
**Management Board Meeting
Wednesday 9 December 2003
4.00pm, Pharmacy Seminar Room, RIE**

Present: Dr N Bateman, Medical Director, SPIB and CARDS, RIE
Melinda Cuthbert, Senior Pharmacist, CARDS, RIE
Sheena Kerr, Principal Pharmacist, Medicines Information, RIE

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Dr Maxwell and Dr Lannigan.

2 Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes from the meeting held on Monday 29 September 2003 were accepted as a true record.

3 Matters arising

3.1 Electronic yellow card reporting via GPASS

N Bateman reported that he had met with Ken Harden at the end of October regarding this issue. Re-programming of GPASS is required to accommodate this initiative. N Bateman will contact Ken Harden to follow up.

ACTION: NB

3.2 Progress meeting with Bill Scott

M Cuthbert reported that N Lannigan had sent a letter to Bill Scott to request a meeting. To date no response has been received. N Bateman suggested that since the annual report was due by the end of January then a copy be forwarded to Bill Scott with a cover letter saying that they would be delighted to meet with him if he would wish to discuss the report further.

ACTION: MC/NB

3.3 Meeting with Hugh Purves Re yellow card reporting by community pharmacists

N Bateman reported that he had met with H Purves on 8 October 2003 to discuss means of improving reporting of adverse drug reactions by community pharmacists via an integrated electronic net that is being developed. M Cuthbert reported that H Purves was no longer with the pharmacy implementation team at SEHD, and Alison Strath has taken over the initiative that he was taking forward. It was suggested by N Bateman that a letter be sent to H Purves to enquire whether Alison Strath would be taking over this initiative as well.

ACTION: SK / NB

3.4 HIV ADR reporting

S Kerr reported that she had spoken to Rhoda Morgan regarding this issue. Currently no HIV blue card reports are being received by CSM London despite an audit at the WGH reporting that ADRs had been reported. R Morgan said she would raise this at the next meeting.

4 Feedback on launch seminar

N Bateman reported that June Raine and Gordon Duff had been pleased with the seminar on 28 November. June Raine had even suggested it be repeated in two years but the group will access this nearer to that time. M Cuthbert noted that the evening News on Tuesday 2 December had carried an article on the seminar (see Appendix 1).

Summary of the seminar evaluation forms that were completed and returned gave a favourable response for all sessions. However, it was pointed out by a couple of people that they would have appreciated more time for discussion.

5 WebPages – stats, additions/changes

M Cuthbert reported that from 8 August 2003 to 9 December 2003, there had been almost 6,000 hits for the CSM Scotland web page. About three quarters of the hits were from within SHOW with the other quarter coming from external search engines. 98% of the hits were from within the UK, but there were international hits from Thailand, United States, India, Denmark and Egypt.

The CSM Scotland annual report for 2002 was one of the files that was requested quite frequently. N Bateman suggested that we include information on the webpage response in the annual report 2003.

M Cuthbert reported that the ADR presentation was now complete and ready to be added to the web page. It was agreed by the group that she would make contact with Ben Foster to arrange for it to be added ASAP.

ACTION: MC

6 Any Other Business

6.1 Training course for GPs in Inverness

N Bateman reported that he would be speaking on adverse drug reactions in early February to GPs in Inverness.

6.2 East Scotland GP Registrars' Training Afternoon

N Bateman reported that he had discussed with David Blaney training on medication safety for GP registrars in East Scotland. It was agreed that an afternoon session in April or May of 2005 (or maybe 2004 if it could be arranged) would be organised. It would cover PAC data, prescribing, audit and drug safety. N Bateman will be speaking at this afternoon session. He also suggested that M Cuthbert could present some of the interesting yellow card reports presented at the yellow card peer review session.

ACTION: MC/NB

6.2 Letter to Jeremy Metters regarding review of access to yellow card data.

N Bateman reported that he had sent a letter to Jeremy Metters on this issue.

6.3 Head of Agreement

It was noted by N Bateman that the heads of agreement, while reportedly having been signed, has not yet been forwarded to CSM Scotland. It was suggested that M Cuthbert contact N Lannigan to enquire if he had any further update on this.

ACTION: MC

6.4 Dates of meeting for AGM

N Bateman suggested that James Brownridge be contacted to confirm the date of the AGM. M Cuthbert will action this and copy the e-mail to N Bateman and June Raine.

ACTION: MC

6.5 Education of Nurse Prescribers

N Bateman reported that he had spoken with Mike Sabin, nursing representative from NES. He had enquired as to whether or not ADR reporting from nurses has been promoted via this avenue. N Bateman will contact to take this forward.

ACTION: NB

6.6 Links to RMC

N Bateman reported that he will be meeting with Simon Thomas on 29 January 2004 here at RIE. During this meeting he intends to discuss potential for research and audit that could be done as a joint effort between CSM Scotland, CSM Northern and possibly CSM Liverpool.

6.7 Purchase of laptop and data projector

M Cuthbert reported that from the remaining money that had been brought forward for the launch, a laptop and a projector would be purchased for CSM Scotland. Also CSM Scotland business cards for S Kerr and M Cuthbert would be printed.

7 Date and time of next meeting

It was suggested by N Bateman that the group would not need to meet as often in the upcoming year. Probably every quarter (after the annual report had been completed) would be ok. M Cuthbert will make contact with S Maxwell to see what is the best time and day of the week for him since he has found it difficult to attend in the past year. Once the day and time has been ascertained M Cuthbert will circulate potential dates for confirmation.

ACTION; MC

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2003 7

Capital finds prescription for improved drug safety

HEALTH experts will be able to identify problems with medication prescribed to patients thanks to a new system set up in the Capital.

Doctors will now be encouraged to report patients who have a bad reaction to a drug they have been prescribed to a Scottish Centre.

A card system will ensure health experts know when a large number of patients are having an adverse reaction to a particular type of medication. The new reporting centre standardises the reporting of adverse reactions, which has varied across Scotland.

A large number of adverse reactions to medication go unreported, and it is hoped the new centre will reverse this trend and increase the number of reports.

The yellow cards are available from the Committee for the Safety of Medicines (CSM). Nurses as well as doctors are now able to report adverse reactions to the centre.

Impact

A conference has been held in Edinburgh to raise the profile of the new centre and encourage health professionals to use the yellow card system.

High profile participants in the event included Bill Scott, chief pharmaceutical officer at the Scottish Executive, and Professor Gordon Duff, chairman of CSM.

CSM Scotland's medical director, Dr Nick Bateman, said: "The yellow card system for reporting adverse drug reactions was first proposed by a Scot (Professor Sir Derrick Dunlop) 40 years ago.

"It is particularly appropriate that Scotland therefore has its own centre to promote this aspect of improving medicines safety. We are already beginning to see the impact of this centre, CSM Scotland, on adverse drug reaction reporting."