in 2002 and published in the Clinical Medicine. Dr Kerr and Dr Smith volunteered to join a working group to update the guidelines produced in 2002. Dr Smith agreed to email Mr David Thomson, Network Pharmacist and Mr Phil Wood to see if they would like to participate in this work.

ACTION: Dr Smith to email Mr Thomson and Mr Phil Wood to ask if they would like to join a Working group to review and update Guidelines for the prevention and Treatment of Infection in patients with an absent of Dysfunctional Spleen

6. Any other business

None.

7. Date, time and venue of next meeting

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