

# YORKSHIRE CANCER NETWORK Palliative Care Nurses Group

Minutes of the meeting held on  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2006 at 10.00am  
YCRN Room 2, Room, Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge

---

Present:	Karen Sinclair	Airedale NHS Trust
	Elaine Ellis	Kirkwood Hospice
	Helen Ankrett (Chair)	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
	Helen Mullan	
	Sue Allan	
	David Thomas	
	Martin Hemingway	
	Janet Munro	Marie Curie Cancer Care
	Mary Johnson	Mid Yorkshire NHS Trust
	Lynette Humphrey	
	Angie Cresswell	
	Caroline Allison	Selby & York PCT
	Emilia Lightfoot	St Gemma's Hospice
	Trish Corcoran	
	Dawn Heron	
	Jaginder Sidhu	
	Gwyneth Whitehead	
	Jill Carley	Wheatfields Hospice
	Lesley Cowlam	
	Dawn Heron	
	Penny Lyon	
	Valerie Little	
	Nicola Ryan	York Hospitals NHS Trust

## 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Nic Gomersal, Judith Mitchell, Charlotte Rock & Chris Smith.

## 2. Minutes of the last meeting

These were agreed as an accurate record.

There was a general discussion on the role of the group, how they can move forward in their role within the Network and what competency frameworks will be used.

It was announced that Charlotte Rock has been appointed Chair of the YCN Palliative Care Group. The tenure of the Chair is for two years.

Helen Ankrett asked if there was a volunteer to replace Charlotte as Co-Chair of the CNS group.

**ACTION: Anyone interested in being Co-Chair to contact Colinne Sheard.**

### 3. YCN Updates

The group were asked if they had any comments regarding the audit on 7-day cover as the work is still being evaluated. Helen Ankrett informed the group of how the project was progressing and gave brief feedback on the patient surveys.

Valerie Little gave some feedback on the Primary Care Trusts in Leeds and information she had from meetings she had attended. Helen Ankrett informed members of a day she had attended at St. Christopher's Hospice in London where they discussed the 'The Future of Palliative Nursing'. There is lack of a national steer on CNSs roles. Some CNSs were broadening their skills around assessment and prescribing. This prompted a brief discussion on nurse prescribing and the issues surrounding this.

Lynette Humphries reported on a document suggesting a way forward for CNSs within Mid Yorkshire and expressed concern that CNSs had not felt fully engaged in the consultation process as this was developed and that this was going ahead. She offered this for circulation to the group (See attached). They need to look at a more ways of evidencing the CNS input with patients and this was discussed in some detail.

### 4. Agree how to move on the 'Work Plan'

The group split into two sub-groups, one discussed 'CNS competencies' and the other 'Evaluating the CNS role' then reported back to the Chair on the outcome of the discussions which will feed into the work plan.

#### Feedback on evaluating CNS activity:

There was representation from York, Leeds, Huddersfield, community and hospital based. A discussion took place on:

- What evidence they needed and what other people want.
- What they do that other services don't.
- Talked about the levels of intervention, whether they need to come up more detailed frameworks, e.g. 10 levels with more detail in each one.
- Discussed the CNS role and what are the needs of the PCT.
- Need to prepare a draft.

It was agreed that some struggle to find time or know what is expected of them re non-clinical work. A discussion followed on how much time is spent on clinical and non-clinical work.

**ACTION: Members of the group agreed to record their activity for an average working week including time spent at meetings using a CNS activity template. Emilia to forward a template used at St Gemma's which could be adapted. Colinne Sheard to distribution with minutes.**

#### Feedback on CNS competencies:

Felt it would be useful to look at Skills for Health Palliative Care Competencies, review the document from Mid-Yorkshire on the future of the CNS, share information re competency frameworks for palliative care CNSs already being used.

**ACTION: Colinne to circulate information received to the group. To be discussed at the next meeting. Colinne Sheard to put 'Competencies' on the next agenda.**

### 5. Presentation – Exploring the role of the Community Matrons.

This was presented by Alan Bee, Service Development Manager, and Angie Clegg, Nurse Consultant, Leeds North West PCT. (See attached)

### 6. Date of Next Meeting

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2006 at 10.00 am**  
**YCRN Room 2, Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital**