

## Greater Manchester Pathology Network – Meeting Notes/Report

LAB 2 LAB Project Board Meeting  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2010, 09.30am-11.30am  
888 Suite, Holiday Inn Manchester Central Park, 888 Oldham Road, Manchester, M40 2BS

In attendance			Apologies	
Philip Bell	PB	Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust	Howard Gray	NHS Stockport
Neil Jenkinson	NJ	GM Pathology Network	Keith Hyde	GM Pathology Network
Owen Johnson	OJ	X Lab Systems		
Laura Kidd	LK	GM Pathology Network		
Dave Money	DM	Assistant Project Manager		
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 no introductions were needed.
- **Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2010** – The minutes were agreed as a correct record.
- **Matters Arising** – JS proposed that items 4 – 9 on the agenda will be covered under the Project Managers report.
- **Project – live sites** – DS broke this down into suppliers as follows:-
- **iSOFT** – All iSoft sites have VPN set up and have commenced testing. Trafford and SRFT tested successfully last week. X-Lab received the requests but the returning results failed. X-Lab is aware of the issue and it has since been rectified. The issues surrounding coded comments and free text being stored to the notepad have now been fixed and will be tested this week. Once the testing is successful DM will arrange for the upgrade to be made available to all sites. DS commented that although we have 2 successful test routes involving SHH to MMMP and TGH to MMMP no additional tests between sites have been developed. There are still issues with SHH and MMMP as SHH do not chase if they do not receive results. This needs to be raised at the PAG 5 IM&T meeting. DM and DS are frequently in contact with the sites but are still no further on. DS suggested tackling this through the GM Pathology Network Board. JS suggested that changes in lab processes are needed and this needs a champion for the project in each discipline.
- **Clinisys** – DS explained that a new version is released each year and the current one is version 1.7 which includes the L2L software. This version has been installed at Pennine and Bolton in the test accounts and the test and live accounts at Wigan. The reported VPN issue at Pennine has now been resolved. Testing has begun between Pennine and MRI Immunology for C3 and C4.
- The group discussed the issue experienced regarding specimen types at MRI as currently they use the prefix “imm” for all immunology specimen types whereas other labs split down into various groups e.g. plasma, serum, etc. DS has met with Colin Dennett at MRI to explain the issue and that this will cause a problem if they refer work to other labs using the L2L system. The same issue arose with GP and Ward Order comms. It seems this problem is only experienced by a lab that is a sending and receiving lab. X-Lab is to find a generic solution whilst the members also discussed the possibility of changing the lab process. JS noted that this is another area in pathology with no national standard and OJ commented that it is also something the National Catalogue has not picked up on.
- DS reiterated that the only lab affected is MRI and the issue is being addressed.
- **Apex** – DS explained that he and DM will spend 2 days this week testing as Pennine are very keen to get up and running.
- **Project – pilot testing** – Everything is in place for iSoft all software is installed we just need the impetus to spur the project on.
- **X-lab software & staged payments review** – OJ confirmed that the X-Lab account is up to date and currently no monies are outstanding.
- PB asked for clarification about Salford’s payment situation and DS agreed to ask John Caffrey to liaise with Greg Rayner.
- **Interfaces** – DS gave updates as follows:
- **iSOFT** – Laboratories were given £11,500 payable in two halves. The first 50% upon installation of software and the remaining 50% upon a discipline going live. Installation is now complete in all Trusts and MRI, Trafford and SHH have gone live. MRI and SHH have paid in full. TGH, Salford and UHSM continue to test. DS explained that he is being pushed by John Caffrey, Project Manager at iSoft on a fortnightly basis for individual labs to go live. DM feels both Trafford and TGH could be invoiced for the remaining 50% as it is an internal decision to not go live yet.
- PB enquired about Salford’s progress as when he enquires they always seem to be waiting on someone else. DM reiterated that if the upgrade re free text and coded comments is successful between TGH and UHSM an upgrade will be arranged for all the other sites with the same issue.
- DM stated that in general there seems to be the feeling that L2L is an encumbrance rather than an opportunity. PB feels that the Trust IT departments need to own the project locally and push it ahead.
- DS confirmed he had sent an email to all Trusts prior to the end of the last financial year to move money across to this financial year.
- Annual maintenance payments of £1,600 to iSoft are due imminently. Also as of April 2010 the annual payments to The Health Informatics Service for X-lab services were due to begin. An amount of £5,000 per annum has been negotiated with THIS and will be held for 3 years. NJ, RP and DS have met with Eileen Jessop and John Leech of THIS as they are keen for the maintenance payments

