

The Renal Association

MINUTES

Meeting of the Executive Committee – Number 180
Thistle Hotel, Brighton
Sunday 20th May 2007
15.00hrs – 17.30hrs

1. Present

Elected Executive Members unless otherwise stipulated :

John Feehally (President); **Chris Winearls** (Clinical VP); **David Goldsmith** (Hon Sec); **Donal O'Donoghue** (National Clinical Director); **Peter Mathieson** (President Elect) **Stuart Rodger** (Hon Treasurer); **David Wheeler** (Chair Clinical Guidelines Committee); **Mark Macgregor**; **Caroline Savage** (Chair Research Committee); **Jonathan Kwan**; **Tim Johnson** (Renal Scientists); **Phil Kalra**; **Gordon Bell**; **Victoria Moxham** (SpR representative); **Neil Turner** (webmaster); **Kevin Harris** (Chair Clinical Service Committee); **Henry Brown**; **Lawrence Goldberg**; **Edwina Brown** (Chair Education and Training Committee); **Charlie Tomson** (Chair RR Committee); **Mark Taylor** (BAPN); **Stephen Powis** (Chair SAC);

Observing: New Elected Executive Members : Rob Lewis, Rob Mactier, Magdi Yaqoob; Julia Phillips (MCI UK)

2 Apologies.

David Jayne (Chair Clinical Trials Committee); **Mick Kumwenda** (SAS Rep); **Meguid el-Nahas** (Chair International Committee); **Richard Fluck**, **Paul Rylance**, **Phil Kalra**, **Paul Stevens** (BRS); **Roger Greenwood** (KA).

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

3 Minutes of the DECEMBER 2006 179th EC Meeting [enc A]

Accepted as a true and accurate record.

4 Matters arising, not covered in the Agenda

None

5 President's Report

President

JF presented his final report as President. Despite only having 6 weeks for an official handover (as opposed to the expected 1 year) the handover from President to President Elect was going smoothly

JF welcomed the three new elected Executive members (Magdi Yaqoob, Rob Mactier and Rob Lewis), and thanked the three demitting from their term for their hard work (Henry Brown, Edwina Brown and Richard Fluck).

The report from the President on his visits had been circulated to the Executive, and was available on the RA website

6 Treasurer's Report [enc B]

Treasurer

SR presented the 2006 accounts and 2007 budgets. There would be a marked increase in RA budget as expenditure (secretariat and conference) significantly increased. Fees from the individual and corporate membership would be increased (£100 per annum for consultant members for 2008 and 2009; £7500 per annum for corporate members).

Registry capitation would rise to £16 in 2007, £17 in 2008 and £18 in 2009.

Both RA and RR have reserves of around 7 months operating costs. In the case of RR there would be an intention to try to increase this, as RR employs 13 people.

6.1 Corporate Members Report / Update

16 currently. More being approached. One to one meetings being offered.

3 year contracts with pharma companies would be ideal, but this is unlikely to be forthcoming.

Smaller technology and science companies could not necessarily afford £7500 / year , but their potential value to RA was recognised

Clinical Matters

7 Report from the Clinical Affairs Board / Committees [enc C]

Clinical VP

CW reported that he was due to demit from office in Sept 2007, and elections to replace him with be underway shortly. Mechanisms of influencing DoH were discussed: CAB can feedback information to the DoH via the National Clinical Director; DoH is also represented on the JSC College committee.

DW will complete his term as Chair of Clinical Guidelines committee once the last guideline is locked (end 2007). All 5 have been received, and two are now locked. All module writers had disclosed their conflicts of interest.

CT reported that the RR website was undergoing refurbishment. The 2006 report would be published as an NDT supplement. CKD-5 was a RR priority. Timeliness of data returns from units to the RR would have a big impact of the speed at which reports could be compiled and issued. As a next step in trying to improve these returns, CT will write to each clinical director to show their units performance in terms of completeness, quality and timeliness of data returns.

KH reported that the CD Forum had been held on 4.3.07 and was successful. eGFR surveys had been undertaken and the results posted. . Payment by Results programmes and work was underway but implementation (scheduled) in 2008/9 had been postponed.

