

## **UK Chemotherapy Board**

*Meeting held at 2.00pm on Friday 22 June 2018 at The Royal College of Radiologists*

### **PUBLIC MINUTES**

- Present:** Dr Jeanette Dickson (Chair, The Royal College of Radiologists (RCR))  
Dr David Bloomfield (RCR)  
Dr Ruth Board (Royal College of Physicians (RCP))  
Ms Pinkie Chambers (British Oncology Pharmacy Association (BOPA))  
Prof David Dodwell (Chemotherapy Clinical Information Group, Public Health England)  
Professor Finbarr Cotter (Royal College of Pathologists (RCPath))  
Dr Janine Mansi (Association of Cancer Physicians (ACP))  
Dr Catherine Oakley (UKONS)  
Prof Nick Reed (Scotland)  
Dr Paula Scullin (Northern Ireland)  
Mrs Edna Young (lay member)
- Guests:** Ms Victoria Fashina (Project Lead, SACT Regimen-Specific Consent Forms)  
Dr Archie Macnair (RCR-Macmillan Clinical Fellow)  
Mr Simon Purcell (Pfizer International)

**In Attendance:** Ms Gillian Dollamore (Executive Officer, Clinical Oncology, RCR)

#### **1 Apologies, Welcome and Conflicts of Interest**

Apologies for absence were received from Ms Wendy Anderson (UKONS), Prof Peter Clark (Chemotherapy Clinical Reference Group (CRG)), Dr Pippa Corrie (NIHR Cancer Clinical Specialty Lead) and Mr Steve Williamson (BOPA).

Mr Purcell declared a conflict of interest as he was employed by Pfizer International.

#### **2 Minutes of the previous meeting (31 January 2018)**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2018 were approved.

#### **3 Matters Arising**

There were no matters for discussion not addressed elsewhere on the Agenda.

#### **4 Chemotherapy Board Workstreams**

##### **4.1 Immunotherapy – best practice**

UKCB members had recently commented on a draft of a *Good Practice Guideline for Immuno-Oncology Medicines*. A revised draft was now being prepared and would be circulated to all Board members for approval.

## **4.2 Chemotherapy Consent Forms - update**

The UKCB received a progress report on the development of SACT Regimen-Specific Consent Forms. Forms for Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia had been re-published in May 2018, the Frequently Asked Questions information had been updated in June and Welsh translations of the generic SACT and immunotherapy consent forms were now available. There would be a presentation about the SACT Regimen-Specific Consent Forms at the 2018 UKONS conference in November.

## **4.3 Age is no Barrier to Chemotherapy**

The Age is no Barrier to Chemotherapy project was examining variations in prescribing of SACT across England in patients aged 65 years and over and whether this had an impact on outcomes. This project was focussing on treatment for colon cancer, non small cell lung cancer, and breast cancer in the period 2013-2015. The results would be submitted for publication shortly.

UKCB members noted the recent CRUK report entitled [Advancing care, advancing years: improving cancer treatment and care for an aging population](#) which highlighted the expected growth in the number of people aged 75 and over in the UK being diagnosed with cancer and the urgent need for older patients to be given better support.

## **4.4 Hand-held chemotherapy diary**

The UKCB discussed progress with the development of a standardised patient-held treatment record for use across the UK. The intention was to share best practice and to standardise availability of patient-held records, although this would not replace existing local documents. It was hoped this would be published by the end of the summer.

## **4.5 Chemotherapy Workforce**

The UKCB had previously noted the reports published by CRUK on the non-surgical cancer treatments workforce and by Health Education England (HEE) on Phase 1 of a Cancer Workforce Plan. The Board approved a [position statement](#) on the non-surgical cancer treatment workforce which would be published by the professional bodies.

# **5 Items for report**

## **5.1 Closed-system drug-transfer devices**

UKONS had [published the results](#) of a review into the effectiveness of using closed-system drug transfer (CSDT) devices for safe handling of hazardous drugs versus safe handling alone for reducing healthcare staff exposure to infusional hazardous drugs. The UKCB would be publishing a [position statement](#) welcoming these findings and supporting the recommendation of UKONS that further research was needed in this area.

## **5.2 Chemotherapy Training Modules**

The UKCB had reviewed and fed back on the e-learning modules supporting understanding of chemotherapy prescribing currently published on the Kings Health Partners Learning Hub. The UKCB expressed a hope that a way could be found to make them open access.

## **5.3 Chemotherapy Passport – update**

Since the previous meeting, UKONS had published a [SACT Competency Passport](#). This was being rolled out nationwide and chemotherapy nurses were receiving training using the Passport.

## **5.4 Neutropenic Sepsis - update**

The UKCB commented on new national patient leaflets that make clear the risk of sepsis from chemotherapy. This work had been supported by the Chief Executive of the UK Sepsis Trust and in line with sepsis public awareness campaigns.

## **5.5 Acute Oncology Initial Management Guidelines**

In March 2018 UKONS published updated [Acute Oncology Initial Management Guidelines](#) to aid assessment and initial management of patients with acute problems related to their cancer or the treatment they were receiving. The UKCB was considering this for possible endorsement.

## **6 Chemotherapy Data**

### **6.1 SACT Dataset**

The UKCB received an update on the SACT dataset. A number of analytical projects were noted, including use of SACT data to evaluate drugs for the Cancer Drugs Fund.

A review of items in the SACT dataset was under way, to which the UKCB had responded as a stakeholder.

The UKCB discussed the importance of stakeholders having access to national reports on SACT prescribing. The Board would explore this further with PHE.

## **7 Chemotherapy Commissioning**

### **7.1 Commissioning on molecular diagnostics**

UKCB members noted ongoing concerns about the potential impact of new commissioning arrangements for molecular diagnostic testing and the potential for this to bring delays into the treatment pathway for cancer patients.

## **8 Commissioning Chemotherapy Services conference, 6 December 2018**

The UKCB had been invited to host the 2018 Commissioning Chemotherapy Services conference. This event provided an opportunity for discussion about commissioning of cancer drugs and chemotherapy services. The [programme for the 2018 conference](#) was noted.

## **9 Chemotherapy Research**

The UKCB received a report from the NIHR Clinical Research Network.

## **10 Updates from devolved nations**

The UKCB received brief updates from Scotland and Northern Ireland.

## **11 Any Other Business**

### **11.1 Chemotherapy spillages**

The UKCB briefly discussed the availability of information for patients on SACT spillages.

## **12 Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 7 November 2018, 2.00 – 4.30pm