

GUM NCCG Group Meeting
(Executive Committee)
Wednesday 18th June 2008 1pm - 3pm
Cavendish Boardroom
Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London, W1G 0AE

Present:

Helen Bailey	(HB)	Avneet Chowdhury	(AC)
Wafaa Eltantawy	(WE)	Karl Hollows	(KH)
Helen Keane	(HK)	Lamont Law	(LL)
Neil Lazaro	(NL)	John Lee	(JL)
Helen Mullan	(HM)	M Itty Samuel	(IS)
PN Sashidharan	(Sash)	Nick Theobald	(NT)

Apologies

Apologies were received from Caroline Cooper, Margaret Hatwell, Vendela McNamara, Carlos Oroz, Sue Pinsent, and Margaret Rowland

Minutes of the last meeting

These were accepted and approved

Matters arising

a) **Travelling expenses** for attendance at meetings will be paid as per BASHH guidelines. Attendees should attempt to obtain funding from their Trust in the first instance. If this is refused a claim may be made using the standard BASHH expenses claim form (NCCG SIG) which is available to download from the admin section of the website. All submissions should state whether the attendance was for Conference Planning or the Executive Meeting (may be both in some cases) and must be sent to **NT** - **not directly to BASHH** and must use the form which is specific to the NCCG SIG and has the correct coding

NT also mentioned that venue expenses were becoming an issue

b) Dip GUM

Since the DipGUM has been revised to make it fit for purpose for SpR training, an increasing number of SAS doctors have been struggling. A revision course has been developed to run annually in Southampton and another was run recently in Manchester. The outcome of the Manchester course was audited and results discussed.

The BASHH Education Committee has been looking at possible ways of better meeting the training needs of the SAS doctors. Dr Melinda Tennant-Flowers is designing a questionnaire to investigate this further and plans to use it with those taking the examination in June.

Sash suggested that it might be useful to do a survey at this year's conference to determine how many have taken the examination, how recently this was, and what they found helpful. This could then be fed back to the Education Committee. **NT** to design this.

At the last meeting there was some discussion about whether it might be possible for some SAS doctors to become examiners for DipGUM. Dr Keith Radcliffe suggested that one or two SAS doctors might like to attend as observers to enable them to go back and disseminate an accurate picture of the examination to their peers. This suggestion has been adopted and **JL** will endeavour to arrange this. The following people have expressed an interest in attending: HB, NL, JL, HM, and NT

c) Survey

The results of the 2007 survey have been written up by HB as a paper entitled 'Non Consultant Career Grade Doctors in Genitourinary Medicine - Are they up to the job?' and submitted to the International Journal of STD & AIDS for publication.

Conference 2007

This conference made a loss of £1,701 in the final analysis, which was considerably less than anticipated

Conference 2008

Most people should have received the mails shot regarding the 2008 conference by now. Application forms may also be downloaded from the NCCG section of the BASHH website. In order to maximize attendance this year, regional representatives are asked to contact any GPs with Special Interest in genitourinary medicine in their areas and ensure they are aware of the conference. **NT** has a contact that may be able to send details of the conference to all the PCT Sexual Health Leads.

After a period of illness, Paul Stevens has resigned from the conference committee. NL discussed the position of sponsorship, and although he has done excellent work and secured significant amounts of sponsorship, it is becoming progressively more difficult, year on year.

HK enquired whether NCCGs from the Republic of Ireland could attend the conference and it was agreed that we would accept delegates from anywhere, providing they were NCCGs and were working, at least part-time, in genitourinary medicine.

There was some discussion as to whether the conference should be open to nurse specialists and the consensus was that it should not. The doctors making up the NCCG group are already quite disparate and we do not wish to add to this. It was also felt that the learning needs of other groups might differ from that of the doctors

Conference 2009

Currently two venues are being considered - Loughborough and Nottingham. Although Loughborough has been a very successful venue in the past, they are undergoing major building works in 2009, which will render our usual facilities unavailable. We are not yet sure whether the alternative accommodation offered will be suitable.

Nottingham, as a possibility, will be judged on this year's performance, as it is a new venue for the conference.

Warwick was suggested as another possible venue for the future though it was thought that it might be quite expensive. **HB** to investigate. Regional representatives were encouraged to explore any possible venues that might be available in their areas and report back. Minimum requirements include lecture theatre and accommodation for up to 220, plus 6 breakout rooms all in close proximity with area available for up to 10 exhibitors stands, on second Fri/Sat in September.