8. National Clinical Director's Report / NSF Update [enc D]

Donal O'Donoghue

The National Clinical Director tabled his report, which was widely appreciated. There would be a big role for the RR in the National Clinical Audit projects (vascular access and transport)

Health survey England (10,000 patients) was an opportunity for some good clinical and epidemiological CKD research

Education, Training & Research Matters

9. Report from the Education and Research Board / Committees **[enc E]** President

UK Kidney Research Consortium paper (website) tabled by CS. Comments invited from Executive.

A clinical trial in haemodialysis, as 'proof of principle' that such a consortium can be effective, was being discussed.

10. Education & Training Committee **[enc F]** Edwina Brown

MTAS/MMC debacle noted. CME/CPD initiative with second ANC in Sept 07, and two sessions in the Brighton programme. HD Masterclass on 9.3.07 in Leicester was a success (Sue Carr and Mark MacGregor)

Three modules for on-line renal academy now in use (John Firth)

Alison Brown advising on part-time, job-share and flexible training.

11. SAC Report **[enc G]** Steven Powis

Revised SAC membership requires RA representation. SP's proposal of Academic VP, Chair of Education and Training committee and Chair of Clinical Services Committee was supported

Approval by PMETB of revised curriculum nearly finalized. Thereafter a curriculum working party chaired by Edwina Brown will begin a more thorough review.

Training expected to be 5 years in the majority of cases; research optional not mandatory

RITAs to be linked to knowledge-based exam, and of course, the CEXs and Mini-DOPs assessments

12. Knowledge-based Specialist Examination **[enc H]** President

A de facto "exit exam" (as although not at the end of training, it is mandatory to pass the exam to progress in training, and hence CST is dependent on passing exam.

Consultants revalidation assessment may in due course use the same format. This has not been decided nationally and the Executive Committee emphasised that this proposal would need critical evaluation before it could be supported.

Other Business

13. RCP / RA Working Party on the "Future of Renal Medicine in the UK" **[enc I]** President

Subspecialisation was a new issue eg dialysis medicine, transplant medicine, critical care nephrology and interventional nephrology. General view was that the UK renal community was still too small for this to be widespread. Most thought that the current position -n whereby appointed consultants obtained necessary additional in post experience to develop subspecialty skills - sufficed.

No clear idea of funding streams for additional post-CST training periods.

This item requires further input and scrutiny from Executive

14. Conflicts of Interest – officers, committee chairs, members **[enc J]** Secretary

Will be circulated to all Exec members, and information collated by MCI to be put on to the website (ACTION MCI)

15. Meetings 2007-2009 Secretary

Listed (as per insert)

16. Website Report **[enc K]** Neil Turner

A communications group to be established led by Hon Sec (DG) and including NT and several more volunteers to examine all aspects of internal and external communication. The current RA discussion board is hardly used.

Widespread praise for how good the RA website is (and thanks to NT for this)

17. RA Archivist Treasurer

The demitting President (JF) had cheerfully volunteered to do this, to take on the recording of history from 2000 onwards (the point that Stewart Cameron had reached).

19. AOB

CW rose to make an eloquent tribute to the President whose last Executive (as President) this was. CW reminded the Executive committee how hard and how well JF had worked for the RA, and what a pleasure and a privilege it had been to work with him. In appreciation of his hard work and unstinting devotion to the RA cause, DG presented JF with a Britannia silver fruit bowl dating from 1893 – this was purchased from the very generous contributions from Executive members.

20. Date / Time of the next meeting

9th August, Robers Suite, Guy's Hospital, London.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

21. Report from Renal Information Exchange Group **[enc L]** President

22. NPSA Report **[enc M]** Paul Rylance

23. Report from Specialty Association Reference Group of Choose and Book **[enc N]** Paul Rylance

24. Report from BRS **[enc O - no report received]** Paul Stevens

25. Report from DGH Nephrology Soc **[enc P]** Paul Rylance

26. Report from RCP-RA Joint Specialty Committee on Renal

Disease [enc Q]	Charlie Tomson
27. Report on World Kidney Day [enc R]	President
28. Electronic Care Record – Evidence to Parliamentary Health Committee [enc S]	Secretary
29. A View of UK Nephrology [enc T]	President

Prepared by David Goldsmith, Hon Sec assisted by MCI-UK