

UK Chemotherapy Board Public Minutes

A meeting of the UK Chemotherapy Board was held on Thursday 19 October 2020 at 1:30pm via Zoom conferencing

Present:	Dr Tim Littlewood	Chair, The Royal College of Pathologists (RCPATH)
	Dr Catherine Bale	Wales Representative
	Ms Lisa Barrott	UK Oncology Nursing Society (UKONS) <i>(from 14:20pm)</i>
	Dr Ruth Board	The Royal College of Physicians (RCP)
	Dr Martine Bomb	National Cancer Registration and Analysis Service (NCRAS), Public Health England (PHE)
	Dr Denise Bonney	Consultant Paediatric Oncologist, Royal College of Pathologists (RCPATH)
	Ms Pinkie Chambers	British Oncology Pharmacy Association (BOPA)
	Ms Netty Cracknell	British Oncology Pharmacy Association (BOPA)
	Dr Fionnuala Green	Vice Chair of the SACT regional group
	Dr Janine Mansi	Association of Cancer Physicians (ACP)
	Ms Alia Nizam	Project Lead, SACT Regimen-Specific Consent forms
	Ms Catherine Oakley	UK Oncology Nursing Society (UKONS)
	Professor Nick Reed	Scotland
	Dr Hannah Tharmalingham	VP, RCR Faculty of Clinical Oncology <i>(until 14:10pm)</i>
	Dr Tom Roques	Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) <i>(from 14:06pm)</i>
	Ms Edna Young	Lay member
	Dr Anne Rigg	Chemotherapy Reference Group (CRG) Chair <i>(from 14:30pm)</i>
In attendance	Mrs Michelle Dominique	Governance and Committee Services Officer <i>(minutes)</i>
Apologies	Professor Gordon Cook	The Royal College of Pathologists (RCPATH)
	Dr Pippa Corrie	National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)
	Professor David Dodwell	Chair, Chemotherapy Clinical Information Group, Public Health England (PHE)
	Dr David Hobin	Consultant Paediatric & Adolescent Oncologist, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH)
	Dr Paula Scullin	Northern Ireland

UKCB.32/20 Welcome, apologies and declaration of conflicts of interests.

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and members introduced themselves. There were no declarations of conflicts of interests and apologies for absence were as listed.

UKCB.33/20 Minutes of the previous meeting held 18 June 2020

Both the Unconfirmed full minutes and the unconfirmed public minutes were approved as a correct record of the meeting subject to the amendment of a few typographical errors.

Review of Actions

The majority of action points from the last meeting were included on the agenda for discussion.

Matters arising

There were no matters arising that were not already included on the agenda for discussion.

UKCB.34/20 Governance

Updated Terms of Reference

The Chair mentioned that he had made a minor amendment to the ToR to reflect that BOPA and UKONs had split. Clarity was needed regarding how the CCLG fitted in as the ToR read as though they would be a formal member, taking on responsibility for chairing the Board and for providing the secretariat for a year. Clarification was needed to establish whether the CCLG would be co-opted members.

Handover of Secretariat to BOPA and meeting dates in 2021

There was no update regarding who from BOPA would be providing the secretariat for the January 2021 meeting (for handover purposes). Professor Cook would Chair the January meeting on behalf of RCPATH, before handing over the Chairmanship to BOPA.

UKCB.35/20 UK Chemotherapy Board website

Members were informed that the UK Chemotherapy website was up and running and was also searchable via google.

UKCB.36/20 Chemotherapy Board Work streams

CRUK consent form project summary of progress

- The National Steering Group (NSG) meeting took place on 15 October. (The minutes of the last NSG meeting held on 25 June were provided for this meeting).
- The consent forms were available since July 2016 and therefore had entered the three-year revalidation programme. There were consent forms (led by the National Lead), but also new tumour specific forms which were not currently available on the CRUK website.
- Gynae SACT consent forms were recently revalidated and were uploaded to the CRUK website.
- Electronic consent had been explored and had been a key feature during the pandemic as there was a need to consent remotely. The first working group took place at the end of September. The next working group would take place in November and would be looking at the various organisations who do electronic consent so that a framework could be built to provide advice trusts with information regarding preferred providers.
- Dr Mansi thanked Ms Young for her invaluable support on the Consent working group, and informed members that the group had two new lay members.
- There was a launch of the consent forms in Scotland.
- The survey regarding the use of the forms was put on hold during the pandemic, but work had now been restarted.
- Dr Mansi thanked Dr Bomb for providing a mechanism to get that information.

The Chair thanked Dr Mansi for providing the summary and to the team for the excellent work on the consent forms project. In terms of the website analytics, the Chair expressed that it was difficult to work out the figures at the bottom end of the axis and asked if those figures would be portrayed in another way. Dr Mansi felt it would be possible to provide the information in a different format. It was noted that information regarding Wales had been minimised in error so was not shown in the document circulated, however the information was available.

UKCB.37/20 Age is no barrier to chemotherapy

Dr Mansi informed the Board that the 'Age is no barrier to chemotherapy' (ABC project) had been accepted for publication but the figures needed to be reworked through PHE. The team (from PHE who supported this work) had their work reprioritised and were unavailable due to being seconded during the pandemic. The importance of this project was reiterated because it highlighted the disparity between the two age groups (up to age 69 and 70 and over), in terms of giving chemotherapy when patients were matched (there were about 100k patients in that cohort who had been analysed). Dr Mansi expressed that it was important to use similar mechanisms to explore what had happened during that time after the pandemic as a comparison.

