

# Minutes

## **COBIS Steering Group**

**23<sup>rd</sup> May 2019 – West Park, Dundee**

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### **Confirmed Attendance:**

Ms Gillian Calder	Physiotherapist	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Ms Philli Cottam	Programme Support Officer	NHS National Services Scotland
Dr Julie Freeman	Consultant in Paediatric Anaesthesia	NHS Lothian
Ms Jacqui Ivison	Charge Nurse	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Ms Roselynn Kennedy	Lead Nurse	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Mrs Valerie McIntosh	Senior Charge Nurse	NHS Grampian
Mrs Sharon Ramsay	Paediatric Nurse Specialist	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Mrs Lisa Stewart	Programme Manager	NHS National Services Scotland
Ms Kendal Van Houten	Staff Nurse	NHS Grampian
Mr Stuart Watson	Consultant Plastic Surgeon (Chair)	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

### **TC:**

Dr Lisa Black	Consultant - Emergency Medicine	NHS Ayrshire & Arran
Ms Louise Clark	Staff Nurse	NHS Lothian
Mr Murray Geddes	Clinical Lead for Critical Care	NHS Lothian
Dr Charlotte Gilhooly	Consultant in Anaesthesia	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Ms Maggie Hampson	Staff Nurse	NHS Lothian
Mrs Claire Lawrie	Programme Manager	Information Management Service, NHS National Services Scotland (NSS)
Dr James McBrayne	Consultant, Critical Care & Anaesthesia	NHS Grampian
Ms Brenda McLeod	Staff Nurse	NHS Lothian
Mr Dan Widdowson	Consultant Plastic Surgeon	NHS Lothian

### **Confirmed Apologies:**

Mr Hilal Bahia	Consultant, Plastic & Burns	NHS Lothian
Dr Rebecca Crawford	Consultant Clinical Psychologist	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Mr Alain Curnier	Consultant Plastic Surgeon	NHS Grampian
Mrs Jackie Dunlop	Lead Nurse	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Dr Julie Gordon	Consultant - Emergency Medicine	NHS Ayrshire & Arran
Mr Peter Lindle	Consultant Paramedic	Scottish Ambulance Service
Ms Breeda McCahill	Burns Nurse Practitioner	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Ms Samantha Seeds	Station Manager	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
Mrs Alexandra Speirs	Senior Programme Manager	NHS National Services Scotland
Mr Stuart Waterston	Consultant Plastic Surgeon	NHS Tayside
Mr Kaz Rahman	Consultant Plastic Surgeon	NHS Grampian

### **1. Welcome, introduction and apologies**

Mr Stuart Watson (Consultant Plastic Surgeon, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Lead Clinician and Chair) welcomed all to the meeting. Introductions were made and apologies noted as above.

Mr Watson explained that it had been agreed to hold this Steering Group Meeting in Dundee to improve engagement from NHS Tayside with the network. Mr Watson hoped that the location would encourage attendance and participation from those Steering Group members based in Dundee, and expressed disappointment at the lack of attendance from colleagues in NHS Tayside.

### **2. Minutes of February 2019 meeting**

Minutes from the previous meeting which took place on the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019, were approved by the group as an accurate record.

### **3. National Burns Hub**

Mr Watson advised that the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde bid for a National Burns Hub had reached an advanced stage and the full financial bid was recently submitted for assessment. The group acknowledged that the bid was very complex and it was anticipated that a decision should be reached in the summer. Mr Watson advised that no formal information had been communicated, but tentative informal feedback indicated that it had been fairly positively received. Mr Watson agreed to update the group further with progress and news of the bid.

Mr Watson advised that the service redesign for the four burns units is still not certain but that the informal transfer of patients seems to be working.

Dr Julie Freeman (Consultant in Paediatric Anaesthesia, NHS Lothian) advised that she had not been aware of any inappropriate transfers since the last meeting. Mr Watson advised that he was aware of a recent positive experience of the transfer of burns patients: there had been a major incident in Elgin and several patients had to be transferred after a house fire. The process of transfer via Aberdeen was appropriate and successful and the brief sent to Mr Watson from the agencies involved was very impressive. Mrs Lisa Stewart (Programme Manager, NHS National Services Scotland) confirmed that the referral pathway was now published on the front page of the website and should therefore be easier to access.

### **4. UK National Burn Care Standards**

The UK National Burn Care Standards had been circulated to the group ahead of the meeting. The group agreed that adoption of the standards across the board would be beneficial in Scotland as it would allow units to measure progress and to highlight areas where standards are not met.

Mrs Valerie McIntosh (Senior Charge Nurse, NHS Grampian) noted that the standards had been reviewed in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and they welcomed a consistent approach.

Mr Watson highlighted that currently there are not formalised standards of care outwith burns units i.e. Emergency Departments and invited comment from the group on developing standards for those departments. Dr Lisa Black welcomed having standards in Emergency Departments, but that they would have to be basic in content and sufficiently flexible to be adapted locally. The group acknowledged that there was strong interest in several large Emergency Departments for maintaining and developing expertise in burn care and agreed that the development of a set of standards could encourage sustainable training and practice throughout Scotland.

**Action:**

Mr Watson and Dr Black agreed to develop a draft standard for Emergency Departments for the next Steering Group. This document could then be addressed by remote and rural departments to consider how they could reflect the proposed levels of provision.

**5. Clinical Guideline Review – Fluid Resuscitation in Adults**

The Fluid Resuscitation in Adults guideline was circulated ahead of the meeting. Mr Watson invited Dr Charlotte Gilhooly (Consultant in Anaesthesia, NHS Lothian) to comment on the guideline and on work she and colleagues have undertaken on fluid resuscitation for critically ill burns patients.

Dr Gilhooly advised that she and colleagues from critical care at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary had developed a draft protocol based on the Parkland Formula and review of adult resuscitation over the past 3-5 years. The main aim of the protocol was to reduce the fluid infusion rate and it will be presented at a National Trauma meeting in June. Dr Gilhooly explained that this protocol was similar to existing protocols, but included a more vigorous limitation of fluids if urine output is persistently high. An initial assessment has looked at a small number of patients in the critical care unit and early results indicated a reduction in the total amount of fluid being administered.

Mr Dan Widdowson (Consultant Plastic Surgeon, NHS Lothian), Mr Murray Geddes (Clinical Lead for Critical Care, NHS Lothian) and Dr James McBrayne (Consultant, Critical Care & Anaesthesia, NHS Grampian) contributed to the discussion around fluid resuscitation practice within their units where a pragmatic approach has been taken regarding fluid resuscitation.

There was some discussion around intra-abdominal compartment syndrome but it was agreed to leave the recommendation as it currently stands.

It was agreed that there was limited background literature available on adults in burns and there appeared to be little evidence between use of Hartmans and Plasmalyte. The group discussed that plasmalyte is only allowed in Intensive Care Units or theatres and mainly for spinal patients having back surgery. The group agreed to explore with Pharmacy departments the barriers that exist that are preventing use of plasmalyte outwith ICU and theatres.

Mr Watson thanked Dr Gilhooly for presenting the draft protocol and it was agreed for Dr Gilhooly to share the amended flowchart. Following approval by the Steering Group the guideline would be continually audited over the next few years.

**Action:**

Dr Gilhooly, Dr McBrayne and Mr Geddes to refine the protocol document and subsequently circulate to the Steering Group for endorsement.

The group agreed that it would be helpful to provide more direct guidance to Emergency Departments and Paramedics. Intensivists would welcome the use of balanced fluids rather than saline in Emergency Departments.

Dr Gilhooly advised that clinicians should be directed to refer to the COBIS website for guidelines. Dr Lisa Black advised that clinicians in Emergency Departments have been using their Mersey App on phones to refer to clinical guidelines. It was acknowledged that Dr Julie Gordon (Consultant - Emergency Medicine, NHS Ayrshire & Arran) was involved in the development of the Emergency Department App in Scotland and COBIS will ask Dr Gordon to provide feedback.

**Action:**

Mrs Stewart will ask Dr Julie Gordon to provide an update on the development of the ED app in Scotland.

## **6. Patient Information Leaflet**

Mrs Lisa Stewart advised that she had collated patient information leaflets from across Scotland's burns units, as well as leaflets from Bristol, Chelsea and Birmingham in England. By way of background, Mrs Stewart reminded the group that it had been agreed that it would be useful for the network to produce one leaflet to cover all aspects of burns to reduce repetition of information within various leaflets. Once signed off by the Steering Group, Mrs Stewart would liaise with the Communications team in NSS to print the leaflets and distribute to all units in Scotland.

Mrs Stewart provided printed copies of the draft adult burns information leaflet and it was agreed for Mrs Stewart to circulate the draft document to the burns nurses for comment next week. The group acknowledged that the leaflet was mainly focussing on adult self management and that it could be amended for paediatrics. Additionally, the group suggested that a separate hand burns and pressure garments leaflets could be produced.

### **Action:**

Mrs Stewart to circulate draft Patient Information Leaflet on burns management.

