



Respiratory Managed Clinical Network

MCN Meeting
Tuesday 12th December 2023
14:00 - 16:00
MS Teams

Minutes of Meeting

Attendees:

Elspeth Christie
Jill Adams
Ann McMurray
Liz Young
Natalie Martin
Renata Riha
Douglas McCabe
Katie Johnston
Karen Parker
Pamela Holland
Gourab Choudhury
Jo Pilarska

Rebecca Miller
Florian Gahleitner
Cecille Livingstone
Vitor Roldao
Luke Daines
Claire Cockburn
Gillian Cameron
Claire Yerramasu
Laura Groom
Joanna Hutchison
Phil Reid
Andrew Leitch

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting started with a round of introductions.

2. Minutes from previous meeting (14/09/2023)

Minutes from previous meeting on 14th September 2023, agreed as accurate record and signed by chair.

3. Action Log & Matters Arising

a. Hospital at Home: Short Term Oxygen Therapy Flowchart

GC shared details of the successful Short Term Oxygen Therapy trial, which ran throughout the pandemic and supported early discharge. Patients were started on a low dose of oxygen, discharged, and weaned off oxygen by Hospital at Home and CRTs in the community with a protocol in place.

Using the learning from this trial, GC, Andrew Coull (Hospital at Home Lead) and Graham Ellis (Deputy Chief Medical Officer for Scotland) have discussed trialling a similar non-covid pathway to support early discharges in Lothian, which Graham Ellis is very supportive of. The aim is to develop a safe protocol with strong criteria for its use, which can be implemented across all acute sites to facilitate early discharge with support from Respiratory Nurse Specialists, whilst ensuring robust follow-up in the community. P Holland supported a bid for the trial, which was successful in securing funding for a full time, oxygen nurse specialist, for four months from December through to March.

Discussions are ongoing regarding the roles and responsibilities of the post.

JA advised they have been using an adapted protocol in West Lothian for some time.

Action – GC to share the previous covid protocol with the network.



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Action – GC/PH to share outcomes from having an oxygen nurse specialist in post from December – March at next meeting.

Action - GC to discuss implementation plans with Angela Tuohy.

Action - NM to share WL STOT protocol with wider group – completed.

GC also reminded members the costs associated with the current oxygen therapy pathways in Lothian are paid for by the Royal Infirmary Respiratory Directorate, which is unsustainable. Current discussions to streamline pathways/referrals and review device choices to find a solution which works across all acute sites. Audit currently being done by Colette Lamb and Julie Gibson.

Action – CL/JG to feedback on home oxygen audit at next meeting.

Action - GC to share current work on LTOT with West Lothian.

b. GP representation

RM advised members of an initial conversation with Jeremy Chowings about the value of representation from general practice and how we work in other MCNs. Diabetes has a Primary Care Clinical Lead, which was worth considering however, currently there is not a sufficient budget for this. Going forward we need to think about the MCN aim and workplan to help decide the areas where support from Primary Care would be most beneficial.

c. Update on Spirometry

RM provided the background on the current spirometry challenges, mainly workforce and capacity. GC and RM have had a discussion with Liz Young and Jeremy Chowings about the challenges across the whole system. They have reached an agreement on a position statement and clear description of challenges for Primary Care and Secondary Care, including a description of the kit available (LY will undertake a scoping exercise), how to prioritise patients waiting for an appointment (enhanced vetting of spirometry waiting list) and plans for a future model of care for spirometry in Lothian. LD queried the timescale for changes and plans for ARTP accreditation. GC agreed need to make sure ARTP accredited physiologists are part of the solution.

Action – RM to discuss ARTP accreditation further with LD and Laura Jess, Lead Physiologist at RHCYP.

Action – RM/GC to prepare and share Lothian spirometry position statement on behalf of the MCN and share at next meeting. - completed

Action – LY to feedback on progress of scoping exercise of current kit available in the community at next meeting.

4. **Crisis Point: Vaping in Young People**

AM advised we are now at crisis point with young people vaping from an early age and there is no strategy (local or national) in place to tackle this. KMcL has been in contact with the Scottish Government to raise concerns about vaping having an impact on concentration and sleep - some behaviours might be confused as ASD behaviours with nicotine dependency. AM and KMcL are keen to highlight to MCN as the associated issues will transfer to adult services. It was suggested that the Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity may be able to support focus groups with young people for their opinion on what guidance and information would be helpful and members also felt education for primary school aged children would help.



