

YORKSHIRE CANCER NETWORK

Thoracic Group

Minutes of the meeting held on
Tuesday 15th February 2005, 3.00pm
Blue Room, Postgraduate Centre, Pinderfields General Hospital

| | | |
|----------|---|--|
| Present: | Mr M Crawford | Airedale NHS Trust |
| | Mr B Jacob Ms A Harwood | Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust |
| | Mr R Heaton | Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Trust |
| | Dr D Jackson | Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust & York Hospitals NHS Trust |
| | Dr M Bond Dr L Davidson Dr M Muers Mr K Papagiannopoulos Dr M Snee Mr J Thorpe | Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust |
| | Mr S Bolton Dr D Currie (Chair) Ms T Greatorex | Mid Yorkshire NHS Trust |
| | Mr P Melling Mrs H Ryan Mr B Tinkler | Yorkshire Cancer Network |
| | Dr A Hunter | York Hospitals NHS Trust |

1. Apologies

Professor M Baker, Ms N Bell, Mr C Button, Dr A Fennerty, Dr H Hosker, Dr P Plant, Dr R Taylor, Ms M Tetlow, Mr J White and Dr C Wong.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

These were agreed as being an accurate record.

3. Matters arising

• Nurse Led Follow-up

Ms Harwood informed the group that a time-out meeting took place on 3rd February for any final comments and amendments to be made to the guidelines. The document will be available shortly. Each individual Trust is looking at local protocols for the nurse led aspect of follow-up.

• National Meeting of Lung Cancer Leads Update

A summary report from the National Network Lung Cancer Leads Workshop on 15th November 2004 was circulated to the group with the agenda for information.

4. Peer Review Planning

Mr Tinkler informed the group that self assessment of the Quality Measures for individual Trusts and the Network should be complete by the end of May 2005 and Peer Review pre-visits will follow. Formal Peer Review visits to Trusts will take place in September against the Quality Measures that relate to the local and specialist MDT's. The Yorkshire Cancer Network will be formally reviewed on 20th and 21st October.

- **Terms of reference**

The draft Thoracic Group Terms of Reference were circulated to the group with the agenda for discussion and agreement.

Dr Currie explained that the local MDT Leads and Lead Clinicians within the Network need to be clarified, deputies are encouraged and welcome to attend meetings.

A discussion took place regarding user representation. Mr Tinkler asked the group to inform Ms Ryan if they knew of representatives from local user groups who would be interested in becoming a member of the Network Thoracic Group.

It was agreed that the Chair of the Lung Cancer Nurses Group (currently Ms N Bell) would be responsible for user issues and information for patients. The group volunteered Dr Hosker as the Service Improvement Lead for the group (*Dr Hosker has since accepted to serve as Service Improvement Lead*).

The Terms of Reference were agreed and accepted by the group

- **Network Guidelines**

Dr Currie explained that the Network guidelines require reviewing and updating. Dr Snee highlighted that the Guidelines for Radiotherapy and Chemotherapy for Lung Cancer and Mesothelioma have recently been updated and Dr Cheeseman has the updated version. Dr Currie indicated that these need to be circulated to the Thoracic Group for comments and ratification at the May meeting.

Dr Currie will approach the Imaging Group to update the guidelines for circulation to the Thoracic Group as soon as possible.

Mr Papagiannopoulos agreed to review Guidelines for the Assessment for Curative Surgery for Lung Cancer and Dr Muers agreed to review the Guidelines for the Management of Lung Cancer.

It was noted that the YCN Pathology Group have produced Guidelines for the Examination and Reporting of Lung Cancer Specimens. The guidelines need to be signed by the Chair of the Thoracic Group, the lead clinicians of the lung locality MDT's and Chair of the Network Board. It was agreed that these would need to be considered by the group prior to the chair signing them, for speed they will be circulated with the minutes.

- **Additional Meeting in May**

Dr Currie suggested rescheduling the June meeting to Monday 16th May to allow the group to finalise any outstanding documentation for Peer Review. This was agreed by the group.

Action: Ms Stephenson to clarify members of the group who attend in the capacity of MDT Lead from each Trust.

All to inform Ms Ryan of any user representatives interested in joining the group.

Dr Currie to approach Dr Hosker regarding Service Improvement Lead role.

Ms Ryan to email Dr Cheeseman for a copy of the Radiotherapy and Chemotherapy for Lung Cancer and Mesothelioma Guidelines and circulate to the group for comment.

