

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

Priority Action Group 2 – POCT  
 Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2009 2pm – 4pm.  
 G54, One Central Park, Northampton Road, Newton Heath, Manchester. M40 5BP

In attendance			Apologies	
Carol Chadwick	CC	Central Manchester NHS Foundation Trust	Judith Ball	WWL NHS Trust
Samantha Ekin	SE	Stockport NHS Foundation Trust	Jean Burns	The Christie NHS Foundation Trust
John Kirk	JK	UHSM NHS Foundation Trust	David Hoctor	Central Manchester NHS Foundation Trust
Rachel Pearson	RP	GMPCTs	Keith Hyde	Central Manchester NHS Foundation Trust
Gillian Tranter	GT	Trafford Healthcare NHS Trust	Emma James	Central Manchester NHS Foundation Trust
Keith Wiener	KW	Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust	Neil Jenkinson	GMPCTs
			Fiona Noden	Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust
			Lodzia Pitchford	Royal Bolton Hospital NHS Foundation Trst
			Jeff Seneviratne	GMPCTs
			Dave Trinick	Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust
			Gilbert Wieringa	Royal Bolton Hospital NHS Foundation Trst

**Discussion Points**

- SE welcomed members and wished everyone a happy new year.
- **Minutes of Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> Nov 08** - agreed as a correct record.
- **Matters Arising**
- POCT Co-ordinator Competencies – JK agreed to forward the responses from the ACB mailbase to RP for circulation to the PAG.
- SBK Conference March 2009 – SE explained that she had contacted the organisers of the conference with the PAG's suggestions, but the agenda had already been confirmed. SE was a reserve speaker. CC reported that she would be attending the conference and agreed to report on it to the PAG.
- E-Learning – CC reported that she had looked into the packages available and learned that most companies have a package available free of charge, with the exception of Bayer-Siemens who charge £2000 for their e-learning package on urine dipsticks. CC explained that she had met with some resistance from her Trust IT department on implementation – the Trust wanted the package to be tailored so as to remove any company logos.
- SE explained that she had some problems with users logging onto the Roche e-learning because of the need for a user ID and password – users only have a barcode to log on to the POCT equipment. JK explained that he has a similar problem and had contacted Roche about it. JK agreed to inform SE of the outcome.
- **Standard 'Quick' SOP** – SE had prepared a brief template for discussion – providing some general information (e.g. all operators must be trained and competency assessed) as well as step by step instructions on performing a patient test and performing a quality control test. SE recognised that the use of a flow chart or numbered written instructions would be at the discretion of the local POCT coordinator and would probably depend on the equipment.
- Members agreed to include details of where the full SOP can be located near the top of the document and to include the POCT coordinator contact details at the bottom.
- It was agreed that this would be an appendix to the full SOP. It was agreed at the previous meeting that it would not be possible to standardise full SOPs across the Network because of the need to adhere to Trust standards and formatting.
- SE emphasised that the aim was for the document to be as brief as possible and that further information (e.g. error codes) would be available on the intranet.
- It was agreed to email the document to all members for comment so that it can be amended as necessary and ratified at the next meeting
- **Network Standards for POCT** – SE had used the MHRA/ACBI/RCPATH standards to draw up some headings for the Network Standards – primarily aimed at GMPCTs. The group discussed these and agreed to work on them as follows:
  - Clinical Governance – including regulatory requirements, record keeping and connectivity – SE/CC
  - Commissioning POCT – including resources needed/link to local lab– JK
  - Commercial Use of POCT – volunteer needed
  - Selection of Equipment – GT
  - Implementation – volunteer needed
  - Training – including competency assessment and SOP – volunteer needed
- It was agreed to call for volunteers when the minutes of the meeting are circulated.
- It was recognised that the development of Network Standards for POCT constitutes a major piece of work and would be the main priority for 2009 with the aim of having a first draft ready for the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> July 09. The Standards would then

need to be ratified by the Network Board and promoted to PCTs. RP/NJ would facilitate this and RP explained that the Network is currently developing a communications strategy for linking with PCTs and commissioners.

- **PAG Priorities for 2009** – members agreed that the Network Standards were the key priority for the PAG. It was also agreed to ensure that the equipment list is kept up to date by sending any updates to RP. RP also agreed to add POCT coordinator contact details and put the list on the Network website.
- **Network response to Modernising Scientific Careers Consultation** – RP explained that the Network is keen to formulate a response to the consultation and asked any members with comments to contact her. The consultation documents are available from: [http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH\\_091137](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_091137)
- **Any Other Business** – JK informed members of the ACB Focus meeting taking place in Liverpool in May 09. There is a specific day for POCT coordinators and further details can be found at: <http://www.focus-acb.org.uk/POC-Meeting-2-g.asp>
- IBMS CPD Certificates were available.

#### **Actions**

- JK to email ACB Mailbase responses re: POCT coordinator competencies to RP for circulation
- JK to let SE know outcome of discussions with Roche re: e-learning log-on
- SE to email Standard 'Quick' SOP draft to members for comment so it can be ratified at the next meeting.
- SE/CC to start work on Clinical Governance section of Network Standards
- JK to start work on Commissioning POCT section of Network Standards
- GT to start work on Selection of Equipment section of Network Standards
- Members interested in working on Network Standards to contact SE/RP stating which area they would like to work on.
- RP to add POCT coordinator contact details to the equipment list and to put it on the Network website.
- CC to report to PAG on SBK conference

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

- None

#### **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2009, 2pm- 4pm, One Central Park, Manchester. M40 5BP.