



Minutes of Regional Network Leads meeting 25th November 2010

Present – D Marsh, J Burden (WACA), P Stewart (NIPAN), R Crombie (PAN-WM), S Bew (Yorks), S Courtman (SWACA), P Jameson (Chester), K Solan, D McDonald (SEPAP), D Patel (NWPAG), A Carr (E&T Cttee Chair), G Rodney (SPAN), G Wilson (Linkman Coordinator)

Apologies – K Bartholomew (Yorks), S Bass (E England), L Daniels (NE)

1. Network Update

a. New;

- i. North East England. Lisa Daniels has now been identified as a possible lead to take this region on. No further progress
- ii. East Midlands. Contacts have been made via Paul Martin, but little else
- iii. East England. Sam Bass (Addenbrooke's) was to have attended but was unavailable. He is willing to proceed but no further information forthcoming
- iv. Republic of Ireland. GW has discussed with Bill Casey (ROI rep on Council) and he will investigate

b. Developing;

- i. Yorkshire. S Bew reported that an initial scoping meeting had been held on 8th Nov. Issues remain about the role of the network and the geographical region it should cover.

ii. SEPAP. This network covers ten hospitals, as far North as Redhill, and West to Chichester. They have looked at what was required within their network; education, updates, guidelines and peer review. There has been a very good response to Peer Review – Brighton has completed the process with a plan to expand in 2011. An educational meeting is also planned for Feb 2011. other areas of activity are in

1. CPD visits. One day refreshers, with a streamlined means of organisation allowing visiting staff to arrange at relatively short notice.
2. MRI provision. Recent problems in Eatbourne have been discussed.
3. EPLS/APLS courses. Local attendees are offered vacancies preferentially.

iii. Northern Ireland. This is a very informal network, which has no set meetings. Coincidentally all paediatric leads are also college Tutors, so are in contact through this process, in addition to Belfast four DGHs have a paediatric role, and there are ten members of NIPAG. A meeting is planned for 17th December. The NI Dept of Health has produced documents on the provision of paed anaesthesia for ENT (http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/paediatric_ent_surgery_in_northern_ireland.pdf) and General Surgery of Childhood (http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/standards_of_care_for_general_paediatric_surgery.pdf).

c. Current ;

- i. PAGW. No report
- ii. SPAN. Continues with its annual meeting which is used as a means of networking by a groups separated by large distances. They have offered to host next year's Linkman meeting, probably linked to an educational/core topics style event. After a substantial gestation the first Peer Review visit is set for two week's time (week commencing 6th Dec 2010)
- iii. WACA. Covers the south Coast from Chichester to Poole. Having initially started with an educational component, a business meeting now occurs

on the same day. They have concentrated on guidelines and standards provision, but plan to initiate Peer Review soon.

- iv. NWPAG. A large network of 25-26 hospitals, from Lancaster to Chester and Greater Manchester as the tertiary centre. They provide a two day refresher course four times a year, one week CPD visits to Manchester Children's, and an annual educational update meeting. A retrieval audit is ongoing with the intention of setting up a regional transfer service between Alder Hey and Manchester.
- v. Chester and Merseyside Paediatric Surgical Group. This was set up by the SHA, which was useful as surgeons have been engaged from the start. This has now developed into a service review looking at what feeds into Alder Hey and what goes to Manchester. Chester are preparing to undertake a peer review. It is difficult to engage with Alder Hey as they have been part of PiP/PAN-WM.
- vi. PAN-WM. Initially part of Partners in Paediatrics. The West Midlands standards document resulted in an extensive review of services but continued funding appears unlikely. Alder Hey and Crewe have now left, leaving Birmingham as the primary tertiary centre. Generic pain guidelines have been produced and a training module for recovery staff has been developed with Birmingham City University.
- vii. SWACA. Now ten years old, covering Truro to Gloucester and Yeovil, with Bristol as the tertiary centre. The two day annual meeting will be arranged jointly with another network in the near future
- viii. Thames PAG. No report as their local meeting was taking place.

2. Website Development

- a. Problems. GW discussed the ongoing problems relating to limited functionality and support. This was hoped to be resolved following recent discussions with the company
- b. Portal for current networks – there are few networks with their own websites, and interest was shown regarding the APA acting as a host for those who wished to provide a presence for those that don't have their own
- c. Google Group problems. Despite early promise of this as a means of discussing between leads, it has faltered due to local NHS servers blocking the site. It seems reasonable to revert to email discussion
- d. Standardisation of resources. Acknowledged that there are a lot of guidelines around and that there is a lot of duplication and some confusion. It would be

sensible to have a centralised repository, instead of multiple links to various related resources.

- e. General meeting list. The Linkman meeting has fallen foul of conflict with other paediatric meetings, which may have been avoided by having a general diary of local and national meetings. It was agreed that members should email details of their meetings when available.
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3. Linkman vs Networks. What is the role for each of these and how do we progress? It was agreed that the two processes are linked and that there is probably no need to maintain a Network Leads meeting on a separate day. It will be incorporated into part of the Linkman and Annual Scientific Meeting process from now on.
 - a. Linkman links. Next year's meeting will be hosted by SPAN, probably in Glasgow. Local opinion favoured the idea of combining it with an educational/core topics meeting, for which planning is under way.
 - b. Agreed to continue with alternate meetings hosted by regions. SWACA has offered to host 2013, and NWPAG 2015
 4. Education update. A Carr gave an overview of what is happening with educational support. Both the Signet and virtual patient concepts, of providing evidence based management guides for common paediatric anaesthetic problems are website dependent, and rely a lot on creation of a working system. There is an ongoing collation of national and international fellowships for postgraduates. A similar database of undergraduate Special Study Modules in paediatric anaesthesia will be created. It is expected that the EL-a system will be funded again, but it is unclear as to how extensive this will be.
 5. Meeting closed