## **7. STN/COBIS/SABIN Conference 2019**

Mrs Lisa Stewart advised that the 2019 Conference would be taking place on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> June and that registration was now open. Steering Group members were encouraged to register as soon as possible as some sessions were already fully booked. Mrs Stewart explained that COBIS would be contributing to two sessions, both on the second day; one led by Mr Watson on microbiology, surgery and skin replacement, and the second on the Multi Disciplinary Team management of patients. Mrs Stewart was pleased to announce that 5 burns posters had been accepted to be presented at the conference.

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde staff were advised to forward the registration link to their nhs.net or home email accounts in order to access the registration page.

## **8. Courses, and Future EMSB Courses**

By way of background, Mr Watson explained that COBIS had run training sessions at a variety of hospitals in Scotland over the previous years. Both Mr Watson and the wider Steering Group were keen to continue this. It was acknowledged that there is the possibility for nurses to go to Glasgow burns units for a training week. To date, this has mainly been aimed at senior Emergency Department staff or staff dealing with burns in the community, but it was acknowledged that it would be possible for nursing staff in other units to attend.

Mr Watson also stated that there had been enquiries about running a one day Emergency Management of Severe Burns (EMSB) course in Scotland, but advised that a faculty would be needed in order to facilitate this. The group acknowledged that EMSB courses are currently run in England, but that it was a huge expense for staff to attend. Mr Widdowson explained that St John's Hospital in NHS Lothian had a simulation suite that could be utilised as part of a Scottish EMSB course and Dr Gilhooly advised that NHS GGC were also planning a simulation event.

Dr Julie Freeman advised that when the course was previously run in NHS Lothian, paediatric scenarios were included, Paediatric Nurses attended and it was therefore agreed that no separate paediatric course was required.

### **Action:**

Mr Watson agreed to liaise with Mr Widdowson, Mr Alain Curnier (Consultant Plastic Surgeon, NHS Grampian) and Dr Gilhooly to discuss this further.

## **9. Update from Comms Group**

Mrs Stewart advised that the last Comms meeting was cancelled and would be arranged for later in the summer. The group were aware that there were ongoing actions that would be addressed at the next meeting.

### **Action:**

Mrs Stewart to arrange the next COBIS Comms Group meeting.

## **10. Update from Data Group**

Mr Watson advised that Mr James Thom has left NSD and was no longer the network's Data Analyst. Mrs Claire Lawrie (Programme Manager, Information Management Service, NHS National Services Scotland) explained that recruitment to fill the vacant Data Analyst post was underway and it was anticipated that an appointment would be made to fill the vacancy in the summer. The group were advised that highlight reports would be circulated in the near future and were asked to send all data queries to the IMS mailbox ([nss.imsrequests@nhs.net](mailto:nss.imsrequests@nhs.net)).

Dr Gilhooly advised that the Data Group recently met and discussed how the data reports could be tailored to each centre. It was acknowledged that work on this would not be progressed in the absence of a dedicated network Data Analyst.

## **11. AOB**

### **Mass Casualties**

Mr Watson explained that he had contributed to a Scottish Government issued document on mass casualties whereby he had articulated that in the event of a mass casualty incident, patients would be treated in trauma centre hospitals. The group discussed the logistics of developing small teams of burns skilled medical and nursing staff to be mobilised to attend trauma centre hospitals in the event of a mass casualty incident. It was acknowledged that it would also be important for an intensivist to be part of the team as well as a burns anaesthetist.

### **Action:**

Mr Watson agreed to explore this further, discuss with colleagues and feed back to the group.

### **Programme Support**

Mrs Stewart explained that Ms Bina Collins (COBIS Programme Support Officer) had been on long term sick and was now on a career break. The recruitment process was underway to provide cover and Mrs Stewart anticipated formal programme support to be in place by the summer.

### **NHS Lothian Staffing**

Mr Dan Widdowson explained that they were experiencing challenges in attracting candidates for a band 7 Senior Charge Nurse post at St Johns Hospital. Mrs Stewart agreed to circulate information to the Steering Group for wider dissemination and Ms Jacqui Ivison (Charge Nurse, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde) agreed to speak with Mr Widdowson and Ms Isobel Penman (Clinical Nurse Manager, NHS Lothian) outwith the Steering Group meeting to confirm specific details of the job. The group expressed support in seconding a member of staff from NHS GGC in the short term.

## **12. Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 31<sup>st</sup> October. Mrs Stewart agreed to book a venue in Edinburgh.

### **Action:**

Mrs Stewart to arrange the next COBIS Steering Group meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> October.