

Chief Executive Officer
Richard Evans OBE



CoR
THE COLLEGE OF
RADIOGRAPHERS

**MINUTES OF THE RADIOTHERAPY ADVISORY GROUP (RAG) HELD ON TUESDAY
16th MAY 2017, AT THE OFFICES OF THE SOCIETY OF RADIOGRAPHERS, 207
PROVIDENCE SQUARE, LONDON, SE1 2EW**

PRESENT:

- Geri Briggs {GB}
- John Burton {JB}
- Sheila Hassan {SH} {Chair}
- Lucie Hodge {LH}
- Kate Love {KL}
- Julie Massey {JM}
- Libby Mills {LM}
- Karen Smith {KS}
- Kevin Sullivan {KS}
- Helen White {HW}
- Ryan Yeo {RY}

IN ATTENDANCE:

- Valerie Asemah {VA} {Minutes}
- Spencer Goodman {SG}
- Sarah James {SJ}

1. WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS AND INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and round table introductions were made.
- 1.2 The Chair reminded the group that an ad for new members to join the group was placed in Synergy News and on the Website and also reminding those whose term of office was up this year to do reapply if they were interested in serving for another year.
- 1.3 Apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence were received from Charlotte Beardmore, Stephanie Bell, Louise Boyle, Mark Gilham, Nikki Hawkins, Steve Herring, Paula Horne and Rebecca Lynn.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 21ST SEPTEMBER 2016

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 21st September 2016, were approved as a true and accurate record.
- 2.2 Matters arising from the meeting held on 21st September 2016 and not covered elsewhere:

Quartz House, 207 Providence Square, Mill Street, London SE1 2EW
T: 0207 740 7200 E: info@sor.org W: www.sor.org

- 2.2.1 Any other business (minute 2.2.2) – At the last meeting SG agreed to have a more in-depth look at the Curriculum in Informatics document which was being developed for diagnostic imaging and further work was planned for the inclusion of therapeutic radiography. Due to pressure of work this is yet to be done. SG agreed to chase this up.

ACTION: SG

- 2.2.2 Report from RCR Clinical Audit Committee (minute 11.1) – KL had indicated that she will probably be retiring in a couple of years' time and it was agreed that a replacement RAG representative will be needed to take on her role on the RCR Clinical Audit Committee to report back to RAG and interest was sought from existing group members. It was confirmed that Mark Gilham {MG} will be the RAG rep.

- 2.2.3 UKONS – seeking endorsement of Triage Tool as presented by Philippa Jones, Macmillan Associate Acute Oncology Nurse Advisor (minute 13.1) – At the last meeting RAG recommended endorsement of this tool and that it should be presented to UK Council to be signed off. SJ informed the group that this was agreed by UK Council.

- 2.2.4 Macmillan Cancer Support – update on draft competences for AHPs working with people living with and beyond cancer (minute 14.1) – To note that Council gave comments which were fed back and agreed. The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) had some comments, which may delay the publication of the document. SJ will bring back to Council and this group if there are any changes to be made. JB further informed RAG that Council was concerned on the amount of time spent to carry out a procedure. It was accepted that therapy radiographers spent the majority of their time working at advanced level. Will wait to hear if physios comments will make a difference to the document being published in November.

ACTION: SJ

3. RT BOARD – MOST RECENT MEETING

- 3.1 SG and JB who attended the board meeting on Friday gave an update to the group. There was a discussion around the minutes being shared. Gillian Dollamore who is the permanent secretary and will be in charge of making sure that a public version of the minutes be uploaded to the website.

- 3.1.2 The CQC will be taking up a position on the RT Board. Basic Safety Standard briefing will be discussed at the next meeting in September. SG will send out a publications update to the group.

ACTION: SG

- 3.1.3 The Society of Radiographers will take over the RT Board in September and JB will take the position of Chair from then also. The Chair offered best wishes to JB.

4. NHS ENGLAND – RADIOTHERAPY CRG UPDATE

- 4.1 There was nothing to report at present.

5. REPORT FROM UK RADIOTHERAPY MANAGERS GROUP

5.1 SG gave an update to the group and PH who was unable to attend the meeting sent in a report.

5.1.1 The last meeting was held on Wednesday 29th March 2017 and the trailblazer application for a level 6 radiographer apprenticeship standard was discussed.

