

Diagnostic Imaging Advisory Group Meeting

Meeting Summary

Date: Thursday 2nd December 2021

Time: 09.00am – 11.00am

Venue: Microsoft Teams

In Attendance:

Members: (state names with initials in brackets)	Role	Job Title	Site	Present Apologies
Andy Creeden (AC)	Chair	Advanced Practitioner	University Hospital Coventry	P
Rachel Nolan (RN)	Vice Chair	Assistant Professional Lead	Peterborough City Hospital	P
Thea Buchan (TB)	Advisory	Radiographer	West Middlesex University Hospital	A
Leah Fenning (LF)	Advisory	Radiographer	Whiston Hospital, Merseyside	P
Amanda Gibson (AG)	Advisory	Regional Advancing Practice Supervision & Assessment Lead	HEE	P
Catriona Hynes (CH)	Advisory	Senior Lecturer UAG rep	Sheffield Hallam University (D)	A
Alison Jenkins (AJ)	Advisory	MRI Assistant Practitioner	Alliance Medical (North)	P
Angela Meadows (AM)	Advisory	Radiographer/Unit Manager	Royal Preston Hospital	A

		NMMAG rep		
Rupert McLaren (RML)	Advisory	Radiographer	Yeovil District Hospital	P
Alexandra Partner (AP)	Advisory	Assistant Discipline Lead	University of Derby	P
Anthony Richards	Advisory	Clinical specialist England	Tunbridge Wells Hospital	P
Chloe Shand (CS)	Advisory	Lecturer, MRAG Rep	University of Ulster	P
Rebecca Steele (RS)	Advisory	England Senior Service Manager		P
Gareth Thomas (GT)	UK Council	UK Council Wales	Cardiff University	A
Nicholas Woznitza (NW)	Advisory	Consultant Radiographer	UCLH	P
Vicky Hughes (VH)	Advisory	Lecturer	University of Liverpool	P
In attendance:				
Sue Johnson (SJ)	Professional Officer	Professional Officer – Clinical Imaging	SCoR	P
Valerie Asemah (VA)	Minutes		SCoR	P
Leandra Archer (LA)	National Officer	National Officer – Northern Ireland	SCoR	A
Alex Lipton (AL)	Professional officer	Professional officer for QSI, senior managers and	SCoR	A
Michelle Tyler (MT)	Professional Officer	Professional Officer for Careers Promotion & Outreach	SCoR	A
Dean Rogers (DS)	Guest	Director of Industrial Strategy & Member Relations	SCoR	P

Review of Previous Minutes and Outstanding Actions:

Item No.	Description	Owner	Due Date	Status
7.1	MT gave a presentation to DIAG on her career and outreach programme. Following discussion MT asked the group to send her any images they may have on radiography careers to assist with her development of a digital toolkit. MT will share her slides.	MT & Group		Completed
8.1	'3 Things' – The group was asked to think of three things; such as a project, an event they or a colleague is struggling with, an issue at work etc. for the next meeting which can be shared with SCOR who to help find a solution. To be a standing agenda item	Group		Completed
9.3	Consultations: The group was asked to have a look at the new document, which is out for consultation – Regulation Healthcare Professionals; Protection the Public.	Group		Completed
10.2	Feedback from other groups: NIOB – SJ to invite a member from the NIB to speak at DIAG	SJ		SJ to invite national team member to next meeting
10.6	Feedback from other groups: Heads of Radiography Education: Following an update, SM will send VA a report to upload to Synapse.	SM & VA		Completed
	To invite Rachel Harris and Tracy O'Regan to the next DIAG meeting to give an update around research and the research strategy.	SJ		Completed
11.	Workplan Update: Following an update of the workplan, it was suggested that DIAG work with the Consultant Radiographer Advisory Group (CRAG) on updated the old PCE guidance. SJ will liaise with Tracy O'Regan on progress and also with a view to inviting her to attend a meeting of DIAG.	SJ		Completed

1. MEETING HOUSEKEEPING

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to this virtual meeting and explained the 'housekeeping rules'.

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

2.1 Roundtable introductions were made, especially for the benefit of new members Leah Fenning, Amanda Gibson, Alexandra Partner (HRE Rep) and Chloe Shand (MRAG rep).

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3.1 Apologies for absence received from Leandre Archer, Amanda Gibson, Catriona Hynes, Alexandra Lipton, Angela Meadows, Rupert McLaren, Gareth Thomas and Michelle Tyler. Also Jo Weekes (who will be taking over from Angela Meadows).

4. MEMBERSHIP OF THE GROUP

a) Vacancies

4.1 SJ informed the group that DIAG is not fully 4 country represented and a patient rep is also outstanding. To note that there is good attendance and engagement.

5. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Agreed

6. ACTION POINTS NOT ON THE AGENDA

6.1 None

7. WORKPLAN UPDATE

a) PCE guidance document – NW gave an update to the group on the Preliminary Clinical Evaluation (PCE) meeting he and Andy attended in November. Members from the Consultant Advisory Radiographer Group (CRAG) were present and Tracy O'Regan facilitated the meeting. The 2012 guidelines need an update to reflect current practice – Professor Audrey Paterson was the author of the first document. It is hoped that the scope of the document will be expanded to include other modalities. SJ informed the group that the HCPC Standards are still under review. NG tube check x-rays were included in the discussions around the new PCE guidance. SJ reported that there are still safety issues with the NG tube check x-rays nationally and the SoR and RCR has been charged with developing a scheme to work on this. SJ will forward the workplan of this to VA to upload to synapse. Monies for NG tube safety received from the NHSEI have to be used by March 2022.

8. CONSULTATION RESPONSES AND DOCUMENTS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW

The Chair gave an update on consultation responses and document under review. The Chair thanked everyone for their feedback.

- Draft guidance for consultation – Inclusive Pregnancy Status Guideline for Ionising Radiation:- Diagnostic and Therapeutic exposures (closed)
- Patient Identification Guidance (closed)

9. FEEDBACK FROM OTHER GROUPS

- NMMAG: AG was unable to attend the meeting today but will send a report to be uploaded to synapse.
- MRAG: CS gave an update to the group and will send on a report to be uploaded to synapse.
- UAG: CH was unable to attend the meeting today, but will send on a report.
- Heads of Radiography Education: AP prepared a report and will post on synapse.
- CTAG: TB was unable to attend meeting but VA will chase

ACTION: VA

10. DIAG PROMOTION – SYNERGY ARTICLE

10.1 To note that DIAG has been invited to promote themselves in Synergy News as a group, and they have been allocated March 2022 issue (VA to find out the deadline for the article submission). The Chair asked for thoughts and ideas on what DIAG would like to say. SJ reminded the group that it would be beneficial for the members to know that work is not only done by the professional officer but by a group of likeminded people.

Suggested ideas so far were:

- list of DIAG members
- ideas from the '3' things
- PCE
- mandatory vaccinations
- student vaccinations
- career progression

RN has kindly agreed to pull ideas together but contributions from other members would be welcomed.

- NW agreed to write article snippet on the PCE work
- VH offered to contribute by writing a piece on mandatory vaccinations from the student perspective, and to support RN will pulling the article together
- It was suggested that RS might write something on mandatory vaccinations (from a senior management perspective)

SJ reminded the group of the SCoR Strategy document which came out during Covid. In addition, a photo of the DIAG would be needed for the article.

ACTION: RN & GROUP

Post meeting note: the deadline for submission of the article is **Thursday 10th February 2022.**

11. '3' THINGS

11.1 The Chair thanked the group of their '3' things which will be very helpful in setting the agenda for the next meeting. For reference, they will be compiled into a document and uploaded to synapse for all to view.

ACTION: AC

12. HOT TOPICS

12.1 Covid Mandatory Vaccinations – Dean Rogers (Executive Director of Industrial Strategy & Member Relations) joined DIAG to give an overview, timeline and guidance on this issue. Legislation has just been announced with the principle action of imposing compulsory vaccinations for NHS frontline staff. If people feel that they are being pressured into doing something against their will it is hard to engage in a meaningful conversation, and the government need to recognise that they have hit their limit. The government is taking this stance because they are trying to solve a problem.

12.1.1. SCoR need to:

- Represent members who have a genuine exemption and be confident that help will be given
- Support and represent those who are afraid to get vaccinated
- Be realistic and honest and inform members that if such legislation comes through that the government will be able to dismiss those who do not take the vaccine
- Inform members that in regard to anti-vaccination rights this does not apply in employment law

12.1.2 It was felt that many trusts would not go down the disciplinary route about contractual changes, but DR will be speaking to various trusts to find out the percentage of vaccinated staff.

12.1.3 SJ thanked DR and queried if the Society had any idea of how many radiographers were not yet vaccinated. It was suggested that maybe up to a third in some workforce teams are yet to be vaccinated.

12.1.4 VH commented that local trusts have stated that they would not be accepting students who were unvaccinated. AP also stated that the Council of Deans would be treating students the same as other staff.

