

YORKSHIRE CANCER NETWORK

Pathology Group

Minutes of the meeting held on
Wednesday 11th January, 9.30am
Room 1, YCRN Conference Suite, Cookridge Hospital

Present:	Dr P DaCosta	Airedale NHS Trust
	Dr V Dabbagh	Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
	Dr A Gledhill	Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust
	Dr S Lane (Chair)	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
	Mr P Melling	Yorkshire Cancer Network
	Mrs H Ryan	
	Mr B Tinkler	

1. Apologies

Dr A Andrew.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Item 3, 'Staffing Update' should have read 'Harrogate is looking to create a new position in the near future.' With this amendment the minutes were agreed as being an accurate record.

3. Matters arising

• Head and Neck Pathology Guidelines

Dr Dabbagh highlighted that the head and neck pathology guidelines are still in progress. Dr Gouldsbrough is adding the thyroid section recently updated by the Royal College of Pathologists.

Action: Dr Lane to contact Dr Gouldsbrough for an update.

• NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme (BCSP)

Mr Tinkler confirmed that proposals for the first wave of implementation have been submitted to the Department of Health and a response is awaited.

There will be a joint West and North Yorkshire BCSP project board for the full implementation programme. The project board will be arranged following the North Yorkshire half day event on 31st January.

Mr Tinkler explained that the National Screening Centre have asked for informal expressions of interest from Trusts for the provision of hub services i.e. FOB re-call service.

4. Peer Review Feedback

Dr DaCosta informed the group of the verbal feedback received by the Network Lead Team following the Network Peer Review Visit on 20th and 21st October.

The draft Peer Review report for the YCN was received on 7th November. Relevant sections of the draft report have been circulated for factual accuracy to those involved in the Network Peer Review visit. A final report will be published in April. The Network will be required to produce a remedial action plan for areas that require improvements and further developments.

It was noted that further consideration is required on [1] evaluating the post review of issues for pathology identified in Locality reports and the need to change the focus of the group or its method of working if required [2] there are a number of breast teams in the Network that are non-compliant with measures requiring cross cutting service core members to devote at least 50% of their time to breast work. The NSSG should take an overview of the situation and work with local teams to move towards compliance.

There was a discussion regarding points to include in the pathology group remedial action plan and it was agreed to include support to Trusts, auditing consistency and linkage to NSSG's.

Dr DaCosta highlighted that the National Cancer Action Team have requested for feedback on the appropriateness of the measures in the Manual of Cancer Services.

Action: Mrs Ryan to cross check the pathology representation on NSSG's.

Group	Pathologist	Organisation
Breast	Dr Sally Lane	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
	Dr Pauline Carder	Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
	Dr Abeer Shaaban	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Colorectal	Dr Caroline Verbeke	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Gynaecology	Dr Alison Andrew	York Hospitals NHS Trust
	Dr Nafisa Wilkinson	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Haematology	Dr Ken MacLennan	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Head & Neck	Dr Ken MacLennan	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Lung	Dr Les Davies	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Pancreas	Dr Caroline Verebeke	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Skin	Dr Will Merchant	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
	Dr John O'Dowd	Airedale NHS Trust
Urology	Dr Pat Harnden	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
	Dr Vian Dabbagh	Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Upper GI	Dr Alison Cairns	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
	Dr Richard Calvert	Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

5. Draft Improving Outcomes Guidance

- **Sarcoma**

Mr Tinkler referred to the NICE IOG recommendations for sarcoma, one of which specifies that the specialist MDT should have one, preferably two histopathology specialists in sarcoma. Mr Tinkler explained that there are issues associated with the recommendations around formal second opinions, pathology reports meeting the royal college minimum dataset information and CPD accreditation.

- **Head and Neck**

Mr Tinkler explained that the YCN Head and Neck Action Plan was submitted to the Department of Health in the required timescale. The proposals reflect the current configuration of three specialist MDT's in Bradford, Leeds and York.

Due to the implementation of the guidance, the Network will develop a thyroid cancer subgroup with a named single surgeon from each Trust.

Dr Gledhill asked if the salivary gland tumours should be included in the thyroid cancer service as there are discrepancies throughout the Network. It was agreed that a standard Network agreement is required.

Action: Dr Lane to discuss with Chair of Head and Neck Group (Mr TK Ong) centralised reporting of salivary gland tumours and pathology representation on Head and Neck Group.

6. Cancer Waiting Times

The latest cancer waiting times information was circulated with the agenda. Mr Melling explained the data to the group.

7. Network Server Demonstration

Mr Melling demonstrated to the group the Network Event Server. Local events will take place to launch the server and the Network will notify Network group members once the event sever goes live.

8. Pathology Modernisation Update

Mr Tinkler explained that nationally £100,000 revenue allocation has been made available to each SHA. The proposal for the use of national revenue funding indicates two elements [1] to support the work of the WYSHA pathology workgroups and [2] to support pathology service projects within the West Yorkshire SHA.

Mr Tinkler highlighted that five workgroups have been agreed by the WYSHA Pathology Modernisation Working Group; Demand and Management/ Information Management (Chair Mr P Chaloner), Digital Imaging (Chair Dr P DaCosta), Chronic Disease Management (Chair Mr M Stewardson), Workforce – advanced practitioners/ single handed consultants (Chair Ms A Watkins) and transport (Chair to be agreed). Each group has met more than once and are currently deciding their objectives in line with the West Yorkshire Pathology Modernisation Strategy.

It has been agreed that £10,000 would be made available to each group to support the production of an action plan, with agreed timetable and formal reporting mechanism to the SHA Pathology Group.

The balance of £50,000 would be available to individual pathology services within West Yorkshire SHA with a maximum of £10,000 available per project.

Mr Tinkler referred to the 'Modernising Pathology, Building Services' document from the Department of Health which highlights that there will be an independent review of pathology services led by Lord Carter.

Action: Mrs Ryan to identify the Pathology Lead from each Trust on the WYSHA Pathology Modernisation Group

Name	Trust	Email	Telephone
Mr Keith Harrison	Airedale	Keith.harrison@anhst.nhs.uk	01535 652511
Mr Ian Hammond	Bradford	ian.hammond@bradfordhospitals.nhs.uk	01274 364234
Dr Huw Griffiths	Calderdale & Huddersfield	Huw.griffiths@cht.nhs.uk	01484 342000
Ms Wendy Brown	Harrogate	Wendy.brown@hdfn.nhs.uk	01423 885959
Dr Ian Barnes	Leeds	ian.barnes@leedsth.nhs.uk	0113 3922584
Mr Malcolm Stewardson	Mid Yorkshire	Malcolm.stewardson@midyorks.nhs.uk	01977 600600
Dr Tony Bowker	York	Tony.bowker@york.nhs.uk	01904 631313

9. Any Other Business

- **HER2**

Dr Lane highlighted that at the YCN Breast Cancer meeting on 23rd November 2005 she announced that HER2 testing would be carried out prospectively. The service is fully funded by the Network.

Yorkshire Cancer Network guidelines and policy for the use of Herceptin and financial estimate have been circulated to PCT's and Trust Chief Executives and widely throughout the Network.

- **Vice Chair**

As Dr Lane took over as Chair of the group at this meeting a Vice Chair is required.

Action: Mrs Ryan to circulate nomination form for vice chair.

10. Date of Next meeting

**Wednesday 10th May 2006, 9.30am
at Room 1, YCRN Conference Suite, Cookridge Hospital.**