- Apprenticeships and the need for two separate standards for Therapeutic and Diagnostic Radiography 2 standards
- The Radiotherapy modernisation model discussion was from the informal NHS England Engagement exercise. The final document for formal consultation is due for release in the near future.
- Potential tightening of waiting times for Cat 1 patients
- Awaiting definition of hierarchy. Alliances, STPs etc.
- Equipment replacement programmes still a challenge in many centres
- Commissioning of SABR

The managers group wishes to raise two issues at RAG for discussion.

1. Representation from the devolved nations on this group
2. The need to ensure that any request for representation for service leads involvement on working groups or committees to come via the chair of the Managers group to ensure the service rep on the group has the correct expertise and experience.

5.2 The Chair mentioned that the Consultant Radiographers group has been so successful that it is now being turned into an Advisory Group.

5.3 The group queried the current terms of reference and it was agreed that VA would circulate these.

ACTION: VA

6. SCOR UPDATES:

6.1 SG gave a presentation and update.

6.1.1 HEE – the final report of the Health Education England qualitative research document on smaller and specialist AHPD professions is due for imminent publication. This qualitative project has progressed well with strong input by SCoR. This seeks to inform a marketing and development strategy aimed at increasing applications to smaller Allied Health Professions. The risks of universities not being able to recruit into qualifications for these roles are significant. If courses become unsustainable and close, this could lead to a vacuum of qualified professionals from 2020 onwards, causing risks to the delivery of care.

- 6.1.2 HEFCE – funding for 2017-2018, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 has been put aside. To note that SCoR has asked for input.

Preliminary meetings between HEFCE and each of the professional bodies have taken place, where a number of common themes had emerged, in particular the need to increase the visibility of AHPs in general, and the option for the four professional bodies to work together. (Prosthetics , Orthoptics, Therapeutic Radiography & Podiatry . £1M per year is available and a joint meeting is booked for 21st June 2017

Initial suggested project outcomes to achieve these objectives would be to:

- leverage a wider campaign to stimulate demand for healthcare disciplines
- commission market research on how to engage with potential young and mature applicants
- support and share good practice in course marketing, design and delivery
- develop marketing materials for the 4 professions in scope, including an online career tool
- recruit staff to work on outreach and coordinate the project
- develop marketing channels and pay for advertisement spaces

- 6.1.3 Cancer Research UK - Non-surgical oncology workforce project:

This has been commissioned by CRUK and will include understanding how new models of care can be utilised to mitigate current and future workforce gaps, to encourage innovative ways of working and to share education and training needs/programmes of the current and future workforce. RCR /SCoR /IPEM /RCP are actively involved with this work.

Keys aims are: Inform and shape CRUK policy on the required and desired cancer workforce across all England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

7. UKONS – RADIOTHERAPY MEMBERS INTEREST GROUP

- 7.1 SB was unable to attend the meeting but sent in a report. The Chair asked for comments but they were none.

8. NCRI/CT RAD WORKSTREAM UPDATE

- 8.1 This item was already covered.

9. NRAI UPDATE

- 9.1 There was nothing to report.

10. REPORT FROM RCR CLINICAL AUDIT COMMITTEE

- 10.1 KL gave an update. The RCR has published a strategy document on current and planned audits. It was noted that MG will take over from KL when she retires so an alternate is needed to replace him. KL will send report to VA to send out with the minutes.

ACTION: KL & VA

11. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

11. SG presented a document on artificial intelligence on which the SCoR UK Council were concerned. Following discussion around what artificial intelligence would do to replace current systems, it was agreed that SG will feed back to the Informatics group, who in turn will inform Council.

ACTION: SG

12. CHAIR SUMMARY

- 12.1 The Chair thanked the group for their attendance and queried whether we should be getting a statement would be issued over the weekend in regard to the recent internet problem at NHS hospitals.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 13.1 SJ informed the group that this is her last RAG meeting as she has retired from the Society of Radiographers. The Chair thanked SJ for all her hard work over the years.
- 13.2 SG highlighted the free public lecture at the RCR, on Thursday 22nd June 2017. This can also be found on the webpages.

14. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- 14.1 Dates of future meeting were agreed as:
- Wednesday 18th October 2017
 - Wednesday 9th May 2018
 - Wednesday 10th October 2018