
**Minutes from Advisory Group Meeting
Wednesday 28 May 2003 at 1pm
In Seminar Room 5, 1st floor, Chancellor's Building, NRIE**

Present: Professor D Webb, Professor of Clin Pharmacol, University of Edinburgh (Chair)
Dr N Bateman, Medical Director, SPIB and CARDS, RIE
Dr N Lannigan, Trust Chief Pharmacist, LUHT
Dr R Taylor, Senior Lecturer, Dept General Practice in Primary Care, Aberdeen
Dr S Maxwell, Senior Lecturer, Dept Clinical Pharmacol, University of Edinburgh
Sheena Kerr, Principal Pharmacist, Medicines Information, RIE
Melinda Cuthbert, Senior Pharmacist, CARDS, RIE
Anne Lee, Principal Pharmacist, Medicines Information, GRI
Mr H Purves, Community Pharmacist, Fife
Dr D Alexander, General Practitioner, Dunfermline

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Professor S Hudson and Professor T MacDonald.

2 Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes from the meeting held on 29 January 2003 were reviewed and the following errors and omissions were noted:

Item 3.1 Paragraph 1, Line 2: should read 'Minister' instead of 'Minster of Health'

Item 3.3 Education & Training: paragraph 4, second sentence should read 'currently within Lothian there is a major concern of prescribing problems with new doctors which was sparked by an audit carried out by – should read ' Medicines Policy Committee, not 'by Dr Lannigan etc.

Same paragraph – final sentence should read 'Mary Jo McLeod' instead of 'Mary Jane Clark'

Final item in this section reads 'Pat Murray in the Primary Care Trust within Lothian has currently been entrusted with nursing training for adverse drug reactions' this should instead read 'Chief Pharmacists have been approached for assistance in nurse training for ADRs within Lothian'

Item 3.6 Under research – second action point reads 'also Richard Colman' this should be 'Richard Copeland'

Item 5 Dundee health informatics initiative – first sentence should read ‘ Peter Davies is the head of the Health Informatics Centre’.

It was requested by Professor Webb that future minutes should have numbered pages.

3 Matters Arising

3.1 Membership of the Advisory Group

Dr David Alexander, a practicing GP, was welcomed to the Advisory Group. A brief background to the group and introduction of other members of the group was done.

Melinda reported that a letter was sent on 10 April 2003 to NES for nominations of nurse representatives (ie one academic and one practitioner nurse). Rose-Marie Parr, the director of pharmacy at NES, had agreed to contact her nursing counterparts to obtain recommendations for these 2 individuals. However, to date no reply has been received.

ACTION: M Cuthbert

3.2 Release of BPS curriculum redesigns

S Maxwell reported that the BPS guidelines provided up-to-date curriculum recommendations for medical schools to address the decrease in the profile of clinical pharmacology and prescribing which has resulted in students not being prepared upon graduation from medical school to take on safe prescribing roles within the hospitals. This document is available at the web page of www.bps.ac.uk . This report also highlights ADR reporting. Copies of this report, along with covering letters will be sent to the Deans of the medical schools within Scotland, and copied to the Heads of Professors of Clinical Pharmacology in these institutions.

ACTION: N Bateman/S Maxwell

A copy of the BPS guidelines will be circulated to all members of the group.

ACTION: M Cuthbert

Dr Taylor reported that at the University of Aberdeen there are 2 sessions in phase 3, year 5, that cover the safe use of medicines and Yellow Cards but all of the recommendations currently made in the BPS guidelines are not covered at present.

Dr Bateman reported that he had had correspondence with Gordon McInnes from the University of Glasgow School of Medicine regarding teaching on ADRs. At present there is a special study module done twice in year 3. These sessions are taught by A Lee. In year 5 there is a lecture done on avoiding ADRs. Dr Bateman has forwarded him his slides and material on ADRs that might be incorporated into the undergraduate teaching programme. It was suggested by Professor Webb that Dr Bateman’s slide package be added to the web page for use by others.

