

# YORKSHIRE CANCER NETWORK Infection Group

Minutes of the meeting held on  
**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2005, 10.00am**  
YCRN Meeting Room 1, Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital

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Present:

Dr P Godwin	Airedale NHS Trust
Dr D Birkenhead	Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Trust
Prof K Kerr (Chair)	Harrogate & District NHS Foundation Trust
Ms E Ward Dr N Young	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Dr N Todd	York Hospitals NHS Trust
Miss L Carroll Mr B Tinkler	Yorkshire Cancer Network

## 1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies were received from Dr R Barton, Dr T Collyns, Dr R Hobson, Ms K Midgley and Ms S Whiteley.

## 2. Minutes from the last meeting

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

## 3. Matters arising

- **NOW**

Prof Kerr confirmed that Ms Porter, Specialist Advisor in Infection Control has addressed the groups concerns regarding the microbiological concerns on the ventilation arrangements for the NOW.

## 4. Guidelines

- **Safe eating for immunocompromised cancer patients**

Ms Ward informed members of the comments she has received on the draft dietary guidelines. She agreed to make the amendments and send to Miss Carroll for circulation to the group for final comments. Members agreed when approved by the group that the final draft should be more widely circulated and include the YCN User Partnership Group. Prof Kerr asked if the guidelines could be formatted in the Network style and members agreed this should be produced on A4 paper.

**ACTION: Ms Ward to send Miss Carroll the revised guidelines for recirculation**

- **Safe eating for patients following a bone marrow transplant**

See above. Members agreed this should be produced as a small booklet.

- **Policy for the prevention and control of Varicella-Zoster infections**

Prof Kerr asked if Miss Carroll could format the revised 'Policy for the prevention and control of Varicella-Zoster infections' and put onto the YCN website. The review date for these will be December 2007.

**ACTION: Miss Carroll to format the guidelines and put on the website**

- **Guidelines for the prevention and treatment of infection in patients with an absent or dysfunctional spleen – update**

No discussion took place.

- **LTHT policy on producing guidelines**

Miss Carroll ensured members had received the Policy for the Development and Approval of Clinical Guidelines in LTHT.

Prof Kerr suggested they approach relevant colleagues from other groups prior to commencing work on guidelines to ensure there is need for a particular guideline.

Members highlighted the need for guideline on use of Septrin Prophylaxis. Mr Tinkler said he would ask Dr Patmore, Chair of the YCN & H&YCCN Haematology group if there are any existing local policies on this.

Prof Kerr highlighted the importance that the YCN Infection Group is given the opportunity to comment on other Groups policies (that include anti infectives or have infection control implications).

**ACTION: Mr Tinkler to ask Dr Patmore if there are any local policies on Septrin Prophylaxis (actioned 16.02.06)**

## **5. Educational Event**

Prof Kerr ensured members had received the evaluation summary for the YCN Infection Educational Event that took place on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2005 at the Pavilions of Harrogate.

The group discussed holding another educational event and agreed this should take place in April 2007. It was noted that the patient perspective presentation had been delivered extremely well and members felt it would be beneficial to have a patient representative speaker at the next event. Having a national speaker was also suggested. Topics suggested that could be covered at the next event included case studies on resistant organisms, audit outcomes of infection, community infection related issues and spleen guidelines.

## **6. Work of the sub-groups**

- **Fungal sub-group**

Prof Kerr reported that Dr Barton has stepped down as Chair of the Fungal sub-group. Prof Kerr said he will write to formally thank him for his contribution to this group. After a group discussion Prof Kerr agreed to ask Dr Hobson if he would be willing to take over as the Chair of this Sub-group.

Work on the production of Treatment of Febrile Neutropenia Guidelines is to be completed.

**ACTION: Prof to Kerr to write to Dr Barton**

**Prof Kerr to speak to Dr Hobson regarding Chairing the Fungal Sub-group**

- **Viral sub-group**

Prof Kerr reported that this group has now dissolved. Members acknowledged the need for guidelines particularly for diagnosis / testing. Some members present felt it would be beneficial if they had clarity on the services available at the HPA and microbiology labs. Dr Godwin felt it would be beneficial if the

guidance Dr Hale provided in his presentation at the educational event is put into a document. Prof Kerr agreed to discuss this further with Dr Hale.

**ACTION: Dr Kerr to contact Dr Hale**

**7. Any other business**

Miss Carroll reported that Jane Archer has been appointed as the Patient Information and Support Manager for the Network.

Prof Kerr explained that his tenure as Chair has come to an end and asked members to send nominations for a new Chair to Miss Carroll at [lucy.carroll@leedsth.nhs.uk](mailto:lucy.carroll@leedsth.nhs.uk)

**ACTION: Nominations for Chair to be sent to Miss Carroll**

**8. Date, time and venue of next meeting**

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 10.00am, YCRN Meeting Room 1,  
Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital**