



FACULTY OF PAIN MEDICINE

of the Royal College of Anaesthetists

Minutes of the Board meeting held on Thursday 12 December 2013

Members:

Dr K Grady	(Dean)
Dr M B Taylor	(Vice-Dean)
Dr B Collett	
Dr J Goddard	
Dr J Hughes	
Professor D Rowbotham	
Dr K Simpson	
Dr B Miller	(Co-optee: FPMTAC Chair)
Dr L De Gray	(Co-optee: Incoming Chair, RAPMs)
Dr M Rockett	(Co-optee: Acute Pain lead)

Apologies:

Dr D Nolan	
Dr S Ward	
Dr E Baird	(Co-optee: Trainee representative)
Dr W Campbell	(Co-optee: President, British Pain Society)
Dr S Gilbert	(Co-optee: Lead Clinician for Chronic Pain, Scotland)
Ms C Green	(Co-optee: Lay representative, Patient Liaison Group)

In attendance:

Ms S Drake	(Education and Research Director)
Mr D Waeland	(Head of Faculties)
Mr J Goodwin	(Faculties Supervisor)
Miss A Ripley	(Faculties Coordinator)
Miss D Evans	(Faculties Administrator)

BFPM/12.13/1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Dr Mark Rockett was welcomed to the Board as the Acute Pain lead; his role will be to work with the Faculty on future routes of engagement with Acute Pain physicians. Dr Lorraine De Gray was also welcomed to the Board as the incoming Chair of the Regional Advisors in Pain Medicine; she will take over from Dr Miller on 1st January 2014.

BFPM/12.13/2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 12 September 2013 were agreed as a true record of events, subject to a minor amendment.

BFPM/12.13/3 MATTERS ARISING

- The Board were informed that the Faculty responses to the Drugs and Driving and scheduling of Tramadol consultations have been submitted. Once a response is released, a link will be placed on the website.

4.1 Shape of Training Report

The Dean reported that the Shape of Training report has been released; it is too early to know what, if any, effects there will be on Pain Medicine training. The Faculty response made it clear that Pain Medicine specialists will continue to be needed and trained to a high standard.

4.2 Report of the FPM Annual Meeting 22 November 2013

The Board were informed that 70 paying delegates attended, this is a higher number than the previous two years. Professor Maria Fitzgerald and Professor Sir Michael Bond were awarded Fellowship by Election and Professor Martin Koltzenburg received the Patrick Wall medal.

ACTION: Ms Ripley to print the citations for the Fellows by Election in the next *Transmitter*.

4.3 European Undergraduate Medical Education Research

The Board were informed that Dr Emma Briggs, a Lecturer at Kings College London and Chair of the BPS Education SIG, has produced a paper on the lack and inconsistency of Pain Medicine teaching at undergraduate level. The paper was presented at the e-Pain launch and the latest BPS Council meeting. The Board expressed concern about the lack of training and commended the report for highlighting this issue and it does need consideration. Ms Drake informed the Board that although the GMC sets the curriculum for undergraduates, the RCoA are setting up a group to write an undergraduate curriculum and Pain Medicine could be incorporated into this group.

4.4 Diplomates' Day

Dr Grady reported that the new Fellows, who have passed the examination and all assessment to achieve this will now be presented their Fellowships at the RCoA Diplomates' Day.

4.5 Recruitment of SAS doctor to Board

The Board received the draft advert for a SAS grade member of the Board and agreed that after some minor changes, it could be put onto the FPM and RCoA websites. The Board agreed that the co-option should be for a year.

ACTION: Ms Evans to put SAS doctor advert on RCoA and FPM website.

4.6 Faculty Awards and Honours

Dr Grady asked the Board to consider who they think should be awarded future Fellowship by Elections and the Patrick Wall medal. The Board were informed that Dr Roger Laishley (a former member of the Board) is being awarded the RCoA Humphrey Davy award; the Board agreed that they would ask if this could be awarded at the Diplomates' Day as the Dean and Vice Dean will be present to celebrate this achievement. The Board agreed to send a congratulatory letter to Dr Laishley

ACTION: Board members to consider possible award candidates

ACTION: Ms Ripley to draft a congratulatory letter to Dr Laishley

4.7 Guardian article

Dr Grady informed the Board that the Guardian newspaper wishes to write an article on Pain Medicine and has asked the Faculty to contribute; the Board agreed some

areas of interest that the article should focus on.

ACTION: Mr Waeland to write list of subject areas and get back to the journalist writing the Guardian article.

BFPM/12.13/5 FPM PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

5.1 FPMPSA Minutes

The Board received the minutes of the last meeting.

- Dr Simpson reported that the Drugs and Driving consultation response had been submitted
- The Medical Branch Block publication is now in its final draft
- The Faculty publications have been reviewed and some have been updated slightly. These changes need to be highlighted on the FPM website and in *Transmitter*
- New guidelines are being produced, on the 'Pain Medicine consultation' and core standards for Pain Medicine practice
- The Faculty are working with PH England, NHS England and various stakeholders to produce some definitive opioid prescribing guidance; this is on hold whilst funding is approved by PH England.

ACTION: Ms Ripley to highlight publication changes in *Transmitter* and on the website

5.2 Patient Information Leaflets Working Party

Dr Collett reported that the group has produced leaflets on amitriptyline, which has been piloted on some patient groups, and has also done ones on nortriptyline, gabapentin, pregabalin and duloxetine. These 5 will be piloted once more before being released as a package on the website. FPM admin are trying to engage with the RCGP so they will hopefully endorse and cascade the leaflets to their members. The completed set will be brought to the next Board meeting in February 2014. The Board queried whether leaflets should be created on interventions; it is recognised that Addenbrookes Hospital has a good set of intervention patient leaflets. Ms Drake suggested she get a contact through Liam Brennan, the Vice-President of the RCoA to see if there could be collaborative working.

ACTION: Ms Drake to secure contact at Addenbrookes Hospital in regards to Intervention Patient leaflets

5.4 *Transmitter*

Miss Ripley reported that work will start on the Spring edition of *Transmitter* early next year and that this will be John Goddard's first as editor.

The Board thanked Dr Simpson for all of her time, hard work, effort and dedication as the Chair of the Professional Standards Committee for the last five years.

BFPM/12.13/6 FPM TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

6.1 FPMTAC Minutes

The Board received the minutes of the last meeting

- Dr Plunkett has produced a guidance document for trainees and for examiners on how the FPMRCA examination works
- Dr Baird fed back that some trainees are still asking for a reading list or syllabus for

the examination. The Board commented that the Faculty have done all they can to assist the trainees with their examination preparation. A new FAQs document has also been produced which may assist the trainees as well as a trainee exam pack.

- Dr Miller is trying to gather information from the regions on what post CCT Pain Medicine training they offer, this information will be put onto the FPM website.

ACTION: Ms Evans to add FAQs to trainee examination pack for the RAPMs to give to their trainees.

6.2 Cancer Pain Discussion

Dr Miller reported that the logbooks received for FPMRCA applications indicated a low level of trainee cancer pain exposure; this should be a minimum of 16-20 sessions. The Board discussed that if a trainee does not have access to all of these sessions in their main training centre, these should be sought at other sites.

ACTION: Ms Evans to put Cancer Pain statement on the website.

ACTION: Dr Miller to mention cancer pain sessions in his TAC *Transmitter* article

6.3 FPMRCA examination report

Dr Simpson presented the report to the Board. There was a lower MCQ pass rate in the most recent sitting of the examination. After considerable statistical analysis, it was concluded that this examination was no harder than the previous two sittings. Dr Simpson further reported that all of the examiners' performance have been observed and audited.

6.4 Examination Prize

The Board considered whether a prize should be established for the top performing candidates in the FPMRCA. The Board agreed that these should be given to those who achieve the highest level of distinction. It was agreed that all candidates that reach the level of 'distinction' in both parts of the FPMRCA examination at their first attempt will receive a letter of commendation from the Chairman of the Board of FPMRCA Examiners. At the discretion of the Board of the Faculty of Pain Medicine, the Candidate(s) who achieves the *highest* level of distinction in both parts of the FPMRCA, based on the letters of commendation for each academic year will be awarded the Prize. A level of distinction is defined as follows: FPMRCA MCQ: The top 10% of examination candidates and FPMRCA SOE: A maximum score of 40 marks. On completion of the Spring SOE examination a list of candidates who received commendation letters over the current academic year, along with their scores in each part of the examination will be provided to the FPMRCA Training and Assessment Committee. The Committee will make a recommendation to the Board of the Faculty of Pain Medicine for the award of the Prize, to the candidate(s) who has achieved the highest level of distinction from the commendations made for that academic year. The successful candidate will be advised in writing. *The Training and Assessment Committee have discretion to review the above distinction levels and adjust as necessary during the first 12 month transitional period (September 2013 – September 2014). The above criteria will be retrospectively applied for the academic year 2012 – 2013.*

6.5 FPM Question Writer Advert

Dr Simpson presented a draft advert for recruiting new examination question writers. The idea is that the successful candidates will write with the MCQ group the first year then the SOE groups the second year and they may also take part in the Angoff Referencing process.

ACTION: Ms Evans/Ms Ripley to put question writer advert on the website and in Transmitter

6.6 Workforce

Mr Waeland reported that the QA and Workforce working party had their first meeting, which Jon McGhie chaired; they are currently gathering information on referral rates per region.

BFPM/12.13/7 FPM BOARD BUSINESS AND UPDATES

7.1 BPS/FPM executive meetings

Dr Grady reported that the FPM and BPS executives are meeting 4 times a year.

7.2 National Pain Consortium

Mr Waeland reported that this group has had its first meeting; the group consists of representation from BPS, FPM, CPPC and the Chair of the CRG SPS and the Pain Clinical Champion for RCGP.

7.3 e-Pain

Miss Evans reported that the e-Pain launch was held on Tuesday 3rd December and was well received. There are currently two modules online and the rest will be uploaded by March 2014. The Board wished to thank all those who contributed to this project. The RCOG are set to use this on their website. This is a tremendous intercollegiate educational link to add to those with the Royal College of Psychiatrists and the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health.

7.4 Pain Summit: Problematic Pain

The Dean reported that the Faculty work stream from the 2011 Pain Summit was called Problematic Pain but has been renamed as 'Complex Pain.' This work is progressing apace.

7.6 Commissioning

7.6.1 RCGP Commissioning Support Document

Dr Collett reported that the RCGP has released a guidance document on commissioning, which was a 2011 Pain Summit project. The official launch will be held on 16th January.

7.6.2 Armed Forces commissioning document

Dr Collett reported that a commissioning document written for the Armed Forces has appeared online; the Board expressed concern that it may be read as referring to non military Pain Medicine services. Dr Grady informed the Board that she has written to the lead of the Forces CRG highlighting that it could be misinterpreted.

7.7 Evidence base

The Board discussed that as soon as this project is completed, it will be published on the FPM website.

7.8 Regional Advisors in Pain Medicine

Dr Miller reported that Dr Lorraine De Gray was elected as Chair as he will complete his two year term at the end of 2013. The RAPM meeting was held on 14th November 2013, joining Anaesthesia & ITU RAs in the afternoon. There will still be an informal meeting at the BPS meeting. There were discussions relating to the optional modules (Cancer / Implantable / Paediatric) as no region is currently offering these as part of

pre-CCT training. The external marking of the case reports and logbooks were discussed. The group also had a debate on whether a Chair could stand for a 2nd term, some were in favour but some were concerned that some RAPMs may only be in post for 6 years and may only have one opportunity: this has been left for further discussion.

7.9 National Pain Audit

The Board were informed that a further round of the audit has been agreed. Ms Drake reported that HQIP are going to be putting out an advert for organisations to bid to run the next part of the Pain Audit. The Faculty could partner up with HSRC and BPS to put a bid in together.

7.10 Fellowship and Membership application process

7.10.1 Associate Fellowship regulations

Dr Hughes raised concerns that those applying for Associate Fellowship currently do not have to provide the same level of documentation as those applying for Fellowship; this will be brought back to the Board with suggested amendments to the regulations.

ACTION: Dr Hughes to liaise with Ms Evans regarding proposed changes to Associate Fellowship applications.

7.10.2 Associate Membership application query

The Board discussed the discrepancies in the Associate Membership application route in that the practitioner may not be being supervised or trained. The Board decided to remove this route from the website whilst it is discussed further.

ACTION: Ms Evans to remove Associate Membership application form from website

ACTION: Dr Hughes and Dr Waeland to look into the regulations and bring back to the Board

7.11 Update from the Perioperative Medicine Project

Ms Drake reported that a new strategic group on perioperative medicine is being set up with twenty representatives being invited to join: Dr Mark Rockett is the representative for Pain Medicine. The working group will produce a short document detailing the top priorities; an 'away day' will follow at which the main issues which need to be dealt with will be drawn out. A proposal will then go to RCoA Council which will make recommendations and will suggest separate work streams of different durations.

7.13 Acute Pain Medicine

Dr Rockett reported that he will work to increase the representation and development of Acute Pain Medicine in the Faculty's work. This may involve liaison with other professional groups who deliver this care.

7.14 Research/James Lind Alliance

The Dean reported that the James Lind Alliance are a prestigious organisation which brings clinicians and patient groups together to prioritise research topics. The James Lind Alliance prioritisation groups invited the Faculty to link up on a post-operative and persistent post surgical pain projects.

Professor Rowbotham informed the Board that through the NIHR portfolio, the research networks start their new format in April 2014. In each region, there will be one appointed lead for Pain Medicine who will be working on patient studies; Professor Rowbotham is in the process of identifying these individuals. These

individuals will form the core group of the research network.

7.15 Overseas work and Essential Pain Management

Dr Grady informed the Board that the Faculty is now helping to run the Essential Pain Management courses. The AAGBI and RCoA have each given £9000 in funding for a two year project in Africa. There is now a database of potential trainers and contacts are being made in various countries in Africa.

ACTION: Ms Drake to share the e-Safe database with the EPM group.

BFPM/12.13/8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Response to 'Commissioning Guide for Radicular Pain'

The Board discussed the BOA document. A BPS/FPM joint response to the document has been sent to the BOA expressing some concerns. The Board also discussed that the FPM and BPS should have been involved in the creation of this document but that neither organisation was asked to contribute.

Post meeting note: Mr Waeland contacted the RCS expressing the concerns of the Board. The RCS were unhappy to hear that the FPM had not been involved and were thankful to receive the concerns. They apologised for the situation this has led to. They will investigate and review the process BOA has used to create these documents

8.2 Antibiotics and Low Back Pain

Dr Taylor informed the Board that he had drafted a statement to put on the FPM website regarding the publication from earlier in the year on the use of antibiotics treatment for chronic low back pain. The Board agreed that this statement could go on the website.

ACTION: Ms Evans to put Antibiotics and low back pain statement on the website.

8.3 Population Pain Medicine

Dr Grady informed the Board that she has received a letter from Professor Sir Muir Grey suggesting some engagement with the Faculty. The Board discussed the request and agreed to invite him to speak at the next Board meeting.

ACTION: Ms Ripley to invite Professor Sir Muir Grey to the Board meeting on 27th February 2014.

BFPM/12.13/9 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

- 9.1 Terms of office of Regional Advisors in Pain Medicine**
- 9.2 AoMRC Seven Day Consultant present Care**
- 9.3 Table of consultations**
- 9.4 List of Publications and Releases**

BFPM/13.05/13 DATES OF FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

Thursday 27 February 2014
Thursday 8 May 2014
Thursday 18 September 2014
Thursday 11 December 2014
Thursday 5 February 2015

ACTION POINTS

Item		Action	
4.2	Report of the 2013 Annual Meeting	Ms Ripley	Print the citations for the Fellows by Election in the next Transmitter.
4.5	SAS Board member recruitment	Ms Evans	Put SAS doctor advert on RCoA and FPM website.
4.6	Faculty Awards and Honours	Board Members	To consider possible award candidates
		Ms Ripley	Draft a congratulatory letter to Dr Lashley
4.7	Guardian Article	Mr Waeland	Write list of subject areas and get back to the journalist writing the Guardian article.
5.1	FPMPSC Minutes	Ms Ripley	To highlight publication changes in Transmitter and on the website
5.2	Patient information leaflets	Ms Drake	Contact Addenbrookes' Hospital in regards to Intervention Patient leaflets
6.1	FPMTAC minutes	Ms Evans	Add FAQs to trainee examination pack for the RAPMs to give to their trainees.
6.2	Cancer Pain	Ms Evans	To put Cancer Pain statement on the website.
		Dr Miller	To mention cancer pain sessions in his TAC Transmitter article
6.5	Question Writer advert	Ms Evans/Ms Ripley	To put question writer advert on the website and in Transmitter
7.10.1	Associate Fellowship	Dr Hughes/Ms Evans	To liaise regarding proposed changes to Associate Fellowship applications.
7.10.2	FFPMRCA examination	Ms Evans	To remove Associate Membership application form from website
		Dr Hughes/Mr Waeland	To look into the regulations and bring back to the Board
7.15	Overseas work and EPM	Ms Drake	To share the e-Safe database with the EPM group.
8.2	Antibiotics and Low Back Pain	Ms Evans	To put Antibiotics and low back pain statement on the website.
8.3	Population Pain Medicine	Ms Ripley	To invite Professor Sir Muir Grey to the Board meeting on 27th February 2014.