

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

Priority Action Group 7 – Communications
Friday 7th May 2010

888 Suite, Holiday Inn Manchester Central Park, 888 Oldham Road, Manchester, M40 2BS

In attendance			Apologies	
Alison Cartmill	AC	CMFT NHS Trust	Chris Chaloner	CMFT NHS Trust
Barbara Isalska	BI	UHSM NHS Foundation Trust	Keith Hyde	CMFT NHS Trust
Marek Isalski	MI	Faelix Ltd	Lance Sandle	Trafford Healthcare NHS Trust
Laura Kidd	LK	GM PCTs		
Sarah Maxwell	SM	Stockport NHS Foundation Trust		
Rachel Pearson	RP	GM PCTs		

Discussion Points

- SM welcomed the group.
- **Notes of 19th August 2008 Meeting** – The group agreed the minutes were a correct record.
- **Local Assay Finder** – MI explained that once logged in you can edit and add information, contact details and also add yourself as a provider for specific tests. MI enquired as to who will be the users of this system as this will determine who needs log on details. MI explained that currently you do not need to be a member with a log on just to access the search facility which is available at <http://www.assays.gmpath.net>. The group discussed who this is aimed at and it was felt it is something which for the moment should be Lab2Lab only. It could be used internally to give local information for instance Bolton may be unaware that SHH carry out a test and send their specimens to Glasgow. AC enquired about the possibility of adding transport arrangements onto the site so labs can also see how and when they can send samples to local labs. AC also suggested a page that takes test details e.g. a user would need to explain what the test is for in an attempt to combat inappropriate testing. The group discussed whether log ins are required and it was agreed there is no sensitive or confidential information so log ins will only be needed for people to amend/add information for yourself no one else. The group decided to expand the transport arrangements page onto the GM Pathology website <http://gmpath.net> and potentially link it to the assay finder website. As a quick fix a list of current transport arrangements could be listed on the site and at a later stage this could be more specific.
- Gilbert Wieringa (GW) has worked closely with MI to initially populate the site with biochemistry tests and it was felt due to the volume it would be better to only include the more exotic tests not the daily simple tests. The group discussed the best and most efficient way to gather the information to populate the site for the other disciplines and it was felt that this could be gained via the NAGs and LK was asked to include this as an agenda item for the next round of NAG meetings taking place this month. The group agreed to include haematology, serology, virology and immunology.
- The group looked at the national assay finder website <http://www.assayfinder.com> originally set up by the ACB and which is associated with the ACB but is now owned and supported by Eleven Informatics.
- The group decided the next step is to gather data and populate the site. MI agreed to double check the format used so far with GW and then circulate the spreadsheet he and GW have worked on so the information is structured in the same way.
- MI will give RP and LK an admin account so the group can begin to decide who will use the site and the best way to market it and give access.
- The group discussed the potential to further develop the site. The group felt this could be used for GP2Lab as well as Lab2Lab in the future.
- Members moved on to discuss the existence of this PAG group as it has not met since 2008. The PAG is obviously responsible for the design and implementation of the GM Pathology website but is concerned where it is heading. BI felt that if we want to take the GM Pathology website to the next phase of GP users then we need to explore what GPs will want from it. AC felt that as a group we cannot just abandon the website and SM suggested the group continues to meet to keep a “motherly eye” on the internet but has concerns if the workload of the PAG is enough to warrant meeting every 6 weeks. LK suggested quarterly meetings as RP confirmed there will be a lot of work in the background concentrating on data collection and GP interaction. The group felt that in the current uncertain situation GM Pathology services find itself in if GP work were to go to tender this facility would be needed overnight. RP commented that the current 20:20 Emerging Vision work is an attempt to stop PCTs putting direct access work out to tender and find a collaborative alternative.
- The group discussed the potential to link individual Trust Lab websites to a central site on the GM Pathology site. RP felt that due to the nature of corporate Trust policies it would be difficult to have a collective and in general Trust Lab sites are not very user friendly if they exist at all. The group discussed developing common pathways and collaborative working through the NAGs so information is consistent across the patch. Generic advice could be given for example on urine testing. It would be an opportunity to give GPs guidelines on when to use and check what it is for i.e. is it the correct test in the first instance. SM asked the group if it was best to create a common user guide or local and RP felt there are enough

local differences to warrant local guides with some generic parts. SM explained that currently SHH are creating a site where each discipline has its own page with an alphabetical matrix along the top A-Z. The GP clicks on C and all the tests within that discipline beginning with C will be listed. The GP can then click on Chlamydia and get generic info on that test and local information on where and how it is performed. BI commented that this would be a good tool for junior doctors. The group felt that regardless of the size and configuration of the Network in years to come this would still be a valuable tool. BI commented that further down the line if successful with colleagues and GPs private companies could be approached to use our services.

- The group felt following from the previous discussion it would be a worthwhile exercise to review the TOR and look for new PAG members to ensure all Trusts, disciplines and grades of staff are represented on the group. LK suggested emailing existing members to make sure they wish to continue on the group and are happy to meet quarterly. The group suggested a quick survey of Trust websites to see who has one etc.
- LK agreed to circulate the current TOR for comment and then review at the next meeting. LK will also add PAG 7 membership as a NAG agenda item to identify new members.
- **20:20 Comms Issues**– KH had given apologies so this agenda item was not discussed.
- **Any other business** –
- IBMS CPD – certificates were available

Actions

- RP/LK to create a list of current transport arrangements
- MI to check GW happy with format of Biochemistry information
- MI to circulate existing Biochemistry spreadsheet for population by each discipline
- LK to add PAG 7 membership and Information gathering to NAG agendas
- LK to conduct Trust website survey
- LK to circulate current TOR for comment
- LK to email existing members

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

- None

Date and Time of Next Meeting

- Thursday 5th August 2010, 2pm – 4pm, 888 Suite, Holiday Inn Manchester Central Park, 888 Oldham Road, Manchester, M40 2BS