

YORKSHIRE CANCER NETWORK

Thoracic Group

Minutes of the meeting held on
Wednesday 11th October 2006, 3.00pm
Room 1, YCRN Conference Suite, Cookridge Hospital

Present: Dr M Raashed	Airedale NHS Trust
Ms A Harwood Dr B Jacob	Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Dr R Heaton Ms H Jones Dr R Sundar	Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust
Ms M Adams Dr M Muers Mr K Papagiannopoulos (Chair) Mr J White	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Dr P Blaxill Mr S Bolton	Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust
Ms J Love Dr K Rodger	York Hospitals NHS Trust
Mr S Duffy Mrs L Cooper Mr P Melling Mrs H Ryan	Yorkshire Cancer Network

1. Apologies

Dr M Crawford, Dr D Currie, Dr L Davidson, Dr A Fennerty, Dr M Snee, Dr R Taylor, Mr B Tinkler and Dr D Wild.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Were agreed as being an accurate record.

3. Matters arising

None.

4. PET CT Update/ Audit

Mr Papagiannopoulos confirmed that the mobile PET unit will be available from December for a minimum of one day per week based at Seacroft Hospital Site in Leeds. Mr Duffy has requested an exact start date from Mr Brian Godfrey.

A discussion followed regarding the Network commissioning arrangements for PET CT. Mr Duffy highlighted that until the static service is in place agreement of funding will be as current ad hoc arrangement between local providers and PCT's.

The Independent Sector (IS) commissioning process for PET-CT is being led nationally and local implementation is dependant on that national timescale. It is unlikely that this process will have been concluded and implemented before early 2008. It is the intention that a static PET-CT service will be provided in the New Oncology Wing at St James's University Hospital. This work is being led by the Strategic Health Authority and the annual numbers of scans in the IS programme commissioned on behalf of the PCTs is:

2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
1,300	2,000	2,000	2,400	2,400

Mr Papagiannopoulos confirmed that Network audits are ongoing on changes in staging of the disease and change in clinical decision as a consequence of PET-CT scan results.

A further YCN PET CT meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 22nd November to discuss operational arrangements for PET CT. Notification was sent to the members of the PET CT Scanning Group and YCN Lead Clinicians.

5. Thoracic Surgery Update

Mr Papagiannopoulos highlighted that surgical activity has increased to 35% since thoracic surgery has centralised to SJUH. This has exceeded the initial expectations submitted in the full business case for the New Oncology Wing (NOW). There are concerns associated with the thoracic capacity in the NOW and discussions are ongoing regarding the operational theatre allocation.

A joint Leeds/ Mid Yorkshire lung MDT will commence from 24th October. Dr Blaxill confirmed that there is support from Mid Yorkshire management and clinicians to transfer of surgery to Leeds.

Mr Papagiannopoulos confirmed that there are ongoing discussions with York regarding centralisation of thoracic surgery to Leeds.

The business case for a 4th thoracic surgeon at Leeds has been submitted.

The surgical pathways audit is complete and will be presented at the meeting on 17th October 2006 (refer to agenda item 10).

6. Work Programme

The draft YCN Thoracic Group Work Programme 2006/ 07 was circulated to the group with the agenda for discussion.

Action: Group to forward comments to Mr Papagiannopoulos or Mrs Ryan.

7. Cancer Waiting Times

Mr Melling presented the latest lung cancer waiting times data to the group and a discussion followed.

Mr Melling informed the group of the MDT alert process and explained that an electronic process is being trialled which will allow localities to put referrals directly into PPM and therefore improve the transfer between the diagnosing and treating hospital. This will also ensure that patients are automatically put into the Leeds tracking report. Bradford and Calderdale Trusts are piloting the new process. Mr Melling will report back at the next meeting.

8. Patients Discussed at MDT

Mr Duffy highlighted that each of the NSSG's are having preliminary discussion on cancer data extracted from the Cancer Waiting Times national database submitted by each Trust. A document was tabled showing:

- The number and % of patients discussed at an MDT compared to the total number of cases.
- The number and % of cases discussed at an MDT pre and post first treatment.

Mr Duffy asked the group to discuss the acceptable benchmark for the percentage of cancers discussed at each MDT for each tumour site and what percentage should be discussed pre/ post first treatment.

The group discussed the data. It was agreed that each MDT Lead Clinician would check their data with locality cancer information leads.

Mr Duffy highlighted that each of the YCN Lead Clinicians support the audit as a way of monitoring, the audit will be repeated in January and compared to the baseline data.

Action: MDT Lead Clinicians to check data locally.

9. Feedback from YCN Lung Cancer Nurses Group

Mr White presented to the group the completed 2006 YCN Lung Cancer Nurse Led Follow-up audit, the results were tabled for information.

Mr White tabled a paper proposing the development of a Mesothelioma Nurse Specialist post for the Yorkshire Cancer Network. A discussion followed and the group supported the proposal in principle. The YCN Lung Cancer Nurses Group agreed to take this forward.

10. Service Improvement Pathway Meeting

The YCN Thoracic Surgery Pathway Meeting will take place on 17th October 2006 at the Britannia Hotel, Bramhope, Leeds.

11. Any Other Business

- A Yorkshire Cancer Research Network Lung Trials update was tabled for information on behalf of Ms Fatima Murad, YCRN Clinical Trials Co-ordinator.
- Mr Melling informed the group that a half day LUCADA meeting has been arranged for data collectors on 1st November 2006.

Action: Mr Melling to feedback at the next meeting

- Mr Papagiannopoulos will be visiting the YCN Lung Cancer Lead Clinicians over the forthcoming months.

12. Dates for 2007 Meetings

Monday 5th February 2007, 3.00- 5.00pm

Tuesday 12th June 2007, 3.00 – 5.00pm

Wednesday 3rd October 2007, 3.00 – 5.00pm

Please note that all meetings will take place at YCRN Conference Suite, Ida Nurses Home, Cookridge Hospital.