

Pathology Clinical Reference Group Meeting Minutes

10:00am – 12:00pm, 25th February, 2014
Notes

Present: Nicola Bienz (Co-Chair), Siraj Misbah (Co-Chair), Finlay Love, Gordon Sturmey, Jill Beech, Glyn Davies, Derek Roskell, Tim James, John Nelson, Jacqueline Wozniak

Apologies: Catherine O’Sullivan, David Sinclair, Ali Al-Bahrani, Geoff Lester & Geoff Pinney, Lorraine Clarke

Notes	Who – action
<p>1. Minutes and Actions (from last meeting)</p>	Chairs
<p>Finlay reported that there was no official agreement between the Trusts within the AHSN geographical area. Only when a network gets funding from the AHSN does an official agreement come into play. They have a substantial amount of partners/people of interest who are invited to the public meeting held once a year</p>	
<p>Finlay unable as yet to find original job specification, will continue to look for it</p>	FL
<p>POCT seminar suspended until after any potential formal partnership with the AHSN</p>	
<p>Finlay invited representation from Swindon & Milton Keynes Trusts to attend next meeting. We are glad to welcome Glyn Davies (Swindon) & Jill Beech (Milton Keynes) to this meeting</p>	
<p>Finlay reported that there was no further contributions to the Survey Monkey sent out on POCT</p>	FL
<p>2. Review response from PID submission</p>	
<p>The Group led by Siraj went through the following PIDs & discussed each one in detail. These included:</p>	
<p>Implementation of bedside IT to improve patient safety and transfusion practice <i>by Prof Mike Murphy</i></p>	
<p>The Group agreed to endorse this PID, however a scoping exercise needs to be carried out to identify partnership Trusts within the AHSN geography that would benefit from this project. Swindon already uses a similar system as described by Mike Murphy. Ideally funding would be required for a project manager to oversee this. Siraj to speak to Mike Murphy with a view to updating the PID</p>	SM

Laboratory to Laboratory communication *by Brian Shine*

Electronic submission of requests & results between Trusts. Oxford particularly interested in looking into setting up a link with Milton Keynes. Funding needed for a scoping exercise to investigate which middleware/software is best to facilitate this electronic exchange. Currently PID is in the form of a rough draft & needs further work. Group backs proposal for a scoping exercise followed by funding for a project manager to implement this project

Laboratory real time reporting *by Finlay Love*

Finlay outlined a proposal to introduce large TV monitors within laboratories which displayed specimens requested together with expected completion times according to KPIs. This data is displayed at run time. These in turn were RAG rated & would be obvious to laboratory staff where results were in danger of breaching delivery times. Finlay asked the group for their opinions on this.

Tim James pointed out that there was already software in place at Oxford to highlight breaches. Other labs would have their own systems in place. Placing monitors in A&E could be more problematic as A&E staff could put further pressure on laboratories to produce results at precise deadlines.

Finlay to work further on this & ask the group for comments by circulating the PID by email

Funding for a facilitator *by Finlay Love*

Finlay explained that should the group not get funding for the 3 PIDs then we could submit funding just for a facilitator. The role was deemed suitable for a band 7 on two days a week basis. The PID outlined the job role & included a budget forecast

3. What happens if the AHSN does not support the network financially

Siraj asked the group would their Trust provide funding for a facilitator using AHSN facilities. As there are 6 Trusts within the network, each Trust would need to contribute just over £2k each. It was agreed that this would be further explored if the AHSN turned down all proposals

4. Laboratory Reconfiguration Update

Heatherwood & Wexham Park

The FBC promoting the sharing of pathology services between Royal Berkshire Hospital, Heatherwood & Wexham Park, Frimley Park, Guildford & Ashley St Peters is scheduled for completion by May 2014 with delivery expected in 2015.

The merger of Frimley & Wexham Trusts is currently being reviewed by the office of fair trading. Potential to complete merger late 2014

Bucks Healthcare Trust & Oxford Joint Procurement

The project on joint procurement is very close to completion.
No legal challenges. Savings on a year by year basis is estimated at £0.5m. Benefits have exceeded expectations

Swindon

Historically specialist work is sent to Southampton.(3 Years) Tried to join Bristol 7, however partnership was not successful

Milton Keynes

JB informed that MK would be proceeding to tender pathology services at MK.

Mk has completed a challenging In House Transformation plan and has addressed all opportunities to improve the quality and efficiency of services, i.e. managed contracts, skill mix reviews, automation, out of hours etc.

The current strategic uncertainty is a challenge for MK.

The Management board are keen to seek a 'fit for future service' and have requested that MK now proceed to tender the services in an effort to establish that we are providing the best value for money service that we can with no compromise on patient safety.

The service is not failing, all departments are accredited and the labs do not utilise locums.

The environment around us changes constantly which makes this a difficult decision as to when is the right time to proceed with this work.

5. AOB/Date and venue of next meeting

General discussion concerning locums led by Jill Beech.

Date and venue of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday **15th April 2014 10am to 12pm** at the Newbury Manor House – London Road, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 2BY