Mr Papagiannopoulos to review the Guidelines for the Assessment for Curative Surgery for Lung Cancer.

Dr Muers to review the Guidelines for the Management of Lung Cancer.

5. Education

Dr Currie highlighted that the group needs to arrange an educational event over the next year. The group agreed to hold an educational event with the YCN Lung Cancer Nurses Group.

6. Audit/Progress on LUCADA/Waiting Times

Mr Melling highlighted that all Trusts are participating in LUCADA and there are no problems to report.

It was noted that LUCADA is the agreed minimum dataset for the Network Group.

The group agreed to undertake an audit of the ascertainment of cancer waiting times data. This would involve case matching, on an individual case by case batch basis, the information from quarter one of 2005 with the cancer registry provisional data to identify gaps in data collection. Mr Melling agreed to present the results at the next meeting.

Cancer waiting times information for urgent referral to first seen, decision to treat to treatment and urgent referral to treatment for the first and second quarter of 2004/05 was circulated to the group prior to the meeting. Mr Melling also updated the group with cancer waiting times figures for quarter three of 2004/05, which had just become available.

Mr Melling confirmed that the Yorkshire Cancer Network is uploading the most number of cases in the country to the cancer waiting times database and Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust is uploading the most cases across country.

Mr Tinkler informed the group that he attended a National Cancer Waiting Times Event in London on 7th February 2005. Nationally the profile on attaining the 31 and 62 day cancer targets by December 2005 is the key target. Each hospital trust has nominated a lead director as the 'champion' of cancer waiting times. The Service Improvement Team nationally have produced two documents on high impact changes that can improve the cancer patient pathway and on sharing good practice, the material will be available on the YCN website.

Mr Tinkler circulated, for information, a lung cancer self assessment on high impact changes services.

7. Individual Trust Peer Review Progress Update

Each Trust gave an update on Peer Review progress associated with the locality Quality Measures.

8. Thoracic Surgery Update

Mr Tinkler informed the group that in mid January he had had discussions with the Management Team at Bradford regarding the transfer of thoracic surgery. Ms Penny Silson, Operations Director at Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Mr Brian Godfrey, Assistant Director of Operations at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust had met with clinicians and it was agreed that the transfer date would be either 1st April or 21st May 2005 dependent on capacity and activity issues.

Mr Tinkler highlighted that Ms Silson had agreed to arrange meetings to address issues associated with pathways, contacts, personnel and communication. Commissioners have been informed of the transfer of thoracic surgery through their planning departments.

Mr Thorpe and Mr Papagiannopoulos confirmed that the transfer of surgery will take place in two phases. The first phase will take place on 1st April when Bradford thoracic surgical services will move to Leeds General Infirmary and the second phase will take place on 21st May when the all thoracic surgical services will move from Leeds General Infirmary to Ward 62 St James's University Hospital.

Mr Thorpe and Mr Papagiannopoulos informed the group of the serious problems associated with funding, junior staffing, outpatients, the number of beds, capacity, access to operating lists, pathology and radiology. An in-depth group discussion followed.

It was noted that there will be problems in achieving the Peer Review Quality Measures associated with thoracic surgery in the short term.

Ms Harwood highlighted that the Bradford MDT would be maintained in its current format.

Dr Bond highlighted that present plans will lengthen the time from referral to surgery and reduce the quality of the service.

A paper from the YCN Lung Cancer Nurses Group was tabled for information; Ms Harwood explained the issues in outlined in the paper.

Action: Dr Currie to write to Mr Neil McKay, Chief Executive at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust copied to the Chief Executives of PCT's, SHA's and Hospital Trusts regarding the issues raised about transfer of thoracic surgery.

9. YCRN Clinical Trials Update

Ms Tetlow was unable to attend the meeting to give an YCRN Clinical Trials Update.

Dr Muers informed the group of the National Clinical Research Network (NCRN) list of Networks contributions to lung cancer trials. It was agreed to table the document at the next meeting.

10. Any Other Business

- **Redeveloping Role of Post Operative Chemotherapy in NSCLC Patients**

Dr Currie highlighted that he had received a letter from Dr Hosker regarding potentially redeveloping role of post operative chemotherapy in NSCLC patients. Dr Crawford explained the background and the group agreed to wait until there is more evidence available.

11. Date of Next Meeting

**Monday 16th May 2005 at 3.00pm
Room 1, YCRN Conference Suite, Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital**

(Please note that the June meeting has been cancelled)