

Greater Manchester Pathology Network – Priority Action Group – Meeting Notes/Report

Priority Action Group 1 – HER2
 Wednesday 21st January 2009
 Didsbury House Hotel, Manchester M20 5LJ

In attendance		Apologies		
Peter Clark	PC	Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust	Mohammed Bashir	Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust
Anthony Gledhill	AG	Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust	Peter Clark	Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust
Roger Hunt	RH	Stockport NHS Foundation Trust	Angela Cramer	Christie Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Julie O'Brien	JO	Stockport NHS Foundation Trust	Kate Gem	Christie Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Nick Telford	NT	Christie Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	Roger Hunt	Stockport NHS Foundation Trust
Malcolm Timmins	MT	Stockport NHS Foundation Trust	Neil Jenkinson	GM PCTs
Anne Yates	AY	Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust	Rachel Pearson	GM PCTs

Discussion Points

- AY extended the groups best wishes for a speedy recovery from illness to AC (Christie's)
- **Minutes of meeting held on 15th October 08** – agreed as a correct record
- **Matters arising** – AY reported that her planned meeting with Neil Jenkinson in November 08 to discuss several issues was unexpectedly cancelled at short notice and therefore there was no update on the issues for this meeting.
- **Audit** – AC had been unable to start work on the design of the planned audit due to her recent illness. NT said that although she was on a phased return to work he expected AC would want to pick up and make progress on pulling the audit together. A brief discussion was held on the purpose of the audit including that it was probably not possible to include how long it takes for results to get to the various MDTs. RH thought this information might have to be gathered prospectively.
- **EQA** – PC reported that sets of slides had been circulated from each GM PAG lab for Her2 evaluation to the “other” two labs in the group and distributed a table showing the results obtained at each lab (may need revision as AC not able to score the Christie slides before illness). However the results demonstrated that the results are broadly in agreement with similar results obtained within the group. It was agreed that PC would organise quarterly local EQA run over 2009.
- **SRFT FISH cases** – are now being referred as routine to Christies and apologies had been given to Christie for the lapse identified at the last meeting.
- **Consultants receiving copy of FISH reports** – NT offered to remind AC to contact Dr Chitalia at Stockport to discuss the practical arrangements for this.
- **Dealing with inappropriate Her2 requests** – RH confirmed that Stockport had written to colleagues at the Pennine trust to explain what was funded via the GM Path network and arrangements for charging for Her2 tests in other situations.
- **DAKO Herceptest** – AY reported that there was no national or special alert in force concerning the Dako Herceptest as far as she could ascertain. However members of this group will remain vigilant for any developing news.
- **Invoicing for work** – Mr S Downing (Strategic finance lead for AGMPCT's) was expected to attend this meeting but he did not attend – it was thought he would clarify future arrangements for each of the 3 labs to receive the Her2 funding but clarification still needs to be obtained.
- **Leica** – Invitation to Newcastle to tour facility (antibody production etc) and an opportunity to perform Her2 staining on their laboratory's slides using the Bondmax/Oracle system – members interested in this offer are: JO, AC, CB, PC, and Drs Hunt and Bashir (depending on date chosen).
- **Any other business**
- NT gave an update on the Christie Her2 service – AC's unexpected illness had occurred as 2 new members of staff were being trained up but the trainees were not able to report at this time. Thanks were extended to the Her2 group at Hope for their kind offer of help which was not needed in the end as assistance with the reporting side of the service was provided by Professor Goran Lamberg (Prof Molecular Biology & Consultant Histopathologist specialising in breast tumours) had stepped in to provide support. NT reported that Christie was looking to formalise this arrangement with Professor Lamberg for the future as required.
- NT also informed that Helen Clarke had now retired and their service manager was now Martin Hamer. The group thought that it was probably not necessary for this person to attend the PAG as the original reasons for Helen's attendance are historic.
- AG reported that Salford had changed their method for Her2 evaluation from Dako Herceptest to the Oracle system and that the validation of the new method and equipment was complete with very pleasing results. The advantages of this system were discussed briefly and it was noted that the system was based on the same clone as that used by the Christie lab.

- JO & RH reported that they were experiencing difficulties with the Dako Herceptest but Dako were working with Stockport to restore confidence in the results including referral of cases to an external laboratory. RH confirmed that the service to clinicians and patients was not compromised. Members from Salford offered their help if required.

Actions

- AY to re-arrange meeting with NJ to discuss outstanding issues.
- AC to pick up on design and distribution of audit questionnaire
- PC to plan next local EQA circulation and to send AC results of first run.
- AC to contact Dr Chitalia regarding receiving copies of FISH reports
- AY to contact Leica to firm up visit to Newcastle industrial laboratory
- RP to check where this year's invoices should be sent.
- RP to issue CPD certificates for AY, MT, AG, PC, JO (?NT)

Recommendations to the Greater Manchester Pathology Network Board (if any)

- Clarification is requested on whether the agreed price/funding for Her2 testing by the GM PAG laboratories will be inflated in line with NHS inflation rates.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

- Wednesday 22nd April 2009, 12-3pm Didsbury House Hotel