Action: N Bateman / M Cuthbert

Dr Taylor suggested that the information from the BPS should also be fed to the Scottish Postgraduate Deans Group. Mr Purves commented that NES is currently looking at the SHO curriculum redesign and the BPS guidelines should be incorporated into their plans.

It was agreed that Dr Maxwell would write to Graham Buckley, Chair of NES regarding this.
ACTION: Dr Maxwell

It was reported by Professor Webb that a reply had been received by M Cuthbert from Dr Walter Sneader, Head of School of Pharmacy, University of Strathclyde. He stated that ADRs are covered in the MPharm programme in all years in a wide range of classes to a varying degree, but he did not specify the content of these lectures.

3.3 ADR slides / interactive modules

Melinda reported that she was unable to obtain either the ADR slides from the SCOP Committee of the CSM or the interactive modules that have been suggested to be obtained from the University of Aberdeen. Professor Macdonald suggested contacting Patrick Waller who is an independent consultant but former MCA member who might know if any exist.

ACTION: M Cuthbert

Professor Taylor suggested that the department of medical illustration at the University of Aberdeen be contacted to see if they know of the existence of the interactive modules.

ACTION: M Cuthbert

3.4 PowerPoint Presentation to Nurses

It was agreed that the PowerPoint presentation would be distributed via e-mail to all members of the Advisory Group for review.

ACTION: M Cuthbert

Feedback and comments on the presentation are requested to be returned to Melinda by the end of June.

ACTION: ALL

At present the Powerpoint presentations on ADR reporting have been tailored towards the individual profession (e.g. pharmacist, nurses, etc). However, the final presentation that will be prepared by Melinda once comments are returned, will be a generic one for all professions.

ACTION: M Cuthbert

Professor Webb expressed a concern over copyright of the picture of the thalidomide baby. Dr Bateman reported that it had been obtained from a web page that did not appear to have copyright protection. However, Melinda will check to confirm if this is the case.

ACTION: M Cuthbert

Melinda reported that the nurse presentation had already been released to a couple of individuals unofficially for training of nurses on ADRs. She had received feedback from Tracy Love in Ayrshire that the talk was well received by the nurses, who had very little knowledge of ADR reporting. She has been asked to repeat these talks to more groups within Ayrshire.

3.5 CSM Scotland presentation on SCOP

In Professor MacDonald's absence, Melinda reported that his e-mail correspondence indicated he was still awaiting a response from Dr. June Raine but he had contacted her secretary to follow this up. Dr Bateman indicated he would be seeing Dr Raine at a meeting in the near future and he would discuss this issue further.

ACTION: Dr Bateman

3.6 Reporting back from CSM committee meeting

Professor Taylor reported that he had spoken to Dr Raine and Gordon Duff and he could not break the rule of confidentiality which surrounded the CSM committee meetings. Therefore, he would not be able to report back on any of the discussions from this committee. He did say that Dr Raine thought that CSM Scotland should have inside knowledge of activities at the CSM and thought that this would be in the form of representation on SCOP.

3.7 Heads of Agreement

Dr Lannigan reported that the Heads of Agreement has still not been signed and that devolution was slowing down the process.

ACTION: Dr Lannigan

3.8 Linkage of datasets by CHI numbers

Dr Bateman discussed the huge potential of using CHI numbers to link datasets within Scotland for pharmacoepidemiological benefit and patient safety. This data would give us an increase of information on mortality, morbidity, admissions and teratology throughout Scotland.

Mr Purves stated that he thought that this would definitely be a worthwhile initiative to start thinking about but not to pursue yet since there are still problems with electronic links and relay of prescription data in primary care. There is currently a debate upon what will be relayed via G-PASS to ISD and he said that it may be worthwhile to get this under discussion with G-PASS.

ACTION: Dr Bateman

4 Launch Seminar – Programme & Guest List

Dr Bateman confirmed that Professors Gordon Duff and Munir Pirmohamed have confirmed availability to speak at the launch seminar.