UKCB.38/20 Chemotherapy Workforce

Refreshment of guidance for 30-day M and M workbook – update

There was no opportunity to revisit this due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the registrar who had been tasked with this work had moved on. Dr Scullin would try to get someone else on-board. The guidance for 30-day M and M workbook was uploaded onto the website a year ago and members felt that it was an opportune time for Dr Scullin to see if it was still valid and up to date.

UKCB.39/20 Chemotherapy Data

Public Health England (PHE) SACT dataset report

- A paper had been published in the International Journal of Cancer (IJC) which looked at Immunotherapy (immune checkpoint inhibitors for melanoma), using the registry data to look at analysis that took place within a clinical trial setting
- Progress was being made with the 30-day mortality work. Information comparing trusts (looking at their 30-day mortality post SACT was published for lung, gastric, pancreatic and cancer of unknown primary who were diagnosed and treated in 2017 – 2018.
- Trusts would be receiving PHE's Rapid 30-day mortality feed which consists of unadjusted data.
- SACT treatment rates during the COVID-19 pandemic would be available to trusts. Dashboards were available online for SACT and radiotherapy.
- A lot of work is done through the Cancer Drug Fund (CDF) and funds staff, CDF evaluation work but also allows related work such as the dashboards.
- A number of webinars were being held across National Disease Registration Service (NDRS). The webinars were in lieu of attending conferences to share information regarding the work that the NDRS. The first one would be held on Wednesday which would focus on proxy registration datasets 2020. A rapid dataset had been done based on the routine data feeds which included the Cancer Outcomes and Services dataset, SACT and others to get an indication of what has happened in terms of cancer incidents during the pandemic as the number of cases had dropped. On 4 November, a webinar would be held and the focused on SACT and finally a webinar on 18 November solely focused on the Radiotherapy Data Sets (RTDS).

UKCB.40/20 National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Summary Report

There was no update at this meeting.

UKCB.41/20 Education

Diabetes and Cancer guidance

Members were informed that the project was led by a Medical Oncology SpR who had linked in with the Association of British Clinical Diabetologists (ABCD), and reviewed the papers,

had a lot of input and was linked with Diabetes UK. The guidance would be circulated to members to take back to their organisations for endorsement before publishing.

DPD testing Version 2

The DPD testing document was already uploaded to the UK Chemotherapy Board website. Members were informed that there were no material changes made to the recommendations, and version 2 will be uploaded to the UK Chemotherapy Board website. It was confirmed that DPD testing was undertaken routinely in Wales and the central laboratory was based in Cardiff for it (turnaround times were about 5 days). There was a guide on how to dose patients on the report and reflected the document endorsed by the Board, and there were no funding issues. DPD testing was not routinely funded in Northern Ireland and there were discussions on-going regarding funding.

UKCB.42/20 Items for Report

Chemotherapy Clinical Reference Group

- The CCG usually met quarterly but had more frequent monthly meetings due to a lot of activity.
- The latest iteration of the interim treatment guidelines was in place until 31 March.
- Work continued on Funded Treatment Process, which were algorithms for different tumour types of drugs for which treatments were commissioned. This work was being done in conjunction with NHS England (NHSE) with strong pharmacy support and would be published in due course.
- Work had continued on the Chemotherapy Quality Dashboard (which was an NHS dashboard) which was joined together with the SACT database information.
- Work had been done with colorectal cancer and there was evidence from the National Bowel Audit which demonstrated a wide disparity in the provision of adjuvant chemotherapy for stage 3c colorectal cancer, so have met with the regional NHSE commissioners, and asked them to speak with their regional providers which resulted in a dramatic difference between centres as to whether people were offered adjuvant treatment or not. The Chemotherapy CRG felt strongly about this, and was the reason why the issue was taken to the regional commissioners.
- Members were informed that NHSE were doing some Wave 2 planning and there would be commissioning statements coming out from regional commissions.

Low Risk Febrile Neutropenia Pathway

An update regarding the Low Risk Febrile Neutropenia Pathway which had been circulated around the Board. Some questions were raised during the last meeting and those were answered and circulated in the latest version of the document. Members agreed to being included in the 'consulted with' list.

Discussion took place regarding access to documents on the UKONS website as access had been changed to members only access to a lot of information (including some guidance). The Acute Oncology Steering Group had set up a website outside of UKONS for Acute oncology and some of the UKONS documentation may be linked to it.

Validity periods of Blood

Ms Chambers introduced the topic of validity periods for blood tests prior to treatment with chemotherapy and provided some background information. Ms Chambers was developing a risk prediction model as part of her PhD (members were provided with a paper). Members felt that it was a good idea, but it would require evidence on which to base any consensus statement. A Delphi method exercise so that the process is done in a validated way, which members supported.

UKCB.43/20 UK Chemotherapy Board Conference

There were 284 delegates registered for the conference so far and would take place online. There were concerns regarding sponsorship as there were four sponsors compared to 11 last year. The agenda had been circulated to members previously.

UKCB.44/20 Any Other Business

None.

UKCB.45/20 Date of next meetings 2021:

- Thursday 21 January 2021 at 2pm (Chaired by Prof Gordon Cook)

Post meeting note

The following dates of meetings Chaired by BOPA:

- Thursday 13 May at 2pm.
- Thursday 16 September at 2pm.