



NATIONAL JOINT REGISTRY STEERING COMMITTEE (NJRSC)

MINUTES

Meeting:	NJR Steering Committee	Date: Tuesday 18 th January 2011
Location:	Princess Alice Room, MIC, 81-103 Euston St, London, NW1 2EZ	
Members Present:	Prof Paul Gregg	PG Acting Chair, Orthopaedic Surgeon
	Mick Borroff	MB Orthopaedic Device Industry Representative
	Dr Crina Cacou	CC Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)
	Mary Cowern	MC Patient Representative
	Peter Howard	PH Chair, NJR Regional Clinical Co-ordinators' Network
	Prof Alex Macgregor	AM Public Health & Epidemiology
	Martyn Porter	MPo Orthopaedic Surgeon – <i>attended morning session</i>
	Mike Swanson	MS NJR Principal Consultant, Northgate
	Keith Tucker	KT Orthopaedic Surgeon
	Andrew Woodhead	AW NHS Management Member – <i>attended morning session</i>
Attendees:	Richard Armstrong	RA Programme Director, Northgate
	Colin Esler	CE Vice Chair, NJR Regional Clinical Co-ordinators' Network (Attended on behalf of PH)
	Alex Henderson	AH Committee Administrator, Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP)
	Nicky Pearson	NP Programme Manager, Northgate
	Robin Rice	RR Welsh Assembly Government Representative
	Mike Robinson	MR Research Officer (NJR), HQIP
	Melissa Wright	MW Development Officer (NJR), HQIP
	Elaine Young	EY National Development Lead, HQIP
Apologies:	Robin Burgess	RB Chief Executive Officer, HQIP
	Carolyn Naisby	CNa Practitioner with Special Interest in Orthopaedics
	Dean Sleigh	DS Orthopaedic Device Industry Representative
	Andy Smallwood	AS NHS Supply Chain Representative

REF	ITEM	ACTION
1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies for Absence PG opened the meeting and welcomed those present. Apologies were received and noted.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting held 28th October 2010 The minutes were accepted as a true and correct record.</p>	
3.	<p>Matters Arising (not appearing elsewhere on the agenda)</p>	
	<p>3.1. Supplier Feedback System [previous minute ref: 3.3] Northgate reported that the system developments were complete and user-testing was underway. It was anticipated that the system would go live at the end of January.</p>	Northgate
	<p>3.2. HES/NJR Linkage Audit [previous minute ref: 3.4] Northgate reported that the Information Centre had approved the NJR's request to access HES data. MPo agreed that the audit would be piloted at Wrightington, and that Northgate would write to individual surgeons at the hospital, and keep him informed. Northgate would also establish contacts in all units and liaise with RR about piloting in Wales.</p>	Northgate/ RR
	<p>3.3. Incorporation of Elbow and Shoulder joints [previous minute ref: 3.5] MW reported ongoing delays with the Review of Central Returns (ROCR) but a response was expected by April</p>	
	<p>3.4. Incorporation of Northern Ireland [previous minute ref: 3.6] EY noted that there had been no response from Northern Ireland to recent letters from HQIP and Sir Bruce Keogh regarding their incorporation into the NJR. She would send one further letter seeking clarification about their continued interest.</p>	EY
	<p>3.5. Best Practice Tariff [previous minute ref: 3.7.3] EY explained the criteria for best practice relating to primary hip and knee, noting that the guidance specifically mentioned compliance with the NJR and recommended that commissioners encourage this as part of inclusion in the best practise tariff. The NJR may expect interest from commissioners for information to feed into this process. 2011/12 would be the first year of the tariff, but the process would become more refined as it goes on and the NJR should consider how it could support the initiative</p> <p>RA stated that as the NJR could be linked to HES data, it was possible to look at length of stay and other quality issues. In consultation with the NHS supply chain, Northgate would look at the correlation between low cost and high quality.</p> <p>AW noted that commissioning in the NHS was undergoing major change, and suggested the NJR ensure that this issue was kept on the agenda as the new commissioning bodies developed.</p>	Northgate
	<p>3.6. HES Data / Hip Fracture Study [previous minute ref: 12.4] KT reported that he was writing a paper on fractured neck of femur which was due to be published in the spring. However the paper needed to include an investigation into the reason for 6 patients having revisions, but he was experiencing difficulty with the IC in obtaining the detail required to investigate this with the units/surgeons because of issues around confidentiality.</p> <p>Members felt that the process with the IC should be streamlined for the NJR, and HQIP would liaise with Northgate regarding this.</p> <p>MS confirmed that he had also drafted a letter for KT to send to the Chair of the Ethics and Confidentiality Committee, a further requirement which would be discussed with KT outside of the meeting.</p>	HQIP/ Northgate MS / KT

	Matters arising from the previous minutes	
	3.7. Component Management System [previous minute ref: 3.2] Northgate advised that the system would be launched late March/early April and data would be available for specific studies in 2011.	
	3.8. IHAS – ‘Hellenic Project’ [previous minute ref: 4] Noted that the NJR was still waiting to receive a formal request from the Independent Healthcare Advisory Services (IHAS). EY confirmed that following the publication of the advert for the NJRSC Chair, the advert for the vacant Independent Sector representative would be processed.	EY
	3.9. BMI – The London Independent Hospital [previous minute ref: 8.1.2.d] Noted that Northgate were liaising with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) about guidance and wording on mandation for the private sector. They would then contact PG about the letter he had agreed to send to the CEO of BMI regarding data quality.	Northgate/ PG
4.	Update on the NJR Strategic Plan 2009-2011 and 2011-2013 The strategic plan which had been reviewed and amended at the previous NJRSC was considered. EY did not consider the plan had been sufficiently developed for 2011/13, and further work was required to ensure that the NJR had a robust plan against which funding could be allocated and expenditure monitored. Ideas could be developed through the Research Committee and Editorial Board, and possibly from the forthcoming workshop with ARUK. She agreed to organise an NJRSC Strategic Plan development day in April. <u>NJR/ARUK Research Strategy Workshop</u> It was noted that invitations had been sent out for the joint NJR/ARUK workshop but not a programme which had yet to be finalised. It was felt important that attendees should be informed of the proposed schedule and that ARUK should circulate a draft programme as soon as possible, to be followed by a final version. AM/HQIP would liaise with ARUK .	HQIP AM/HQIP
5.	NJR Finance Report Q3 (October – December 2010) EY drew attention to the format of the finance report which had evolved to incorporate Strategic Plan costs. Future reports would also include an additional ‘expenditure’ column which members felt would assist with forward planning.	HQIP
6.	NJR Levy Rate 2011 / 2012 It was agreed that the levy rate should remain at £20 for 2011/12 and that the DH should be requested to approve this decision. EY drew attention to implications of the VAT increase which had reduced the NJR element of the levy from £15.52 to £15.20 and requested members to consider whether this should be shared to a greater extent by suppliers as the DH were unlikely to agree to the increase being charged to Trusts. It was agreed that the NJR would continue to absorb the VAT increase to this amount, although the income reduction was noted.	HQIP
7.	Update from the NJR Sub-Committees	
	7.1. Regional Clinical Co-ordinators Network a) Minutes of the previous meeting (7th December 2010) The minutes were received. PH raised the following additional points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A draft annual outlier report which would be sent to trusts had been reviewed and well received by the RCCs. Compliance figures and average national figures would allow trusts to benchmark themselves. The NJRSC were satisfied that the compliance rate would be against a benchmark of 95%. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall, there was good attendance at the RCC meetings. <p>b) Annual Dataset Review The RCC Network had reviewed the dataset and made six recommendations which the NJRSC approved in principle – noting the BMI data point should be amended to: ‘For BMI data, height to be recorded in metres rather than cm’.</p> <p>c) Scottish data study MS reported he was in contact with Hamish Simpson in Edinburgh regarding a thromboprophylaxis trial. Northgate would liaise with HQIP about cost implications and timelines for changing the dataset. Members would be kept informed.</p> <p>d) RCC Network membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted that there were four RCC vacancies and it was agreed that HQIP would liaise with KT to arrange an advert to be available at the forthcoming BHS conference; The RCC Network would be considered as part of the review of the governance arrangements of the NJRSC following its recent status change; and 13 RCC’s had final terms of office due to expire in September 2011. Agreed that HQIP would contact the RCC’s concerned about an extra two years of office. 	<p>PH</p> <p>MS</p> <p>HQIP / KT</p> <p>HQIP</p>
	<p>7.2. Outlier Sub-Committee (Surgeon data) The minutes of the meeting held on the 13th January would be circulated but PG reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed new process for annual reporting of outcome data and outliers together with a suggested letter to send to Trust CEO’s to inform them of the process, had been submitted to the DH/Bruce Keogh for approval. Progress reports 002-004 were reviewed. Some surgeons on report 005 may be inactive. AW had chased up 2 CEO’s before Christmas but had not received a reply. PG and PH would review. Members expressed their thanks to PG and PH for their work on outliers. 	<p>PG / PH</p>
	<p>7.3. Outlier Sub-Committee (Implant data) The minutes of the meeting of the 25th November were received. KT reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MB was drafting a Code of Practice regarding surgical unit identities. The next meeting was scheduled for the afternoon of Friday 18th February 	
	<p>7.4. Editorial Board Noted that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th January would be circulated but MPo reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bristol would be undertaking Part 3 of the NJR Annual Report (AR). HQIP (MW) would project manage production of the 8th Annual Report. A list of topic suggestions for the 8th AR had been compiled and would be distributed to the NJRSC for information. 	<p>MPo</p>
	<p>7.5. Research Sub-Committee</p> <p>a) Minutes of the previous meeting (25th November 2010) The minutes were received and noted. AM highlighted the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new research request process was functioning efficiently. Although the number of requests was currently low, more enquiries were being received and with the introduction of the NJR Research website (soon to go live) should improve; The two research fellow posts had been appointed to Simon Jameson, Middlesbrough, and Paul Baker, Newcastle, with both due to start in April; Pending formal approval from the REC Ethics Committee, the NJR PROMs should commence in February; and The next meeting would be held on Friday 18th February. 	

	<p>b) DNA Biobank Study Discussion ensued about a recent increase in costs for the study. MPo declared a personal interest in the study, but felt the NJR should support it. It was noted that a positive external peer review had been conducted.</p> <p>It was agreed that the NJRSC should continue to support the study with additional funding, but that this should be split into two parts with the payment for part two being subject to completion of part one. In addition, Northgate would be required to provide a breakdown of the costs for their related service charges to HQIP for review.</p> <p>MR and AM would also investigate possible intellectual property issues associated with this project.</p>	<p>Northgate/ HQIP</p> <p>MR/AM</p>
8.	<p>Quarterly Statistics Report Q3 (October – December 2010) The QSR for Q3 was received. Noted, that consent had risen to over 90% and the third highest volume of submissions in a particular quarter had been recorded.</p>	
9.	<p>Quarterly Management Report Q3 (October – December 2010) The QMR for Q3 was received.</p> <p>PG queried the accuracy of the number of ‘nil returners’ under section 2.6.1 (Regional Performance). Northgate would investigate. He also requested an annual report at the next meeting in addition to a quarterly report, to enable members to review the data for poorly complying hospitals, more easily.</p>	<p>Northgate</p>
10.	<p>Any Other Business</p>	
	<p>10.1. Arthroscopic hip surgery KT informed members that Dr Maynard, orthopaedic surgeon, wished to conduct a study regarding patients details to support outcome studies. PG felt that the NJR should support this principle and queried other outcome studies that the registry could be used for. Agreed that KT would inform Dr Maynard that the NJRSC supported the study in principle, pending an outline of what the study would involve.</p>	<p>KT</p>
	<p>10.2. Meeting attendance It was confirmed that meeting attendance would be recorded in the next Annual Report.</p>	<p>MPo/MW</p>
	<p>10.3. International Consortium of Orthopaedic Registries (ICOR), 9-10 May 2011 The NJR to consider representation at this conference</p>	<p>All</p>
	<p>10.4. NJRSC Chair vacancy EY reported that the NJR Chair position had been advertised, with interviews scheduled for week beginning 28th February.</p> <p>PG thanked members for their support during his time as Acting Chair. Members recorded their sincere appreciation to PG for undertaking the role and for all his hard work.</p>	
	<p>10.5. Excellence in Rheumatology-Istanbul, 17-19 February 2011. MPo informed members that an ‘Excellence in Rheumatology’ conference was being held in Istanbul on the 17th – 19th February, and suggested that a representative of the NJR should attend the conference.</p>	
11.	<p>Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 27th April, 10.30 am – 4.30 pm MIC Venue, 81-103 Euston Street, London, NW1 2EZ</p>	