Dr Lannigan reported that there is still no commitment from the Scottish Executive. However, the date is in their diaries. After much discussion around the draft programme a revised skeleton for the programme of events was arrived at (see Appendix 1).

Professor Webb commented that maximum publicity for this seminar is required and should include such things as press releases and quotable quotes, etc.

Mr Purves indicated that the executive PR machine could be used for this purpose. Dr Bateman will meet with Mr Purves at a later date to take this forward.

ACTION: Dr Bateman/Mr Purves

With regard to the guest list the following additions were suggested:

- Chairs of the ADTCs
- LHCC clinical governance leads in primary care
- CSM/RMC pharmacists and Medical Directors
- All members of the SMC
- James Brownridge, RMC Co-ordinator CSM
- Post graduate general practitioner tutors
- Frank Owen, Chairman of Implementation Team
- Ron Shiels, Vice Chairman of Implementation Team

Melinda will obtain the names of these individuals and prepare a revised guest list.

ACTION: M Cuthbert

5 Website Launch

Dr Bateman reported that the site is now ready and waiting to go pending the approval from CSM in London for the Executive summary and the report for 2002 to be included. Once approval has been obtained the web page will be launched.

Dr Bateman commented that it is still unclear as to the hierarchy of approval for material to be posted to this website, (i.e. CSM London or the Scottish Executive). This issue will need to be addressed and resolved. Dr Lannigan reported that the Scottish Executive Pharmaceutical Division were happy for things to be posted once approval had been received from CSM in London.

6 First Quarter 2003 report

Melinda summarised the information from this report (see Appendix 2).

7 Initiatives for improving Scottish ADR reporting

Mr Purves reported that the community pharmacy contract is being changed. The implementation team are trying to include, as a quality marker, yellow card reporting; and clinical governance leads would be able to monitor this. Dr Bateman stated that he would be happy to meet with Mr Purves to discuss how CSM Scotland could best facilitate this process.

ACTION: Dr Bateman/Mr Purves

Dr Alexander reported that from the GP post-graduate education point of view the best route for addressing ADR reporting in primary care by GPs would be via the directors of post graduate education at local level. Also the Royal College of General Practitioners practice scheme includes quality markers but ADR reporting is not included at present. He

suggested it might be worthwhile discussing with the College of General Practitioners in Edinburgh. Kath MacDonald is the QA manager with whom contact could be made with to discuss this.

ACTION: Dr Bateman

Professor MacDonald's e-mail correspondence prior to the meeting suggested that Professor Webb, Dr Bateman and himself or others could do a road show on ADRs throughout Scotland. He suggested that the post-graduate weekly lunchtime meetings could be booked for the next year in all Scottish hospitals and this would help to raise the profile of ADR reporting and teaching on ADR reporting in one effort. He also stated that the PG offices usually fund travel costs for these talks. Professor MacDonald indicated that he would be happy to do the Tayside Health Board. Dr Maxwell said that he would be happy to do Borders, Lothian and Fife if this route of promotion were to be taken.

ACTION: Professor MacDonald/Dr Maxwell/Dr Bateman

Professor Webb suggested that a package of slides could be published on the web page for this use. Dr Bateman will address this.

ACTION: Dr Bateman

Anne Lee stated it might be possible from SMIPG to become more involved in the promotion of ADR reporting after the teaching for NHS 24 is completed, and the launch seminar in November.

8 Any Other Business

8.1 Electronic Reporting Working Group

M Cuthbert reported that an electronic reporting working group of the CSW was started in 2002 and is attended by CSM and SCOP members. Dr Bateman has been invited to the next meeting on 24 June.

8.2 NHS Direct Patient Reporting

M Cuthbert reported that in a conversation with Kavita Chadda at the CSM she learned that, in the last few weeks, only 12 reports had been received at the pilot site in London. However, this was before advertising at the local surgeries was done via posters.

9 Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 8 October, at 2pm. Professor MacDonald has requested that dates for the next year also be arranged so they can be put in all of the committee members' diaries. Melinda will circulate suggested dates for confirmation.

ACTION: M Cuthbert