

YORKSHIRE CANCER NETWORK Infection Group

Minutes of the meeting held on
Thursday 8th June 2006, 10.00am
YCRN Meeting Room 1, Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital

Present:

Dr David Birkenhead	Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Trust
Prof K Kerr (Chair)	Harrogate & District NHS Foundation Trust
Dr A Hale Ms K Midgley Dr G Smith	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Dr N Todd	York Hospitals NHS Trust
Miss L Carroll	Yorkshire Cancer Network

1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies were received from Dr T Collyns, Dr R Hobson, Ms S Liebersbach, Dr P McWhinny and Dr N Young.

Dr Hobson is unable to attend the future meetings due to his work commitments and has therefore decided to resign from the group.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

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

3. Matters arising

• Vice Chair YCN Infection Group

Prof Kerr has approached a clinician regarding being the Vice Chair for the group and is awaiting a response.

• Septrin Prophylaxis – Local policies?

The following questions were sent to the Haematology Lead at each Trust;

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?*

Prof Kerr summarised the responses received from Leeds, Harrogate and Mid Yorkshire (sheet attached). The group asked if the YCN and H&YCCN Haematology Group could send them a formal response as to how they would like this piece of work to be taken forward.

ACTION: YCN & H&YCCN to send YCN Infection Group formal response as to how they would like this work to be taken forward.

- **Administration of antibiotics in cases of Febrile Neutropenia**

The Lead Nurses have informed June Toovey there are no current policies for Nurse and Patient Group Directives administering antibiotics in cases of febrile neutropenia. Prof Kerr agreed to speak to Nicola Young to see if the children's policy is still being used in Leeds.

ACTION: Prof Kerr to speak to Nicola Young

- **Guidance on diagnosing/testing at HPA and microbiology labs**

Dr Hale reported that a user manual will be produced over the next few months noting this was identified as a non compliance by the CPA.

4. Guidelines

- **Diagnostic Guidelines**

Prof Kerr ensured members had received the draft Invasive Fungal Infection Immunocompromised Adult Haematology Patients circulated by email. After a group discussion Prof Kerr agreed to send these to Dr Barton and Dr Hobson for final comments prior to wider circulation.

A discussion took place regarding the completion of the treatment section of the fungal guidelines. Prof Kerr agreed to speak to Dr Paul McWhinney to discuss taking this piece of work forward.

ACTION: Miss Carroll/Prof Kerr to send to Dr Barton and Dr Hobson for final amendments

Miss Carroll to circulate to Lead Nurses, Lead Managers, Lead Clinicians, YCN Infection Group and the Network Haematology Group

Prof Kerr to speak to Dr McWhinney

- **Safe eating for immunocompromised cancer patients and safe eating for patients following a bone marrow transplant**

Prof Kerr summarised the comments he had received from YCN User Partnership Information Sub-Group on the draft dietary guidelines noting that the feedback received was very helpful and constructive. Members agreed the document should be amended to state that salads should be washed in cooled boiled water and acknowledged the document needs formatting before it is finalised. The group felt it was difficult to reword/omit the material relating to safe cooking the YCN User Partnership Information Sub-Group thought was patronizing and questioned if this group represented the whole population. Prof Kerr agreed to make the amendments discussed and send to Miss Carroll for formatting by medical illustrations. Prof Kerr agreed to feedback to Jane Archer, Patient Information and Support Manager on the YCN Infection Group's discussions.

ACTION: Prof Kerr to make amendments and send to Miss Carroll for formatting by Medical Illustrations

Prof Kerr to update Jane Archer on the group's discussion

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

Dr Smith informed members that the Department of Health (DH) has updated their original 1995 medical leaflet (Splenuctomy Information for Patients) and medic alert card. 500 copies of these can be obtained free of charge by contacting the DH publications order line on 08701 555 455 or emailing

dh@prolog.uk.com

5. Audit on central line care

This will be discussed at the next meeting.

6. Biopatch – proposal from Johnson and Johnson

Prof Kerr gave feedback from his meeting with Ewan Murray, UK Product Manager at Johnson & Johnson. Johnson and Johnson have supported the idea of undertaking a prospective randomized placebo-controlled study on the use of one of their new products Biopatch which they claim will reduce CR-BSI. Prof Kerr agreed to circulate an email to the group asking any unit interested in participating in this study to contact him by 12th July 2006.

Prof Kerr agreed to clarify if this study could include non-cancer/non-haematology patients.

ACTION: Prof Kerr to email group and clarify if the study can include non-cancer/non-haematology patients (actioned 20.06.06)

7. Any other business

Dr Todd emphasized the importance other Network Groups circulate policies they produce on anti-infectives to the YCN Infection Group for comments. Prof Kerr agreed to write to the Chairs of the groups to inform them of this.

Dr Todd prompted a group discussion on patients with CLL having VZV infection following Fludarabine therapy. Dr Todd said he will send Miss Carroll further details to circulate to the group.

ACTION: Prof Kerr to write to Chairs of groups (actioned 11.07.06)

Dr Todd to send Miss Carroll email for circulation to the group (actioned 30.06.06)

8. Date and time of next meeting

**Tuesday 5th September 2006, 10.00am, YCRN Meeting Room 1,
Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital**