

## Greater Manchester Pathology Network – Meeting Notes/Report

LAB 2 LAB Project Board Meeting  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2009 9.00am-11.00am  
Room 3.10, One Central Park, Northampton Road, Manchester, M40 5BP

In attendance			Apologies	
Philip Bell	PB	Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust	Howard Gray	Stockport NHS Foundation Trust
Owen Johnson	OJ	X Lab Systems	Keith Hyde	CMFT NHS Trust/ GM Pathology Network
Laura Kidd	LK	GM Pathology Network	Peter Walsh	NHS Manchester
Dave Money	DM	Assistant Project Manager	Dave Warhurst	Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust
Drew Morgan	DM	X Lab Systems	Christine Walters	Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust
Rachel Pearson	RP	GM Pathology Network		
David Slater	DS	Project Manager		
Jeff Seneviratne	JS	(Chair) GM Pathology Network		
Allan Wilcox	AW	WWL NHS Foundation Trust		

### Discussion Points

- **Welcome and Introductions** – JS welcomed all members
- **Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2009** – OJ of X Lab asked for an amendment to be made to Matters Arising. Rick Jones does not work for X Lab Systems. Other than this the minutes were agreed as a correct record.
- **Matters Arising** – The group discussed the actions from the previous meeting. All of DS's actions will be referred to under agenda items. At the last meeting it was discussed that Ash Sykes of X Lab would be collating quality and cost savings via data metrics. OJ agreed at the meeting to share this information. It has not yet been received by the Network. OJ agreed to forward all information to RP.
- The group asked for the newsletter to be sent specifically to HG and PW to be taken to the GM ICT Programme Board.
- JS is attending a series of workshops run by Gifford Batstone and Ian Barnes as part of the "Pathology Futures Group." JS had been hoping to report at next weeks meeting that Lab2Lab has gone live but unfortunately now it will be the week after.
- **Project Timescales** – This is covered under the individual headings
- **Project Finances** – JS commented that it is not just a case of buying and paying for there are implementation costs to be considered. DS hopes to get Salford and Wigan live by year end. There are project management resources to also consider. There are already pressures within the labs. Pathology IT is not resourced enough, but the IT is the 'heartbeat' of Pathology.
- **Interfaces** – DS gave updates as follows:
- **iSOFT** – DS reported that the concentration has been on Telepath to Telepath systems. The original deadline for go live was w/c 07/09/09. VPNs are now in place between MRI and X Lab and SHH and X Lab for security. There has been a major upgrade by X Lab which took 1 day and has resulted in retesting. The VPNs were moved to the live server and this resulted in a number of issues which have delayed the project. Go live date is now w/c 28/09/09. Other contributing factors are the Telepath system at MRI has been upgraded over the weekend and the supervisors using the system are on annual leave so cannot undertake training. SHH will have training this week.
- X Lab guides have been supplied for both admin and users but X Lab are now producing a 1 page laminated user guide document.
- Trafford are keen to be involved and DS confirmed that all sites wishing to participate will need to have a VPN installed. Trafford are actively working on this. DS will produce a list of steps to take for all sites wishing to participate. VPN installation is dependent upon the availability of IT staff resources so Trusts will need to take this into account. X Lab are to email PB re installation of a VPN at Salford. All sites will have to undergo a series of Telepath upgrades to make the system 2010 compliant.
- DS asked the group for their thoughts regarding the annual maintenance cost from Telepath quoted at £1,675.00 which will be payable pro rata from go live. The group discussed the cost and agreed it was reasonable.
- The numerical data testing between SHH and Tameside has been successful but DS and DM want to concentrate on Microbiology going live first before pouring all their efforts into this stage. Tameside have a VPN in place ready to continue.
- DS pointed out the installation of the VPN covers message security as MRI initially had concerns.
- **Clinisys** – DS explained to the group that Clinisys have now dropped CDM software and are looking at point to point interfaces. DS met with Peter McCabe and requested a quotation which has still not been received. Upon chasing DS has been informed that Clinisys have never received a specification and so are producing their own. X Lab confirmed that after the meeting 8 months ago with Clinisys they emailed the specification and have a copy of the email as proof, but Clinisys state they have not received a copy from the client. DS has stressed timescales to Clinisys and has been in contact with Nigel Fitzsimmons head of new product development. JS enquired as to whether the group felt there would be any benefit in including Jim Goodier into emails sent to Clinisys to keep him abreast of the situation.
- DS asked the Board for guidance regarding his actions to date with Clinisys. The Board confirmed this and AW suggested that a letter to the MD of Clinisys from the Network regarding timescales and delays may be in order. RP will discuss this with NJ perhaps a letter from the Joint Chairs.

