



**MINUTES OF THE MAGNETIC RESONANCE ADVISORY GROUP (MRAG) HELD ON THURSDAY
3RD APRIL 2014, AT THE OFFICES OF THE SOCIETY OF RADIOGRAPHERS, 207 PROVIDENCE
SQUARE, LONDON SE1 2EW**

PRESENT:

Sharon Burton {SB}
Muriel Cockburn {MC}
Carolyn Costigan {CC}
Baljit Jagpal {BJ}
Jenny Jones {JJ}
Rakesh Puni {RP}
Janine Sparkes {JS}
Rebecca Vosper {RV}
Rachel Watt {RW}
Susan White {SW}
Gail Woodhouse {GW}

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, especially for the benefit of our guest Gail Woodhouse who is an officer from Public Health England, who is here today to observe the group.
- 1.2 MC chaired this meeting as LG was unable to attend but participated via teleconference.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Pam Black, Audrey Paterson and Gill Winter.
- 2.2 To note that Gill Winter has resigned from the group and Audrey Paterson has retired from the profession.

3. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR FOR THE GROUP

- 3.1 AL reminded the group that a Vice Chair is needed for the group and Muriel Cockburn volunteered for the role. The members of the group agreed with this nomination.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 19th September 2013, were approved as a true and accurate record.

5. MATTERS ARISING OTHERWISE NOT ON THE AGENDA

5.1 IPEM Safety Update – 6th November Edinburgh (minute 9.1)

It was noted that MC booked and funded herself on this course. She reported that it was a very well structured and pertinent meeting.

5.2 “risk” item (minute 13.2)

At the last meeting JJ had a query concerning changing patients from their clothes into hospital gowns. AL was due to discuss with the TUIR department and Professional officers but due to pressure of work was unable to do so. At the next officers team meeting she will do so and report back to the group at the October meeting.

ACTION: AL

6. CONSENT FOR PREGNANT PATIENTS - UPDATE

- 6.1 AL informed the group that Gill Winter {GW} and Andrew Jones were going to work with her to review and potentially update this guidance but this is now not possible as GW has a different role within InHealth, so this work will now form part of the annual review and update of our guidance Safety in Magnetic Resonance Imaging. There was group discussion around what they feel is appropriate and if this group needs to create further guidance for those departments who have none in particular stand alone and satellite units that do not have on site Radiology colleagues. Questions such as do we need to provide more information on what conversation a radiographer should have with a patient regarding the risks, hospitals and departments should have policies in place, however, even in those where consent has been agreed with patient, referring clinician and radiologist patients on presenting for the exam will have discussions with the radiographer in the guidance was queried.

Following discussion it was agreed that a piece of work is called for and a working group of 2-3 people would be ideal. CC, RP and MC agreed to work on this piece of work.

ACTION: CC, RP & MC

7. EUPAD UPDATE

- 7.1 AL gave an update to the group and it was noted that she is working with the BIR MR Safety group and HSE who are responsible for implementation of this directive in England, Scotland and Wales. AL reported that she had recently been informed that responsibility for implementation of the directive in NI would be by the various territory HSE organisations although she had no particular contact details. CG offered to obtain some contact details for these organisations for AL to follow up regards how NI is going to implement the directive.

ACTION: CG & AL

- 7.2 GW indicated that a practical guide is being specifically created for the EU as well by PHE. It was started in January 2014 with a finish date of October 2014. AL asked the group to let her have their views regarding risk assessment/any practicalities. To note that ICNIRP guidelines will be incorporated into these guidelines.

ACTION: ALL

8. BURNS INCIDENT

- 8.1 MC shared images of a burn of a patient from her unit and discussion followed. It was felt that more attention needs to be taken with patients and the speed at which they are treated. Radiographers must be aware of burns and report them.
- 8.2 Some of the group felt that an awareness campaign is called for. It was also noted that pericardial wires did not show up on x-ray and departments need to share information and literature to say it is safe to scan with these wires.

Following discussion volunteers were asked for to convene a working party to look at policy wires guide and to raise people's awareness. BJ and SW volunteered to work on this issue – Work on Cardiac (retained pacing wire) and current status on burns which will be a joint BAMRR/Synergy publication.

ACTION: BJ & SW

9. REVIEW OF 'SAFETY IN MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING'

- 9.1 The group had been asked to review the safety in magnetic resonance imaging publication and AL asked them to let her know what/if there is anything needed; what needs updating etc. Group asked to post comments in Synapse which will then be discussed at the October meeting.

ACTION: GROUP

10. MRAG WORKPLAN 2014

- 10.1 Following discussion of the workplan for this year it was agreed that AL will draft a workplan and upload to Synapse asking for the group comments etc. by mid June and be discussed at the October meeting.

ACTION: AL & GROUP

11. BIR MEETINGS REPORT

- 11.1 It was noted that IPEM has published their policy statement on MR Safety experts.

Both SCoR and BAMRR had responded previously and this had resulted in amendments being made to the IPEM policy statement with a change in the title from MR Physics safety expert to MR Safety expert. IPEM are now looking to implementing a register of suitably qualified safety experts and AL will provide further updates as this work progresses

AL also mentioned that IPEM will be doing some work on strafing units and it was agreed that LG will speak to Dr Cormac McGrath to obtain further information on this work and to advise if SCoR need to make a response to this. It was agreed that this group should produce a Scope of Practice document for MRI and this will form part of this year's workplan as we need to promote what we do.

ACTION: LG & ALL

12. MR RELATED MEMBER QUERIES

- 12.1 AL updated the group on member queries received over the last 6 months. It was noted that the majority of these relate to staffing numbers in MR units. Discussion took place regarding our current guidance and a review of the staffing section of our publication will also be incorporated into the workplan.

ACTION ALL for comments please via synapse

13. WEBSITE PAGE

- 13.1 AL asked the group to please send in their details a short profile and possibly a photo to upload to the website. Send onto VA who will deal. AL also asked for a volunteer to look at the website page and let her know what is missing; what can be improved. RW volunteered.

ACTION: RW

- 13.2 Events, news stories etc. can also be uploaded to the website page and this way the group can gain more exposure. AL reminded the group that this is their webpage.

14. BAMRR REPORT

14. JS updated the group. BAMRR has asked for input into EUPAD. A lot of work has been done on their website which is almost complete. A further MRI course is being run in July (a follow on course from the basic course). A conference is planned for 4th October in Newcastle.
- 14.2 The group queried whether corporate membership is a possibility. At present it is a rolling membership. Individual members can join as usual and it is always more cost effective to attend courses and conferences if you are a member.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 15.1 An email from Evelyn Neilson in regard to a radiographer trying to create a DVD for MRI Safety in Scotland was discussed and MC agreed to contact a colleague and feedback to the team.

ACTION: MC

- 15.2 It was noted that Frank de Vocht and Steve Keevil are exploring the possibility of a Retrospective Study of Health Effects on MRI workers and were keen to seek assistance from both SCoR and BAMRR.

AL reported that SCoR are very supportive and would be happy to assist following submission of a proposal and approval from the Research officer according to our policy she has also passed on Janine's details in order that an approach is made directly to BAMRR.

ACTION: GROUP

15.3 SMRT has a session with 3 speakers from the UK. MC will moderate.

15.4 To note that the ISMRM is being held in Milan on 10th May 2014.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

16.1 The next meeting date has been agreed as Thursday 16th October 2014, commencing at 1.30pm (lunch from 1.00pm)