to begin. Due to the current number of labs not being live they have given us a 3 months extension before payments begin. Another meeting is scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at which time this arrangement will be revisited. OJ suggested a compromise with THIS of a regional go live date this would enable THIS to give support through the implementation period. It was agreed to discuss this at the meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> June.

- It was suggested that a go live meeting should take place where there would be sign off between both parties and then an official go live. The group suggested issuing a memo to all iSoft Telepath sites asking for the project to be moved forward and any IT problems should be dealt with between iSoft and site keeping DM and DS in the loop. The group agreed that all testing should be done in the testing environment not the live as sites have experienced issues upon go live. Salford have had difficulties with keeping the testing environment up to date and DM/DS suggested their training database should be updated again. PB pointed out that he allocates time to GR to work on L2L but this is pointless if their partner does not allocate the same time.
- **Clinisys** – DS reported that the L2L software has been incorporated into Labcentre version 1.7 now installed at Pennine, Wigan and Bolton. Testing will begin imminently. X-Lab will receive their next payment when Clinisys go live.
- **Technidata** – Still outstanding.
- **GMCHMD** – DS explained that the HMD IT system went live 2 weeks ago.
- **Issues** – The group feels that the biggest issue is how to stimulate labs to use the service. DS commented that as a Trust you would want to be confident that the service is working well for a period of time. The vibes from MMMP and SHH are not reassuring. Others say they like the service but are not developing it. A showcase test route is needed that will drive others on. JS commented that Virology should have moved on and suggested focussing on Trafford and MMMP. The group discussed that MMMP is not as positive as expected. There are issues with the sample acceptance policy as it differs from everyone else's. AW felt the issue could be avoided if MMMP supply a copy of their policy to labs wishing to send work to them or perhaps an agreement could be reached across all labs regarding requirements. JS felt that a meeting with MMMP is needed to resolve the issue. Labs could send work elsewhere and the MMMP workload will be affected.
- The group agreed to arrange meetings with SHH and Trafford involving DM, DS, JS, RP and NJ to gauge commitment. OJ offered to attend meetings but the project team feel the issues are operational. The group also agreed to add L2L commitment as an agenda item for the NAG meetings.
- The group discussed the red issues from the register some of which have already been discussed in detail but including issues with discipline resources and the use of NHS numbers.
- **Risks** – The group discussed those risks with a high importance. iSoft cancellations not supported is no longer applicable as DM explained once a request is packaged and shipped there is no need for a cancellation. The reflex testing solution is to be tested and when successful this risk can be downgraded/removed. The risk that Clinisys cannot support the transfer of microbiology culture and sensitivity results may become an issue if Bolton, Salford and Wigan merge and centralise. The final report is due to be presented to the CEOs next week. The issue will arise if the proposed central site is a Clinisys site.
- **Any Other Business** –
- DS explained that he has diary requests from X-Lab to host the Devon and Nottingham Networks but feels this must be dependent upon project status. OJ accepted this but added that Liverpool have asked to look at MRI at some point. DS commented that the requests show how interested other regions are in what GM have achieved.
- OJ confirmed that Clinisys wish to meet with X-Lab.
- **IBMS CPD** – Certificates were available.

#### Actions

- X-Lab to find generic solution to sample type issue
- DS to ask John Caffrey to liaise with Greg Rayner at Salford
- JS to meet with MMMP re sample acceptance policy
- Project Team to meet with SHH and Trafford re: project commitment
- LK to add L2L commitment to NAG agendas

#### Recommendations to Pathology Network Board

- None

#### Date and Time of Next Meeting

- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2010, 9.30am-11.30am, Manchester Suite, Holiday Inn Manchester Central Park, 888 Oldham Road, Manchester, M40 2BS