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**Minutes from Advisory Group Meeting  
Tuesday 2 September 2014  
2.30pm in Seminar Room 4 (FU223), Chancellor's Building, RIE**

**Present:**

Professor Simon Maxwell, Medical Director YCC Scotland, University of Edinburgh (Chair)  
Melinda Cuthbert, Lead Pharmacist, Medicines Information/YCC Scotland, RIE  
Dr James Dear, Deputy Medical Director YCC Scotland, Edinburgh Clinical Toxicology (prev SPIB), RIE  
Sonya Lam, Director of Allied Health Professionals, NHS Education for Scotland  
Dr William McAlpine, BMA Scottish GP Committee representative  
Chris Nicolson, Director of Pharmacy NHS Shetland, Directors of Pharmacy group representative  
Sheila Noble, Senior Pharmacist, Medicines Information/YCC Scotland, RIE  
Professor Angela Timoney, Director of Pharmacy, NHS Lothian  
Janice Watt, Lead Pharmacist, Medicines Information Services, Glasgow Royal Infirmary  
Anne MacKay, Information Officer, YCC Scotland, RIE (minutes)

**In attendance:**

Laura McIver, Chief Pharmacist, Healthcare Improvement Scotland

**1 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from T MacDonald, RM Parr, E Black.

Prof Peter Helms sent his apologies; and notice of standing down from the Group as he had now fully retired. Group members agreed to his offer to nominate a replacement with a paediatric remit. Melinda Cuthbert to contact him.

**Action: Melinda Cuthbert**

**Update: Dr James McLay is the new member**

**2 Welcome to new member – Professor Angela Timoney**

As Director of Pharmacy for NHS Lothian, Prof Timoney has overall responsibility for YCC Scotland

**Update: Professor Timoney is the new Chair of the YCC Scotland Advisory Group**

**3 Minutes of previous meeting on 3 September 2013**

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

**4 Matters arising**

**4.1 Launch of ADR e-learning modules in collaboration with NES (see attached flyer)**

Sheila Noble reported that there had been issues with the company who produced the modules to fix problems with printing of certificates of completion but it should be sorted

shortly. The open access modules had gone 'live' in June and had been very well received. FY1s are required to complete Modules 1 and 6, pre-registration pharmacists all six.

They had been advertised via MHRA Drug Safety update, NES news and MI network; and have being completed by significant numbers in England and also internationally. There had been good feedback. Incorporation into LearnPro is due in the next 2 weeks.

#### **Update: incorporated into LearnPro for all 14 health boards**

Regarding promotion of the modules, Melinda Cuthbert reported that they would be highlighted in the letters to ADTCs which accompany the Annual and Health Board reports. Future training sessions to pharmacists and non-medical prescribers would incorporate the modules.

To reach out to other healthcare professionals, Sonya Lam would take back to the NMAHP directorate within NES.

Prof Maxwell suggested using the list of names drawn up for the 50th anniversary of the Yellow Card Scheme as possible contacts to highlight and advertise the modules. He and Dr Dear would highlight to medical contacts.

Janice Watt would find out about inter-professional learning opportunities within NHS GGC.

Prof Timoney saw the need to promote them strongly and suggested writing to the Directors of Pharmacy group and FY1 tutors at University of Edinburgh.

The Group acknowledged promotion would be easier when the modules were available via LearnPro.

**Action: Sonya Lam/Prof Maxwell/Dr Dear/Janice Watt/ Melinda Cuthbert**

#### **4.2 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Yellow Card Scheme**

Melinda Cuthbert reported that the date now will be 20 March 2015, to be held at the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, so tying in with the inception of the Yellow Card Scheme and the first Chairman of the Committee on Safety of Drugs, Sir Derrick Dunlop. The MHRA is planning to use this international event to introduce and promote changes in reporting in the UK whereby all the reporting schemes will now come under the Yellow Card banner.

#### **4.3 Vision and e-Yellow Card**

Prof Maxwell reported from his meetings with Libby Morris, GP & Primary Care eHealth Lead, that Vision can go ahead with plans to incorporate an e-Yellow Card. EMIS users in Scotland can not benefit from the changes being introduced in England due to the set up, however, Dr McAlpine informed the Group that the English version of EMIS Web that was being rolled out in Scotland. However there were ongoing issues of data control.

#### **4.4 ADRs and GP training**

Prof Maxwell reported he had spoken to Rose Marie Parr and Niall Cameron and had presented at NES Primary Care Group. Dr McAlpine suggested writing directly to the GP course coordinator for each area offering sessions on ADRs. Anne MacKay to get list of coordinators' contact details

**Action: Anne MacKay/ S Maxwell**

#### **4.5 YCC Scotland website**

Prof Maxwell asked if there could be a check to find out which organisations included the website in their Links

**Action: Anne MacKay**

## 5 Medicines governance and safety in Scotland

### 5.1 Changes and developments for AE reporting and the Yellow Card Scheme over the last year

M Cuthbert gave an overview of the Yellow Card changes to its platform that are pending and the significance of them in practice (i.e. overlap between existing reporting schemes for ADRs/AEs with medicines, medical devices, fake and defective medicines). She intimated that a platform for a cohesive approach going forward in Scotland with all key stakeholders is required.