12.1.5 Pattern around certain communities (Black and Asian) not wanting to take the vaccine; but government has done some work around this.

12.1.6 DR encouraged the group to keep him abreast of what is going on within their trust so that the SoR know how to proceed and for the TUIR and Professional departments to work together. Group to send to SJ who will upload to on Synapse.

ACTION: SJ & GROUP

12.2 Community Diagnostic Centres – AC informed the group that his trust are having conversations with a local university and the Council around funding and building a combined community diagnostic centre and teaching facility. A feasibility study is currently being carried out. VH indicated that a diagnostic hub has just opened up in the Wirral. This is a trial set up which will be reviewed in March next year. NW also informed the group that there is a clinical site at UCH and the Royal Free.

- 12.3 Covid recovery & UKHSA review of IPC guidance - AC informed the group that the UKHSA put out some guidance scaling back on what was needed regarding Covid – it appeared that infection control was being downgraded. There was a discussion. In addition, it appeared that radiographers have relaxed the infection control slightly. In some trust, PPE rules have not changed.
(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukhsa-review-into-ipc-guidance>)

13. COMMUNICATION ON URGENT & UNEXPECTED FINDINGS

- 13.1 SJ had asked the group how they managed urgent and unexpected findings to feed into the work that the SoR and the RCR are doing. She thanked the group for their contributions. This has been fed into the HSIB (who had tasked the SoR and the RCR) and now closed but she will keep the group updated.
- 13.2 Cross Professional Working: SJ informed the group of a piece of work, which she will share with DIAG once a draft is ready. A position statement had been put out, format the request of Therapeutic Managers who wanted to know if they could send their diagnostic radiographers to work in CT scanning and MRI units during the pandemic. SCoR sent a response to say that yes there was opportunity to share skills but would need to refer back to appreciate training. SCoR will be producing a new discussion paper. SJ asked the group if this happens in their departments. Is this needed? To note that Tracy O'Regan and Spencer Goodman (professional officers) will also be working on this so ongoing.

14. OFFICERS UPDATE

- 14.1 SJ gave an update to the group.
- a) NHSEI /HEE Programs –
 - b) AHP faculties/local networks -
 - c) Diagnostic Support Workforce – SJ updated the group. There is currently a delay with this. Ongoing discussions to get the document roles and responsibilities published before the end of this year. Education and career framework work is ongoing and so is the CPD Now update.

d) To note that the HCPC renewals letters are being sent out, and group encouraged to seek support if they are called for audit.

e) Transforming Imaging Services in England: A National Strategy for Imaging Networks

f) Regional Updates -

g) Independent Prescribing – SJ informed the group that the SoR will go back to the Commission on Human Medicines on 17th December at a virtual meeting. A panel consists of diagnostic radiographers, NHS, SCoR and the RCR. A quantity of papers will be submitted (which SJ is pulling together). Suzanne Rastrick is the lead person. The RCR is supportive and positive and there is great collaboration. SJ said it feels more positive. SJ thanked RS who has been very supportive.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS & DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

15.1 AP will post her Heads of Education report onto synapse.

15.2 Dates of future meetings confirmed as:

- 24th Feb 2022 (interim)
- 26th May 2022 (in-person)
- 15th Sept 2022 (interim)
- 1st Dec 2022

ACTION: AP

Meetings Actions Log:

New Actions

Item No.	Description	Owner	Due Date	Status
9.	Feedback from Other Groups: VA to chase members for reports and upload to Synapse.	VA		
10.	DIAG Promotion: Synergy Article – Group to work on preparing an article for March 2022 edition of Synergy News. RN agreed to lead on this.	RN & Group	10/2/22	
11.	'3' Things: AC thanked the group for their contribution and will turn into a document and upload to synapse.	AC		
12.	Hot Topics: Following an overview, timeline and guidance on mandatory Covid vaccinations, by the Executive Director of Industrial Strategy & Member Relations (Dean Rogers), the group was tasked with keeping SJ abreast on what is going on within their respective departments. SJ will then liaise with Dean.	Group		
14.	Officers Update – Independent Prescribing: SJ updated the group informing them that she will be attending a meeting on Friday 17 th December to meet with the Commission on Human Medicines concerning diagnostic radiographers being able to prescribe. She will keep DIAG updated.	SJ		

Date of Next Meeting:

- **Wednesday 24th February 2022 (Interim) 9-11**

Future Meetings:

- 24th Feb 2022 (interim)
- 26th May 2022 (in-person)
- 15th Sept 2022 (interim)
- 1st Dec 2022 (online)