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Action – RM/GC/DM to discuss with Quit Your Way service and draft an evidenced based statement from the MCN on vaping and young people. Further updates to be shared at the next meeting.

5. Subgroup Updates

a. COPD subgroup update

Resources: COPD Self-Management Plan has been reviewed by the COPD subgroup and artwork and details are with NHS Lothian procurement, Guidance on Inhaled Therapies COPD poster is on hold until after the ERF meeting in January and an update will be provided at the next meeting, COPD innovation project ongoing for virtual monitoring of patients in Lothian in collaboration with Usher institute and CHSS, a further update will be shared at next meeting, virtual ward/active clinic list trial in Lothian for measuring care that CRTs provide (first specialty to trial this in Lothian), will provide real time measurement of who is getting facilitated discharge with CRT and who is avoiding admission and will capture chronic disease management information.

b. ILD subgroup update

The ILD subgroup have a confirmed membership and their first meeting is on Friday 26th January 2024, a further update will be provided at the next meeting.

c. Bronchiectasis subgroup update

The bronchiectasis subgroup is currently not active and the Respiratory MCN is seeking a Chair for this subgroup.

d. Sleep subgroup update

RR highlighted issues with the waiting time for sleep studies and quality of sleep apnoea referrals, which is causing frustrations for patients and healthcare professionals. GC the MCN can support by facilitating discussions with GP cluster leads in relation to streamlining and improving referrals to the service and supporting circulation and sharing of referral guidance via the network and RefHelp.

Action – Add sleep as an item on agenda for next MCN meeting and invite GP cluster leads.

Action – NM to share RefHelp advisor details with sleep medicine colleagues.

Action – RR/VR to review sleep referral guidance on RefHelp and provide NM with amendments. Once uploaded to RefHelp this can be shared via the network and the GP weekly distribution.

e. Asthma subgroup update

No update provided.

f. Respiratory Prescribing Strategy subgroup update

KJ updated members on the achievements and ongoing work of the Respiratory Prescribing Strategy subgroup. The subgroup has representation from pharmacists in all areas of Lothian and there are various respiratory prescribing quality improvement projects happening across Lothian, for example, reducing SABA over reliance, reviewing patients on SABA only, using STU data/National Therapeutic Indicators and encouraging practices to review this, achieving cost efficiencies by switching patients from Seretide to



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Combisal and from Fostair to Luforbec and reviewing data on patients prescribed high strength inhaled corticosteroids and encourage practice review.

6. Professional Education Event Update

EC advised members there are 50 days to the conference and there are 120 delegates registered with 26 on the waiting list. Members were reminded of the payment deadline for the delegate fee which is 3rd January 2024.

Action – GC to confirm bronchiectasis speaker for the conference - completed

7. AOCB

a. Midlothian CRT winners at award ceremony

GC advised members that the Midlothian CRT and data and performance team won the award of 'COPD Project of the Year' at the Scottish Healthcare Awards 2023.

CY advised members the project looked at COPD as a cohort and working with the Midlothian data and performance team they reviewed Trakcare and CRT data to identify the quality improvement project.

b. Winter Newsletter Published

NM advised the Respiratory MCN winter newsletter is live and on the MCN website. The link was shared during the meeting.

c. Inhaler Training Guidance

JH share details of the newly develop NHS Lothian Inhaler Training Guide as part of a suite of inhaler resources developed by the MCN. Feedback that inhaler technique is an education gap and needs more resource and materials. Strategy group have collaborated on an inhaler checklist with a similar approach to apixaban checklist. If the MCN is happy to approved this will be added to the website and shared Lothian wide for Healthcare Professional use only.

d. MCN secretary post – out for recruitment

NM advised members the MCN Secretary post is now out for recruitment with a plan for interviews to take place mid-January. There will be a further update at the next meeting.

8. Next Meeting

NM advised members the next meeting date would be shared via an email invitation in due course. **Update** – the meeting invites for the rest of 2024 have been shared with the network.