Points from the Group on the presentation:

- Janice Watt asked if there was feedback on the content of these webinars. Laura McIver said that communication needed to be improved
- Scottish datasets do not feed in to CPRD (Prof Tom MacDonald could give more information on this)
- What is the remit of YCC Scotland to be with the new YC rebrand? (This should be addressed at MHRA/YCCs AGM in London on 9 September 2014)
- Dr McAlpine said Yellow Card was a 'good', positive, brand which everyone knew about but there was a need to avoid clutter in warnings to GPs.
- Janice Watt said there needed to be speedy data coming out from YC reporting from the MHRA and better use of these datasets.
- Prof Timoney commented that MHRA should be encouraged to work with Health Boards and Trusts

### 5.2 Platforms for strategic engagement

Points from Laura McIver's presentation:

- Prof Maxwell, Melinda Cuthbert and Laura McIver had been working together for a couple of years. Also connecting with NHS England on patient safety
- Issues currently underway: Prescription for Excellence (PfE) – cross sector working; SPSP
- In PfE, the Safe Workstream especially important for YCC Scotland. L McIver will work with Alpana Mair on this element of PfE and will ensure YCC Scotland is engaged on this workstream.
- Decriminalisation of dispensing errors is being led by UK government but Scottish Government (SG) have contributed
- ADTCs have a strong focus on medicines governance
- HEPMA – since 2012 SG have commissioned work on e-prescribing, involving pilots with NHS Ayrshire & Arran and NHS Lanarkshire and use of JAC, which is now coming to fruition. This work is a high policy priority. An opportunity exists for YCC Scotland to become involved with this element of the HEPMA agenda.

**Action: Melinda Cuthbert to bring up with MHRA at AGM on 9 September 2015-**

Points from the Group on the presentation:

- Laura McIver thought NHS Ayrshire & Arran and NHS Lanarkshire would welcome contact with YCC Scotland
- There is no single HEPMA system decided on. The key strategic Group is Safer Medicines Working Group chaired by Prof Charles Swainson  
**Action: M Cuthbert/ Prof Maxwell to contact Prof Swainson as a first step**
- There is no electronic solution for integrating all AE reports from health boards in Scotland or the link with the Yellow Card/MHRA. This requires discussion at policy

level within the SG. Laura McIver reported that SG currently scoping on benefit of linking with English systems

- Prof Timoney said that there should be a decrease in obstacles to collecting data once and using it multiple times afterwards. Currently collecting data in different ways and not using it at all. Must get GP IT systems involved.

### **5.3 Future role of YCC Scotland Advisory Group in delivering this agenda**

The group discussed the current gaps in membership with reference to key stakeholders in the enhanced platform for Yellow Card

- Devices
- Fake and defective medicines
- Patient representation required
- ABPI/PIPA representative
- Crucial to have a representative with connection to SG Policy division and the HEPMA group.

### **6 Feedback on questions for discussion at YCCs/MHRA AGM, 9 September 2014**

The YCC Advisory Group members were thanked for their comments fed back for to inform discussions with the MHRA at 9 September AGM.

### **7 YCC Scotland Annual Report and reporting trends**

M Cuthbert gave an overview of the performance for Yellow Card reporting in Scotland in 2013 to 2014. The Annual Report for 2013-2014 is available on YCC Scotland website - <http://www.yccscotland.scot.nhs.uk/publications/Documents/YCC%20Scotland%20Annual%20Report%202013-%202014.pdf> )

### **8 AOB**

There was no other business

### **10 Dates and times of meetings in 2015**

- Thursday 25 June 2015, 2.30pm. Chancellor's Building, RIE, Seminar Room 4
- Tuesday 10 November 2015, 2.30pm. Chancellor's Building, RIE, Seminar Room 6

**Yellow Card Centre Scotland Advisory Group Meeting  
2 September 2014  
Summary Action List**

<b>Item No</b>	<b>Item for Action</b>	<b>Responsible Individual</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Comment or update</b>
<b>1</b>	Contact Prof Helms to request nomination of new Advisory group member with paediatric remit	<b>M Cuthbert</b>	<b>November 2014</b>	<b>Complete</b>
<b>2</b>	GP CPD coordinators' details	<b>A MacKay</b>	<b>November 2014</b>	
<b>3</b>	Details of organisations' websites which link to YCC Scotland website	<b>A MacKay</b>	<b>November 2014</b>	
<b>4</b>	Promotion of ADR e-Learning modules	<b>S Lam/Prof Maxwell/Dr Dear/J Watt/ M Cuthbert</b>	<b>March 2015</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>5</b>	Bring up at YCCs/MHRA AGM on 9 Sept working with NHS A&A and NHS Lanarkshire on HePMA pilot	<b>M Cuthbert</b>	<b>9 September 2014</b>	<b>Complete</b>
<b>6</b>	Contact Prof Charles Swainson Chair, Safer Medicines Working Group, re single reporting system for AEs	<b>M Cuthbert/ Prof Maxwell</b>	<b>December 2014</b>	<b>Complete</b>