

**BRITISH GERIATRICS SOCIETY
ENGLAND COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd June 2009 at Marjory Warren House, 31 St John's Square, London,
EC1M 4DN

Present: Dr M Baxter, Dr A Clegg, Dr Adam Darowski, Dr D Dasgupta, Professor M Datta-Chaudhuri, Dr N Malik, Dr C Nicholl, Dr M Patel, Dr Ian Starke, Dr A Stanners, and Professor J Young (Chair).

In attendance: Mrs S Allport and Mrs Iona Jane Harris

EC09/12 Welcome and Apologies

Action

Apologies were received from: Dr A Arora, Dr R Curless, Dr N Lo, Dr S Loharuka, Dr C Long, Mr A Mair, Dr S Morgan and Dr T Solanki.

Professor Young welcomed Dr Ian Starke – new SE England representative and Iona Jane Harris – new staff member Press PR and Parliamentary Affairs

EC09/13 Minutes of the meeting held on 11th February 2009

The minutes were approved.

EC09/14 Matters Arising

(a) Ratification of new committee appointments

With immediate effect on the Finance Committee – Dr Amit Arora and Dr Fred Ni'Man

To commence October 2009 on the Policy – Dr Nelson Lo, on CPEC – Dr Subir Mukherjee and Dr Jonathan Treml and on the Academic and Research Committee – Dr Nigel Beckett

EC09/15 Strengthening the regional BGS

The document that was discussed at our last meeting had been re-circulated.

Council made the following comments:

- The idea of clinical networks seems to have been well received by the regions.
- In some areas these are all ready happening and the most successful ones involve the SHA's and commissioning.
- These meetings must have a purpose
- The frail older person should not be ignored
- This activity must be fed back to the regions
- A newsletter may work in some regions
- Depending on the size of the region either, move the meeting location or fix it centrally.
- The BGS should pursue commissioning for frailty
- Dr E Burns is seconded to her SHA and is effectively running a frailty network.
- SHA general meetings tend not to have a geriatrician we need to address this

Mrs Harris suggested that we should be feeding to the Department of Health our examples of good practice and also involve the local media. The messages must be positive.

With regards to the list of discussion topics in the paper it was agreed that:

- We would not pursue the idea of a regional President **Office**
- The job role/ descriptions created by Mr Mair would be re-circulated for comments. **SA**
- Mrs Allport would discuss with colleagues the issue surrounding e-mail communication and provide a report for the next meeting. **ALL**
- Widening the membership – Council agreed to canvas locally the view of members for our next meeting. **ALL**
- We should have a more active role in commissioning and Council would ask their members to pass on details of any groups that included geriatricians. **SA JY**
- Organising regional meetings – Mrs Allport and Professor Young will put together a document of top 10 tips. **SA JY**

EC09/16 UKMC Minutes 21 May 2009

- (a) *National review group on ending age discrimination*
 This is being piloted in the South West and we are trying to have Dr Solanki included. The review group will look at how to make the bill a practical reality. If anyone is interested in this and would like to be more involved can their please contact Mrs Harris. **ALL**
- (b) *Commissioning workshop*
 The Society would like details of anyone interested in being more involved in commissioning as in the Autumn it is looking to run a commissioning workshop on how to influence. A database of Medical Directors is also being created. Can names please be fed to the office? **ALL**
- (c) *Map of medicine*
 This is an RCP London initiative run by a commercial company. Members should be aware of it as although it is directed at primary care it is being used by commissioners and auditors.

EC09/17 Intermediate Care National Audit Update

The pilot is now underway and the deadline for submission is 30 June. A slot at the Autumn conference has been confirmed and so far the following audits have been returned:

- Wirral PCT – Audits 1 and 2
- Liverpool PCT – Audits 1 and 2
- Newcastle PCT – Audit 1
- Northumbria PCT – Audit 1
- Brighton & Hove PCT – Audits 1 and 2
- Central Manchester – Audits 1 and 2

EC09/18 Integrated Care Pilots

Details of the pilots had been circulated. Seven of the 16 pilots involve older people, are any of our members involved? **ALL**

EC09/19 Consultations

- (a) Dr Patel is undertaking the latest CQC consultation.

We have been asked to answer three questions on the NHS Constitution which Mrs Allport will circulate after the meeting.

We have also been asked to comment on the age discrimination project. Can all comments on these go to Mrs Allport please?

ALL

EC09/20 Older Peoples Specialist Society Forum

Minutes of the March meeting had been circulated and they are meeting again next week.

The advert for the National Clinical Director for Older People was published today. It is a wider role than that of the previous Director but it will be supported by a team of advisors.

The Department of Health's Ageing Strategy which is a sign posting document is due out at the end of the month. It is being led by the Department of Works and Pensions and includes the prevention package, the falls and fragility fracture commissioning toolkit and the intermediate care refresh guidance

EC09/21 England Council Business Plan

Council reviewed the business plan. There was one amendment to item 2 to reflect the creation of the Care Quality Commission.

EC09/22 Any Other Business

- (a) Dr Arora has raised issues around mortality figures in Stafford. His concerns are that consultants are being put in the firing line and it is all target driven. The problems are it varies so much across the country and for example if a community hospital is closed then the acute hospital's mortality rate will increase. Unfortunately Dr Foster does not include case mix in its figures.

It was suggested that he should try regular reviews of benchmarking his hospital. Regular MDT meetings that are minuted and those minutes passed to the Governance group.

- (b) The following members were thanked for their services to England Council as this is their last meeting Dr Partha Gosh, Prof Mohan Datta Chaudhuri and Dr Naveed Malik

EC09/11 Dates of Future England Council Meetings

- 14.00 Thursday 22 October 2009
- 14.00 Wednesday 10 February 2010
- 14.00 Thursday 3 June 2010
- 14.00 Wednesday 20 October 2010

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Signed by Professor John Young
22nd October 2009