

# YORKSHIRE CANCER NETWORK

## Palliative Care Nursing Group

Meeting Notes of the meeting held on  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2005, 10.00am  
YCRN Conference Suite, Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital

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### 1. Update on Network issues

- End of Life Initiative - Margaret Brennan, project facilitator, started on 1<sup>st</sup> June and is based at Cookridge Hospital. She will be working one day a week. There is to be a full-time administrator for the project, based at Cookridge and 5 facilitators employed in different localities across the network. The main focus of the project is to facilitate access to high quality palliative care and choice of place of care for patients nearing the end of life, regardless of diagnosis.
- The 5 day cancer care programme which includes palliative care education continues to be rolled out. Each trust is planning a programme for this year and Bradford will be repeating the programme.
- Helen Farrell (Halifax) would like to hear of anyone with a special interest in MND patients or areas that have a high number of patients referred with MND.  
[helen.farrell@cht.nhs.uk](mailto:helen.farrell@cht.nhs.uk)
- The pilots of the YCN Palliative Care Sub-group audit examining the need for face-to-face SPC assessment, seven days a week, to start soon. Groups to be audited are; SPC teams in hospitals, community SPC teams and DN and GP 'out of hours' services, 'out of hours' hospice advice services and patients and carers. Charlotte Rock shared some of the draft documentation with the group.

There were some concerns that non-specialist services are currently not accessing specialist services appropriately and that this may lead to a 'false' demand for a 7 day services. It was felt that the audit would pick up on these issues which may then be examined locally. The audit may raise thoughts about how to maximise the use of services currently available and may indicate alternative models of service delivery.

- Richard Dillon reported that regular meetings with GP Practices and two monthly meetings with all the District Nurses in Bradford where helping to implement the LCP and use of Out Of Hours forms.

Charlotte Rock led a discussion about the group about how to prioritise issues and take the palliative care CNS nursing agenda forward. Main thoughts about the group are as follows:

- needs to be focused.
- can advice on certain issues and influence others.
- should be used to feed into and back from the YCN Palliative Care sub-group issues relevant to nursing.

There was some interest in developing research ideas within the group but it was felt that it would be useful to have an update about other palliative care research work already taking place within the network.

**Action: Helen Ankrett to circulate minutes off the last YCN Palliative Care Research sub-group**

Each locality may have additional research groups covering their area. It may be that palliative care CNSs with an interest in research have an option of getting involved in these. Some CNSs are already members. Alternatively some cross network palliative care CNS research/audit work could be developed.

Charlotte presented work on levels of intervention that had been forwarded to her. There is variance in how levels of intervention are interpreted in different teams across the network and with the Macmillan levels of intervention

( 2000) Karen Sinclair agreed to chair a sub-group of volunteers (Valerie Little, Janet Morris, Nic Gommersall, Richard Dillon) to undertake some more in-depth work on levels of intervention and see if an agreement could be reached across different teams. After some discussion it was also felt advisable that all CNSs record computerised data for all level one interventions.

There was a brief discussion over lunch with Jane Hovarth (Clinical Psychologist). One of the items raise was that perhaps we should look in more depth at different levels of psychological support that would tie in with levels of intervention, e.g. look at developing higher level of communication skills for other staff groups, e.g. district nurses and RGNs.

Chris Smith is asking Rebecca Furmedge, Special Patient's Coordinator from Local Care Direct to attend the education session at the next meeting to discuss issues around out-of-ours provision.

The circulation list will be updated as it is felt to be outdated.

**ACTION: Helen Ankrett to amend as necessary with Lucy Carroll (admin support).**

## **2. Dates for next year:**

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2006, 10.00am

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2006, 10.00am

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2006, 10.00am

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2006, 10.00am

## **3. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October, 10.00am-13.00pm, YCRN Meeting Room 1,  
Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital**