

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

Priority Action Group 5 – IM&T
 Monday 2nd March 2009 11.30am-1pm
 G54, One Central Park, Northampton Road, Manchester, M40 5BP

In attendance			Apologies	
Alan Blackley	AB	HPA NW	Paul Bishop	UHSM NHS Foundation Trust
Mark Bramhall	MB	Central Manchester NHS Foundation Trust	Neil Jenkinson	GM Pathology Network
Mark Gillespie	MG	The Christie NHS Foundation Trust	David Lee	Royal Bolton Hospital NHS Foundation Tr
Dave Hoctor	DH	Central Manchester NHS Foundation Trust	Gwynne Lloyd	Stockport NHS Foundation Trust
Dave Johnson	DJ	Trafford Healthcare NHS Trust	Stuart Rogers	Stockport NHS Foundation Trust
Steven McCann	SM	Stockport NHS Foundation Trust	Gary Walton	Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
David Money	DM	Tameside Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	Tim Winstanley	WWL NHS Foundation Trust
Yoni Parshan	YP	UHSM NHS Foundation Trust		
Rachel Pearson	RP	GM Pathology Network		
Greg Rayner	GR	Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust		
Jeff Seneviratne	JS	GM Pathology Network		
David Slater	DS	Pennine Acute Hospital NHS Trust		
Peter Walsh	PW	NHS Manchester		
Allan Wilcox	AW	WWL NHS Foundation Trust		

Discussion Points

- **Notes of 19th Jan 2009 meeting** – agreed as a correct record.
- **Matters arising** – Regarding the project for a single lab IT system for the whole of Wales, PW reported that he had spoken to Simon Gillings, the NHS Wales Project Manager, who said he would be happy to share the business case, but had to obtain permission to do so. PW explained that Simon Gillings also offered to input into the development of a laboratory IT strategy for Greater Manchester and was willing to visit. JS suggested inviting Simon Gillings to the next meeting of the PAG on 20th April 2009 and PW agreed to do this.
- **Lab-2-Lab Project** – DS reported that the X-Lab contract has now been signed and that the X-Lab hardware should be in place by the end of March 09. He provided updates on the interfaces as follows:
- **iSOFT** – DS reported that the Work Package Document and Functional Specification have now been signed off and circulated. **DS emphasised the confidential nature of these iSOFT documents.** The Work Package now includes the sending of block data for cellular pathology. A caveat has been inserted into the functional specification stating that 'in the light of the complexity of the project, the specification will be subject to review during the testing phase of the project'. DS explained that this will provide the flexibility to get the interfaces operational. DS explained that iSOFT have been to Leeds to work with X-Lab on testing the interfaces in the week commencing 16th Feb 09 and would be doing further testing on 3rd and 4th March 09.
- DS and DMO will be receiving training from X-Lab on 2nd April 2009.
- **Clinisys** – DS reported that he has had two meetings with Peter McCabe (Clinisys Account Manager) at which he clearly stated the Network's position that the CDM product was not wanted and that there is a limited amount of funding available for Clinisys interfaces (£40k). DS explained that Clinisys have held some internal meetings and have proposed that the CDM product be accepted, with a willingness to negotiate the cost. DS reported that Peter McCabe has also visited at least one Clinisys lab in Greater Manchester to gather information on the project and again emphasised the confidential nature of the iSOFT documents.
- DS reported that the Project Board have agreed to meet with Clinisys to discuss the CDM option, as well as with the IT managers from Bolton (David Lee), Wigan (Tim Winstanley) and Pennine (Neil McAuley/Gary Walton) to take their views on CDM.
- DS reported that he is due to have a conference call on 6th March 09 with the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Project Board on how Greater Manchester are approaching the project and issues with Clinisys.
- **Technidata** – DS reported that email contact has now been made with James Boys, Regional Sales Manager, who has passed the request onto the Technical Services Manager. A meeting will be arranged between Technidata, X-Lab, GMPN and The Christie to discuss.
- **Project resources** - DS explained that as the project moves into the testing phase, the Network have agreed to fund extra resource for the project. David Money will working on the project in late March to assist labs during this critical phase. DS explained that DMO is very knowledgeable on the iSOFT LIMS and this would complement his role by providing support to the labs.
- DS explained that he and DMO would be producing a document describing the laboratory requirements for testing by the end of March 09. In addition, X-Lab and iSOFT will be producing a technical document for setting up firewalls and

interfaces prior to testing. DS reported that he has received another email from Janet Proctor (MRI) about the encryption/security of messages. DS agreed to ensure that these requirements are met. JS reported that he had discussed this with Philip Bell (Head of Development, IM&T, SRFT) who felt that if VPN is acceptable for access to hospital systems via the internet, the security requirements for L2L should be met. AB highlighted that not all labs are linked using VPN at present. PW highlighted similar issues around security/encryption for PACS images, explaining that some Trusts (e.g. CMFT) have taken a very hard line, but in doing so are only following the Information Governance Toolkit and DH guidance.

- Project Publicity – DS explained that many laboratory staff are not aware of the project and felt that project team must ensure that all departments in their labs are kept informed of developments. To facilitate this, DS suggested developing a newsletter, which could be circulated on a quarterly basis to a wide range of stakeholders. PW explained that the GM ICT team have a communications lead and could provide support in distributing the material to wider stakeholders both locally and nationally. As a ground-breaking project this may be of interest to health service magazines and journals and PW suggested this could be facilitated via the SHA communications team.
- PW suggested that JS/DS attend the GM ICT Programme Board on 11th May 2009 to report on the progress of the project
- Project Plan – DS reported that this would be formalised on 2nd April 09. It is hoped that testing will commence in mid-April 09. DS explained that the following labs have agreed to take part in Phase 1 testing:
 - Microbiology – Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport linking to MMMP for Chlamydia requests and results. DS explained that Alan Blackley at MMMP has been heavily involved in the development of the iSOFT specification.
 - Clinical Biochemistry - Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport linking to Leeds General Infirmary for Renin aldosterone and dihydrotestosterone requests and results. X-Lab has been testing with Leeds GI over recent months. Given the proximity of the X-Lab offices to Leeds GI and the fact that Stockport send samples to Leeds for the stated tests, it is appropriate that these labs are used in this phase of the project.
- DS explained the need for labs to ensure that their Telepath training environment mirrors the live environment and confirmed that there would need to be a test environment for every discipline in every lab.
- Project Finances - PW confirmed that Salford PCT have agreed to carry the funding into the next financial year. All labs who have ordered an iSOFT interface should recharge Salford PCT for this money, less VAT, ideally before financial year end. RP explained that Salford PCT need to know how much of the funds to carry forward and asked members to let her know whether their Trust has recharged the PCT yet.
- DJ reported that Trafford have done this, but that there is a need to spend the full amount before financial year end, which is not in line with the agreed payment schedule to iSOFT. JS and DS felt that deviation from the payment schedule was low risk.
- Data sharing agreements – DS explained that he still needed to ensure that these are in place, and agreed to include this in the document detailing laboratory requirements. JS felt it would be beneficial to use a standard pro forma for agreements across the Network. PW explained that he had a number of examples which he agreed to send to RP/DS.
- **GP Order Comms** – updates on GP Order Comms implementation were given as follows:
 - CMFT - DH reported that he has met with someone from Manchester PCT who agreed to investigate the position regarding GP access to secondary care results. An answer on this is still awaited. Some resource has been identified in the PCT to train practice staff. There has been little further progress because of commitments to other projects, particularly the Lorenzo roll out. He highlighted a potential issue of the need to reconfigure the screen scraping as a consequence of the Lorenzo roll out. AB suggested using ARES to resolve this issue.
 - Pennine – EMIS roll out to be completed for Rochdale and Oldham by mid-April 09. First sites in North Manchester live 3 weeks ago and roll out plan in place. Roll out will be slower in Bury where there is a high proportion of GPs with the InPractice system.
 - Stockport – 13 practices now live all EMIS-LV or EMIS-PCS, with a further 3 scheduled. Further testing underway with Microtest to resolve problems.
 - Tameside – DM reported that he is currently waiting for the PCT to decide how they wish to proceed with the roll out.
 - Salford – GR reported that he will be going live with 3 pilot sites in the next 2-3 weeks. There have been some issues with getting the correct IP addresses from the PCT to incorporate into the firewall
 - Wigan – 20 EMIS sites now live with a further 5 over the next two weeks.
 - Bolton – DL not present to provide update. 90% of GPs use InPractice system.
 - UHSM – 30 sites are now live (all EMIS) with a further 18 sites to go. YP explained that there have been some issues with getting the correct IP addresses from the PCT to incorporate into the firewall. Some resource has been identified in the PCT to train practice staff. PW explained that 95% of practices in Manchester PCT use the EMIS system.
 - Trafford – DJ reported that he has now ironed out most of the issues with the HL7 interface. GPs will be using printed labels. DJ explained that GPs with InPractice (approx 50% of Trafford GPs) are becoming frustrated by the delays whilst the DLM280 patch is awaited. DJ was considering allowing those GPs to have direct access to Anglia without the interoperability with InPractice.

- InPractice DLM280 – DS reported that InPractice will be doing alpha site testing with 2 practices. One of these is in Kent and the other is Saddleworth Medical Practice in the Pennine patch. Saddleworth MP is an alpha site tester for other InPractice software and not linked to the Summary Care Record.
- Labels/request forms – Only Pennine have opted for paperless requesting. AW explained that Wigan would have liked to go paperless but could not persuade the PCT to fund the necessary printers. Both Trafford and Tameside are using printed labels embedded in the request form.
- Immunology requesting from GPs – it had previously been agreed that it would be useful to have some input from colleagues in immunology to about any additional information they require alongside a test request and was recognised that this was an opportunity to standardise across the region. Thus far this information has not been forthcoming from immunology colleagues. JS explained that SM has been attending meetings of the Laboratory Immunology subgroup of the NW Immunology and Allergy Task and Finish Group and suggested that this subgroup may be a good source of information.
- **HMD IT System** – DS reported the first meeting with the chosen supplier (Slidepath) will take place on 5th March 09
- **Cancer Reporting Solutions** – GR has developed a local solution for SRFT and presented this to the Histopathology NAG in Jan 09, receiving positive feedback. He has since done a demonstration at Tameside. This program sits on top of Telepath, with a windows form being launched from a hot key. Patient demographics are taken from Telepath by screen scraping and when the form is completed a structure report goes into Telepath and into a database from where the data can be interrogated.
- JS explained that the need for a solution has arisen out of the requirement to have standardised and electronic reporting of cancer minimum data sets. A system called PathoSys was demonstrated to the Histopathology NAG about 18 months ago and this was the only solution available at the time. Pennine have installed PathoSys, but not all histopathologists use it and it is a relatively expensive solution. In terms of managing cancer cases in Trusts, the Avon and Somerset Cancer Register (SCR) has been implemented in a number of Trusts across Greater Manchester as funding was made available from the SHA. There is some speculation that SCR may be able to support minimum data set reporting and Paul Bishop has been investigating this. In the interim, a number of other solutions have been developed (e.g. mTuitive, SRFT). JS felt it was now essential to document the Network's requirements in terms of cancer reporting and engage with the cancer networks and NWCIS to do this. JS agreed to discuss this with Lorna McWilliam (Histopathology NAG Chair). The NWCIS may be a source of funding/hosting for the eventual solution. JS added that the NE Pathology Network (NewPath) went through a formal tendering process, eventually choosing PathoSys and have shared a copy of their specification with us.
- **Any Other Business** – SM reported that Stockport have a new version of Q-Pulse and Keystone (Enterprise).
- The meeting is IBMS CPD accredited. RP agreed to send out certificates.

Actions

- PW to invite Simon Gillings to attend the next meeting on 20th April
- GR, YP, SR and DH to confirm recharge to Salford PCT with RP
- JS/DS to attend the GM ICT Programme Board on 11th May 2009 to report on the progress of the L2L project
- PW to send examples of data sharing agreements to RP/DS
- JS to discuss Cancer Reporting Solutions with Lorna McWilliam
- RP to send out IBMS CPD certificates

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

- None

Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday 20th April 2009, 9.30 am, One Central Park, Northampton Road, Manchester M40 5BP