PID Audit

While an encouraging start has been made, it was agreed that this document requires further work before being ready to submit to National Audit Group (NAG), who are happy, in principle, to support this audit.

An application has been made to BASHH for funding to do this as an on-line audit and approval of this funding is awaited. **JL** suggested Hilary Curtis as the ideal person to configure the audit for on-line use, as she has done this before for the NAG. However, the audit itself must be in its finalised form before bringing Ms Curtis in as each change, once the audit is configured, costs more money. **HB** also advised that free text must be cut to a minimum - or absent altogether, if possible.

The audit group, under the leadership of **JL** will continue to work on this, and will bring it back to the meeting in January 2009.

PMETB

To date, it appears that 2 NCCGs in genitourinary medicine have successfully applied for and obtained a Certificate of Equivalent Specialist Registration (CESR)

48-hour access and acceptance

The Department of Health (DoH) target remains that all patients should be offered an appointment to be seen within 48 hours of their initial contact. However there is no specific target relating to percentage seen within this time and the advice is that the gap between percentage offered and seen should be reduced as much as possible

Feedback:

BASHH Board: **HM** is now representative on BASHH Board. Last meeting in January involved discussions around the 48-hour target but this has been superseded by the discussions held at Spring Meeting between DoH and BASHH. Other issues discussed in January included provision of Azithromycin by pharmacists and training necessary for such practice. Next meeting on 20th June 2008

BASHH Clinical Governance: **JL** is the new representative on this group. Next meeting in one week

BASHH Education Committee: **NT** represents NCCGs on Education Committee. Dip GUM report already given. He reminded the committee that the BASHH meeting at RSM on 27th June would include presentations from NCCG doctors as well as non-medical BASHH members and urged people to support this. In the interest of advance planning, the next opportunity for NCCGs will be 9th January 2009.

RCP NCCG Standing Committee: We no longer have a representative on this group

STIF Steering Group: NT reported that there will be approximately 90 STIF courses run in this year and that the material is currently being revised for 2009. The new instruction manual will be available electronically and a STIF competency pilot programme for GPs is being piloted in Tower Hamlet. NT will contact the chair of STIF committee to determine how many NCCGs are involved in delivering STIF.

FSRH (previously FPRHC): WE reported that the faculty is developing a Certificate of Specialist Training (CST) of its own and that development is hoped to be complete by the end of the year. The theoretical course of the faculty will go on-line although the requirement for STIF course is to remain.

Financial report:

NT had circulated copies of the Business Plan. The main expenses are the conference, and room hire and expenses for meetings, while the conference is the main income generating activity. A request for £5000 to fund an on-line PID audit has also been requested.

The report asks about educational activity by the group and the point was made that there are various regional representatives who are running SAS educational events in their own areas and that these should probably be noted. It was agreed that the best place to report such activity is in the Annual Report, which is normally compiled by the BASHH Board representative (HM at present). HM will contact all regional representatives to obtain details of educational events they have arranged and to seek permission to include these in the Annual Report

Regional Representatives: Paul Stevens has resigned as one of the two Scottish Representatives and the committee would like to thank him for his input over the past years.

The Scottish region, Paul Stevens and Carlos Oroz, held a very successful one-day event on June 6th in Edinburgh for colleagues both in GUM and FP, which received excellent feedback

AOB

Dr Barbara Morgan has now retired and so has also resigned from the NCCG group. Barbara chaired this group since its inception, only handing over the Chair to JL in September 2007. She also served as NCCG representative on the Education Committee of BASHH for two terms. The group would like to express its thanks to her for all her hard work and support and to wish her an enjoyable retirement.

Website

The BASHH website is in the final stages of design. NT will represent our interests on the web team. Any comments on the content of the NCCG section of the website should be passed on to Nick - particularly comments on what members feel should be removed or included

NCCG group: It was agreed that it was time the group was put on a more formal footing, with terms of reference, a mission statement, and details of how long each term of office should be and whether such terms should be renewable. JL as Chair to draft.

Next meeting

As the September conference does not allow time for a formal meeting, the next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 28th, 2009. The venue will be advised closer to that time, but may NOT be the RSM**