

THE RENAL ASSOCIATION

EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday 22nd May 2007

Conference Centre, Brighton

Present: Edwina Brown (Chair), Alison Brown, Sue Carr, Alex Crowe, John Firth, David Game, Mark Harber, Philip Kalra, Chris Kingswood, Jeremy Levy, Mark MacGregor, Vicki Moxham,

Apologies: Jonathan Fox, Phil Mason

1. **Minutes of meeting 4.5.06** approved
2. **Changes to membership:** New members welcomed. Agreed that usual length of time on committee is 3 years, but as committee only started 3 years ago, not everyone appointed at that time can change at the same time. EB will negotiate changes with members of committee who are coming to end of being programme director, member of Executive, etc.
3. **Review of year:**
 - a. HD masterclass: organised by SC and MM and was very successful. More support needed from MCI for future meetings. Agreed that there should be an annual masterclass.
 - b. SHO day: organised by DG and JL (and Simon Watson). Poster at meeting summarising outcome. Thought to be useful – discussion as to whether should be repeated or should be e-based. No conclusion – EB to follow-up with email discussion
 - c. CPD at RA meeting: 3 sessions at this meeting – feedback excellent
 - d. Flexible trainees: AB reported on register she is now holding – link on website and she will continue to be contact for SpRs or consultants wanting to work part-time or job share
4. **Future CPD**
 - a. Committee agreed that it should try to take a view on all educational activities offered by the RA so that it was in a position to know what gaps needed to be filled in
 - b. Masterclass - this should continue as annual event aimed at consultants and SpRs and should fill a gap in meetings currently available. Suggested that topic for 2008 should be “Renal tubular and interstitial disorders”. CK agreed to organise this
 - c. CPD for RA/BRS meeting in 2008. Various ideas discussed to be firmed up by email discussion. Thought to be a good opportunity to have a CPD session on designing clinical trials and writing grant applications
5. **RA Advanced Nephrology course:** successful meeting in Jan with repeat planned in Manchester in Sept. From 2008 will move to 4 day course twice a year with curriculum covered on a 2 year cycle. Will need to be actively promoted in UK and Europe. MH and

AC to take forward. Will also introduce daily registration to enable attendance of consultants and individuals with family/work commitments

6. **On-line Renal Academy:** Update from JF. 4 modules now hosted by DoctorNet UK, Funding exists from sponsors for 10 modules in first year. More being written. Suggested that SpRs could write some as this is good learning exercise – but would then collaborate with consultant supervisor
7. **MMC issues:** MTAS issues out of our control! Numbers applying for ST3 posts varied across country but quality had been mostly good. Work done on renal curriculum, assessment and RITA decision guide circulated
8. **Exit exam:** 35 individuals registered as question writers; training day in July and writing in January. First exam will be autumn 2008 and will be sat in ST4. Concern at possible cost of exam.
9. **Undergraduate education and postgraduate training in nephrology:** Preliminary survey suggested huge variation across country. Difficult to influence undergraduate education as dependent on local university issues but could introduce “taster weeks” for F2s and ST1s. SC and AB to take forward
10. **Date of next meeting** – not fixed as most work done by email