- **Technidata** – DS has spoken with Mark Gillespie and it has been agreed not to include microbiology at this stage. DS has received a quotation from Technidata after it was agreed that the system required would be Requests in/out and Results in/out. The cost for this will be £22,980 which is higher than anticipated and budgeted for but does include the annual maintenance cost. DS will respond to the quotation and organise a meeting with Technidata. JS will endeavour to attend the meeting. OJ suggested that Technidata could be more expensive as they have less opportunity to sell this technology on. X Lab will contact Technidata customers.
- **GMCHMD** – This has not been covered under Project Finances in the business case
- **Project Resources** – There are project management resources to also consider. There are already pressures within the labs. Pathology IT is not resourced enough, but the IT is the 'heartbeat' of Pathology. DM has carried out testing at Tameside prior to his retirement but LK will need to contact Nigel Humble re staff resources for testing at Tameside.
- DS needs technical staff on board from an early stage as too many technical glitches has an effect on the confidence of the discipline staff. Lab links at MRI is a prime example so many initial technical glitches that the lab staff refuse to use it.
- PB enquired about the level or support needed. DS and DM are to put together timescales and dates for getting other sites on board. PB is keen to book in dates and secure resources for Salford.
- **Data sharing agreements** - This has been covered under the iSOFT update.
- **Issues & Risks** – DS confirmed risk no. 1 has been significantly reduced. No. 2 is still a great risk. The group agreed that no. 3 can be removed from the register. Risk 4 DS stressed that the performing lab needs to advise the sending lab of their requirements. With Chlamydia testing the whole cycle of the sample has been looked at and who views it. The same will do done with the numeric data testing. X Lab confirmed that risks 5 and 8 can now be supported. DS suggested a new risk re resources. Not just financial resources as the money must be spent from this financial year and cannot roll over but staffing resources as these will affect project timescales. The issues log was available for all to read.
- **Any Other Business** –
- **Newsletter** – LK circulated the newsletter to the Network for information. LK confirmed she has received a number of positive comments.
- **Christine Walters** – DS reminded the group that Christine Walters, Associate Director IM & T will finish at Salford at the end of September and take up the post of Associate Director of IT at Pennine in October. PB explained that there will be a temp replacement for Christine starting this week. The Board would prefer that the role stay with PB for continuity. PB will confirm Salfords decision.
- **X Lab Update** – OJ confirmed that X Lab have been contracted by Connecting 4Health to be the first ever Spine compliant system provider. This will mean that iSOFT will become Spine compliant. X Lab are to begin testing and hopefully will be in a position to offer a spine compliant upgrade in Jan 2010.
- DS stated that he does not want any changes to the system at SHH once it has gone live. All testing must be carried out on a test server. JS stated that the group needs to look at producing a release process for the upgrading of live systems.
- X Lab informed the Board that they can now offer an interface system without a LIMS, this could potentially be used for smaller labs. X Labs confirmed this would be available free of charge to any lab using less than 4000 transactions per year. The group agreed this is not something our labs would have an immediate need for. The group agreed currently it has enough on its plate.
- **GM LIMS Business Case** – JS informed the group that the GM ICT Programme Board and the GM Pathology Network Board have both approved the commissioning of a business case for procuring one LIMS system for the GM region. The GM ICT Programme Board have provided the funds for the business case. The appointment of a project board and project team is currently underway.

#### Actions

- OJ to forward information collated by Ash Sykes to RP
- Newsletter to be circulated to HG and PW to be taken to the GM ICT Programme Board
- RP to discuss the sending of a letter to Clinisys from the Network
- DS to arrange meeting with Technidata
- LK to contact Nigel Humble at Tameside re staff resources
- PB to confirm Salfords decision regarding representation on this Board

#### Recommendations to Pathology Network Board

- None

#### Date and Time of Next Meeting

- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2009, 9.30am-11.30am, One Central Park, Northampton Road, Manchester, M40 5BP