

**BRITISH GERIATRICS SOCIETY  
ENGLAND COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at Marjory Warren House, 31 St John's Square,  
London, EC1M 4DN

**Present:** Dr A Arora, Dr A Clegg, Prof. M Datta Chaudhuri, Dr Ian Donald, Dr P Gosh, Dr N Lo, Dr C Long, Dr N Malik, Dr C Nicholl, Dr A Stanners, Dr T Solanki and Professor J Young (Chair).

**In attendance:** Mrs S Allport and Mr A Mair

**EC08/28 Welcome and Apologies**

**Action**

Apologies were received from: Dr M Baxter, Dr P Belfield, Dr R Curless, Dr Adam Darowski, Dr D Dasgupta, Dr D Forsyth, Dr S Loharuka, Dr S Morgan and Dr M Patel.

Professor Young welcomed the following new regional representatives Dr Andrew Stanners (Yorkshire) and Dr Nelson Lo (Trent).

**EC08/29 Minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2008**

The minutes were approved.

**EC08/30 Matters Arising**

(a) *Deputy Chair*

Council were asked to consider applying for the position of Deputy Chair which arises after our next meeting. Expressions of interest are to be sent to Mrs Allport by the end of the year and if there is more than one applicant an e-mail ballot will occur. Mrs Allport will also circulate a job description.

**SA**

(b) *Committee Vacancies*

Council were asked to note the appointment of Steve Parry and Opinder Sahota to the Academic and Research Committee, respectively, as England representatives.

A vacancy still exists on the Finance Committee and Council were asked to disseminate the vacancy to their regions.

**ALL**

(c) *Hospital Discharge Work Book Group*

Dr Ian Donald has agreed to be the BGS representative on this review into the existing documentation. Council were asked to approve the appointment.

(d) *RCP PbR Working Group*

Dr Forsyth had circulated the most recent set of paperwork. Council made the following comments:

- It appears that more money can be received for admitting a TIA patient overnight rather than discharging them.
- The unbundling of the fracture neck of femur tariff is very confusing as different costs can be applied depending on how it is coded.
- The code for 'Frailty' doesn't reflect real costs but there will now be different codes for the associated complications/co-morbidities.
- The tariff needs to recognise multi-disciplinary care

- The coders should be invited to the orientation meeting of the new trainees so that they can explain the implications of how patients can be coded.
- They should also be encouraged to look at the drugs list on discharge and make sure this is reflected in the diagnosis i.e. if they are on Alendronate then it must be listed that they have osteoporosis.

It was agreed that an article in the newsletter should be considered on how to make the most of coding and a volunteer is sought.

**ALL**

*Prevention Package for Older People*

- (e) Council had been sent a copy of feedback report from the stakeholder event. Mr Mair agreed to contact Ruth Eley to see if this is proceeding and if so in what capacity.

**AM**

**EC08/31 UKMC Minutes 6 November 2008**

The minutes were circulated in advance and noted. Council thanked Professor Crome for all that he had done as President and looked forward to working with Professor Mulley.

**EC08/32 Intermediate Care National Audit Update**

The audit has now become very complex and we have no external funding. It was felt that it possibly needs to be streamlined. The following comments were made:

- The problem with Intermediate care is it local variability and what works well locally may not work elsewhere
- It may be better to focus on one small area or have some clearly specified standards

The following actions were agreed:

- Professor Young to update Dr Forsyth about the discussion we have had
- A set of standards to be agreed
- These will be sent to the regions asking them to audit an area of intermediate care that they are concerned about and to send the data back to us.
- Professor Young / Dr Forsyth to approach CPEC as they are commissioning an online audit tool that we may be able to use.

**JY**

**JY & DF**

A small group of volunteers will be required to draft the standards – Please contact Mrs Allport if you are interested.

**ALL**

**EC08/33 Consultations**

- (a) *England Council's Involvement*

Professor Crome had circulated an e-mail regarding the involvement of Council and Committees in attending meetings and responding to consultations. It was agreed that the late notification of meetings that request a Society presence is a major factor in not finding volunteers.

However, the larger problem is the lack of response when seeking individuals to respond to consultations. At present this workload is not shared. The office holds a list of Council member's areas of interest but most of the consultations are generic.

It was agreed that we would keep the voluntary code that exists at present but that there is an expectation that members would undertake a draft response at least once a year. If no volunteers are found then those that have not responded will be approached directly.

Members are reminded that they can always take the consultation to their regions and ask for their comments to help formulate a response and that the response they provide will only be a draft. Council members will then help to finalise it.

- (b) It would also help if members could please respond to the e-mail when it is sent even if it is to decline so that the office is not chasing you.

*List of Responses*

- (c) The list of responses was noted and it was agreed that a list such as this would now be present at every meeting.

*DH Consultation: Why England needs a new care and support system*

Suggestions were made on the points raised by Dr Curless and these will be incorporated into the final draft and re-circulated for approval.

**EC08/34 Older Peoples Specialist Society Forum**

Minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated and they are meeting again in December.

**EC08/35 England Council Business Plan**

Council reviewed the business plan there were no amendments.

**EC08/36 Any Other Business**

- (a) *COPD Work Streams*

It was agreed that we should be involved in this work and that it was more appropriate that it be undertaken by the Respiratory SIG.

- (b) *NHS No Secrets Advisory Group*

Mr Mair is attending these meetings and Dr Donald has agreed to support him. For the next meeting our comments are required on the questions circulated. Mrs Allport was asked to resend the questions and Council members are to disseminate them to seek the views of their regions.

**SA  
ALL**

**EC08/37 Dates of Future England Council Meetings**

14.00 Wednesday 11 February 2009  
14.00 Wednesday 3 June 2009  
14.00 Thursday 22 October 2009 **NB Date change**

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Signed by Dr Duncan Forsyth

11<sup>th</sup> February 2009