

Airedale Cancer User Partnership Group

Minutes of the Meeting 10th July 2007 12.00 till 2.00pm
Education Centre, Boardroom

Present: Colin Sloane, Debbie Bruniges, Janet Harrison, David J Howe, Marion Allinson (Chair), Peter M Sale (Vice Chair), Barbara Shuttleworth, Pam Whitaker, Christine Coe, Dawn Gulliford, Ann Cuthbert.

Apologies: Jan Richardson, Pat Dyminski, Gwen Moore, Janet Duerden, Lesley Conti, Richard Pope, Lynne Russell, Reva Tray, Dawn Gulliford. Lynne Bilton.

Minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record.

Patient Panel

Following on from Bridgett's talk at the June meeting, Marion asked group members if they were happy to be involved in a patient panel for the hospital trust. All felt it was a good idea for this group to have links in to the panel and 4 members expressed an interest in joining the panel, these are: Pam Whitaker, David Howe, Barbara Shuttleworth and Peter sale. Colin will E-mail Bridgett to inform her of our interest.

Recruitment

New members are needed for the group and we will now begin a push for recruitment. A link with the PALS service is possible if we put a letter together inviting people to a meeting where we can present some information about this group and the work we do/have done. Colin and Marion will put a letter together and liaise with Sue Harle and Debbie Bruniges from PALS.

It was also suggested that we request a stand at the Trust's 'Open Day' which will be held in September.

Marion suggested working with the CNS nurses to recruit new members and Colin explained about how Bradford had a successful recruitment drive 2 years ago by working closely with the Lead Cancer nurse and the CNS's. A flyer was distributed to cancer patients coming to call-back clinics in each of the cancer sites, asking if people would like to be involved in helping to develop cancer services. Those who expressed an interest were then invited to an event where they were asked to share their experience of services and then given the opportunity to join the Bradford UPG. All felt this was a good idea and something we should explore more with Janet Duerden, Dawn Gulliford and the CNSs.

Airedale Cancer Information Pilot

The pilot has now finished and a report is being written by Reva and Colin, all the volunteers who helped with the pilot have been asked to contribute their personal experience to the report. Colin feels that the pilot was a real success, over the period there were 108 enquiries which suggests a real need for an information centre. The report will be available by the end of July.

Breaking Bad News

Marion, (whilst on the Cancer Info Stand) had been approached by a woman whose sister (a cancer patient) had a bad experience of breaking bad news which happened as a result of cross site working between Airedale and Bradford. There seems to be some confusion around who breaks the bad news, when, where etc. There does seem to be a problem generally when bad news has to be given. It was suggested by the health professionals present that the best person to break the bad news is generally the one who is most familiar with the patient and their family and this is the policy that is used at within Airedale. It was acknowledged that this process does not always run smoothly and this is due to ever increasing complex pathways. Debbie Bruniges highlighted the need to encourage patients and carers to contact PALS when issues like this one are brought to our attention.

Welcome Head of Cancer Services

Marion welcomed Dawn Gulliford back to the group as the new Head of cancer services. Dawn told the group she is really pleased to be back and looking forward to working within cancer services again. Marion also welcomed Ann Cuthbert and congratulated her on her new role as Lead cancer clinician at Airedale. Both Ann and Dawn are pleased the Trust now have a full cancer team again and feel positive about developing cancer services at Airedale in the future. They are keen, as always, to work with the Airedale Cancer User Partnership group and will continue to involve the group in their work.

Reports and Feedback

The following reports were tabled and will be sent out with these minutes for those not present at the meeting

- **YCN Community Based Chemotherapy Event 29/06/07**
- **“Voices” World Premiere and One and Only Showing 14/06/07**
- **Yorkshire cancer centre £10 Million Appeal Launch 26/06/07**

Other meetings attended

Oncology Collaboration Audit Meeting Marion attended this meeting and it was clear that cases can be very complex with no easy way to define an answer as to where the patient should go (Airedale or Bradford). There appears to be a certain amount of confusion as to how the Oncology collaboration will work to the benefit of patients and their carers/families, if indeed there will be any benefit at all. Members of this group expressed concerns over the project. Dawn and Ann will be working together with the cancer team at Airedale to progress the project.

A.O.B.

Travel Information Fact sheets

Colin circulated 2 Travel Information Fact sheets for comment. The sheets are given out in Bradford at the Cancer Information centre and by welfare rights advisers at Bradford Cancer support. Colin asked if members would read them both and feedback to him which one they prefer.

Website

The website features in the latest Macmillan Exchange Newsletter. Colin will bring more copies to the next meeting.

Introducing

Marion welcomed Christine Coe who was attending her first meeting today, Christine briefly told the group about her role as a Clinical trials co-ordinator here at Airedale Hospital. Christine said there are currently 16 trials running at Airedale in which 500 patients are involved.

Dates and times of future meetings

Airedale Cancer User Partnership Group Meeting Dates for 2007

August 14th	5.30 to 7.30pm Boardroom Evening
September 11 th	12.00 to 2pm pathology seminar room
October 9 th	12.00 to 2.00pm Boardroom
November 13 th	1.00 to 3.00pm Boardroom
Dec 11 th	1.00 to 3.00pm Boardroom

**Date of Next Meeting:
August 14th
5.30 to 7.30pm Boardroom Evening**