



**MINUTES OF THE MAGNETIC RESONANCE ADVISORY GROUP (MRAG) HELD ON 19TH
MARCH 2015, AT THE OFFICES OF THE SOCIETY OF RADIOGRAPHERS, 207 PROVIDENCE
SQUARE, LONDON SE1 2EW**

PRESENT:

Carolyn Costigan {CC}
Kirsten Farrell-Savage {KFS}
Lynn Graham {LG} {Chair}
Barbara Nugent {B}
Rakesh Puni {RP}
Rachel Watt {RW}
Chris Wright {CW}

IN ATTENDANCE:

Valerie Asemah {VA} {Minutes}
Alex Lipton {AL}

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and round table introductions were made, for the benefit of new members Kirsten Farrell-Savage, Chris Wright and Guest Barbara Nugent.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Muriel Cockburn, Baljit Jagpal, Jenny Jones, Janine Sparkes, Rebecca Vosper and Gail Woodhouse.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 16th October 2015, were approved as a true and accurate record.

4. MATTERS ARISING OTHERWISE NOT ON THE AGENDA

- 4.1 “risk item” (minute 4.1)

AL informed the group that she had discussed the query regarding risk from not changing patients into hospital gowns, in light of recent cases where burns had arisen from invisible metallic microfibers in clothing (with the P and E team and the consensus was that if you know there is a risk however small to the patient you have a duty to act on this. A risk assessment should be conducted and departments should then make the decision on whether to change all patients into hospital gowns or to inform patients to turn up in suitable clothing via the patient information sheets. It was agreed that this should be considered for inclusion in the Safety Document Update – AL to Action.

ACTION: AL

4.2 EUPAD Update (minute 4.2)

LG informed the group that NI will implement the directive by adopting what the other countries are doing.

5. **PRESENTATION: SETTING UP A UK MRI SAFETY COURSE**

- 5.1 Barbara Nugent gave a presentation on the setting up of a UK MRI Safety Course. There was lengthy discussion following the presentation. It was agreed that AL will be in contact with Barbara following the meeting to discuss further.

ACTION: AL

6. **REVIEW OF 'SAFETY IN MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING**

- 6.1 The Chair gave an update and outlined what needs to be done to finalise this document which needs to be published in June 2015. The Chair thanked those group members who have already responded and all group members were asked to please send their final comments to AL by Thursday 2nd April 2015. AL will remind those members who were not present at the meeting today.

ACTION: AL & ALL

7. **BAMRR REPORT**

- 7.1 JS was unavailable to attend the meeting today, but RW gave an update:

- BAMRR has given feedback to MHRA regarding new guidelines.
- BAMRR has along with Alex attended a working party set up by IPeM to discuss the role of the MR safety expert. Feedback regarding the competencies has been given.
- Introductory MRI course will run in April in Bristol. The course is full and we hope to provide another course in September.
- UKRC BAMRR session will take place between 1345-1500 on Tuesday 30th June at the Arena and Convention Centre Liverpool.
- The session entitled 'MRI in Contemporary Practice' will have 3 lectures:
 - Multi-parametric prostate MRI,
 - How to scan MRI conditional cardiac pacemakers
 - Fetal MRI
- This year's annual BAMRR conference will take place in London on Sat 3rd October.
- Sharon Conway on behalf of BAMRR has given two pieces of feedback to Barbara on the proposed MR safety course. BAMRR is very positive of the proposal and will offer support and guidance where ever possible.
- BAMRR membership is over 400 currently. Student membership is also being encouraged.

8. **COURSES 2015**

- 8.1 AL informed the group that there is a small amount of money in the MRAG budget to support courses. The IPeM MR Safety Update Course which is being held in November, in Manchester was noted. If anyone is interested or know of any courses, conferences, study days they should alert AL and VA. International courses are also to be considered.

ACTION: VA

9. REPORTS FROM BIR MEETINGS

- 9.1 AL reminded the group that she sits on two BIR groups the BIR MR SIG which mainly deals with educational issues. And the BIR MR Safety working party at which the EUPAD was recently discussed.

10. EUPAD PRACTICAL GUIDANCE

- 10.1 The group reviewed the document prior to the meeting and also took further opportunity to comment specifically on this HSE practical guidance for the EUPAD implementation. AL will collate all comments and respond to the HSE

ACTION: AL

11. GROUP MEMBERSHIP

- 11.1 AL informed the group that Muriel Cockburn, Rebecca Vosper and Rachel Watt have served their four year term and that their membership would end on 30th June 2015. However, under the terms of reference for the group they are eligible to apply for another term. An advert for 5 new members would be advertised in April and May edition of Synergy News, on the Website and in TopTalk.

As Rebecca and Muriel were not present AL will contact them by e-mail.

ACTION: AL

12. UPDATE ON MRAG WORK PLAN

- 12.1 AL had asked the group to bring a sheet of A4 paper with the role of the MR radiographer from their own department which would then be discussed. Following discussion it was noted that AL will send the group the link to The Role of the Radiographers leaflets. Please send all comments back to AL by the end of May 2015.

ACTION: AL

13. UPDATE ON MR RESEARCH PROJECT

- 13.1 AL gave an update on the MR Research Project which had been asked to resubmit in the next round by the MRC.

14. MR SAFETY EXPERT

- 14.1 AL reported that discussions progress with IPEM regarding the MR Safety Expert Role and the group had been asked to review the competencies listed for such a role to ensure that these could be met by a radiographer. The group were happy with the competencies and AL will report back to IPEM and continue discussions with them regarding the route for accreditation.

ACTION: AL

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 15.1 AL queried whether the group are happy with the timing of the meetings, or would they prefer to start earlier. There was some discussion AL agreed to put a pool up via synapse for further agreement of the group.
- 15.2 AL reminded the Chair that the annual report is due in June. The Chair agreed to make a start on this.

ACTION: LG

- 15.3 AL informed the group that she had a query from a member in regard to a helium shortage. AL wanted to know the group's view as a response was needed. Discussion followed.
- 15.4 The Chair mentioned the recent proposed change by MRHA to its device bulletin regarding scanning of implants that are not MR conditional. AL reported that she had submitted a response to the MHRA but had not heard back – she agreed to follow up.
- 15.5 AL encouraged the group to please complete the radiographer independent prescribing survey as individuals and the Chair will be doing a whole group response also.

ACTION: ALL

- 15.6 There was further group discussion around the presentation by Barbara Nugent {BN}. The group agreed that it should continue to be in communications with Barbara as her work progresses and that a thank you response should be sent. It was noted that BAMRR are also involved in this work with Barbara.

ACTION: AL & LG

16. DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- 16.1 The dates of future meetings were agreed as:

- Thursday 17th September 2015
- Wednesday 13th April 2016
- Wednesday 23rd November 2015

Held at SCoR HQ and time to be agreed.