

Minutes

Meeting of the Executive Committee of the
Faculty of Liaison Psychiatry
On 10th June 2008 at 2.00 pm
At the Royal College of Psychiatrists



1 To record the names of those present and welcome new members

Else Guthrie (Chair)
Mel Temple (Vice-Chair)

Sarah Burlinson, Janet Butler, Charlotte Feinmann,
Jackie Gordon Judith Halford, John Holmes, Khalida Ismail, Jagdish
Jajoo, Damien Longson, Sajish Pandaraparambil, Robert Peveler,
Gopinath Ranjith, Sanjay Rao, Geraldine Swift

Else Guthrie welcomed Charlotte Feinmann back to the Exec as a co-opted member.

2 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Peter Aitken, Jonathan Bisson, Jeremy Bolton, Paul Gill, Jackie Macklin, Suzanne McKeever, Alex Mitchell, Thirza Pieters, Ian Rogerson, Prakash Shankar, Michael Sharpe, Tayyeb Tahir and Alfred White

3 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13.12.08

Following minor correction the minutes were approved as a true record of proceedings.

4 Matters arising from the minutes

4.2 Progress Report on Survey (Dr Malik)

The Exec noted the importance of completing the analysis of this data. It was suggested that the Exec could offer support to Dr Malik if he was currently overburdened.

Action -> Else Guthrie

5 Chair's Business

5.1 Report from CEC

Else Guthrie reported that a report on Managing Urgent Care had recently been launched, and that a report on Psychological Therapies was due to be launched shortly.

The Exec were informed that the Chronic Pain Policy Coalition were holding a Reception on the 11th June and that Charlotte Feinmann would be attending on eh Exec's behalf.

5.2 Review of Faculty membership list for nominations to the Fellowship

It was suggested that there might be an article in the Faculty Newsletter encouraging eligible Members to apply.

Else Guthrie requested that a list of eligible Faculty members be circulated at eh next meeting to stimulate this process.

Action-> Greg Smith

5.3 ACCEA 2009 Procedures

Else Guthrie reviewed the prescribed procedure as circulated. She confirmed that ranking would be done by all non-applying Exec Members. It was noted that there was no specific guidance but that typically applicants would have been consultants for 8-10 years, and would be doing more than would be expected of the m in the role. As the awards were national, such work would be at that level (cf. local). However, the importance of local support was also highlighted.

The Exec held a brief discussion about whether psychiatrists were discriminated against by ACCEA. It was suggested that ACCEA took great pains to avoid this. It was additionally noted that the College's final list of recommendations did always synchronise with the final award allocations.

The Exec were reminded that there were other avenues aside from the College route to nomination. It was noted that some London Trusts are insisting that applicants conform to Trust policies before they offer support.

5.4 Link to G&C Faculty

Gopinath Ranjith volunteered to be the Exec's link to the General and Community Faculty, and Jackie Gordon volunteered to do the same for

the Eating Disorders Special Interest Group.

5.5 Teleconferencing

The Exec agreed that teleconferencing might be a viable option for a small meeting, but that it may prove unsuccessful with a group of their number.

5.6 New Trainees in Psychiatry Day – Liaison Rep

Else Guthrie reviewed the circulated letter asking for a representative from the Faculty. Gopinath Ranjith offered to represent the Faculty and to contact the PGES department accordingly.

Action -> Gopinath Ranjith

5.7 Change to Exec Dates

The Exec were informed that the December 2nd meeting would now take place on December 8th, and that the FECC would also change date to synchronise with this.

Discussion Items

6 Payment by Results

Mel Temple reported that this was progressing well, with seven centres signed up. She asked if any others would be interested. Khalida Ismail, John Holmes, Jackie Gordon and Janet Butler offered to assist.

Action -> KI, JH, JG, JB to contact Mel Temple

Dr Temple confirmed that there were enough A&E centres represented.

7 Darzi Regional Groups and Recommendations

Else Guthrie reported that in her region the emphasis had been termed as need provision rather than specifically as liaison psychiatry. Mel Temple added that she was aware of three Strategic Health Authorities who were incorporating liaison psychiatry into their Darzi reports.

Jackie Gordon informed the Exec that she had written to Louis Appelby, who had responded saying that liaison psychiatry would be looked after.

8 Quality Standards Programme

Else Guthrie reported that a working group was currently examining the interface between psychological factors and physical illness from both perspectives. This group included some liaison psychiatrists and was working with the CRTU.

The next step would be to develop a set of quality standards for liaison psychiatry. These would probably be heavily based on the standards suggested in Paul Gill's Managing Acute Care report.

The final step would be the development of an accreditation service. The timetable for this was hopefully the end of the year.

Mel Temple added that they were not looking for pilot sites yet, but were trying to get acknowledgment from the Healthcare Commission.

The Exec agreed that there would need to be an incentive for acute services to sign up to the service.

It was suggested that Peter Aitken's Policy Implementation Guide (PIG) could be the first stage of accreditation. The Exec held a brief discussion about whether the PIG was possibly too prescriptive in its current format to be widely accepted. It was agreed that it would be helpful to have a Scottish perspective as they had a different accreditation system to England.

9 Healthcare Commission

Geraldine Swift reported that at a recent Darzi meeting she had been asked to consult on acute PCTs as well as MHT. She had provided a perspective from liaison psychiatry. She added that it seemed that clinicians were supposed to come up with suggested aims.

Else Guthrie thanked Dr Swift for her work.

10 HIV Guidelines

Else Guthrie informed the Exec that these had been updated, and that it would be very helpful to make them available via the website.

The Exec held a brief discussion about the absence of a co-ordinator for the faculty webpage. Damien Longson and Mel Temple offered to share this responsibility.

11 Joint Working Party with RCGPs – Psychological care of

patients with physical illness in primary care

Else Guthrie clarified that this only affected England, and would hopefully be published shortly after July. There would be a launch via the Mental Health Forum, and the report would recommend that liaison psychiatry links with primary care services.

12 DoH 18 week Pathway for Chronic Pain

Sarah Burlinson reported that this utilised a bio-psycho-social model of care throughout both primary and secondary care. It was intended to be the 'gold standard' for PCT commissioning, and would hopefully provide leverage to secure improved funding. It was not intended to serve as a clinical pathway, and this was being developed separately. Dr Burlinson stressed that much of the content was highly relevant to liaison psychiatrists.

13 Training and Education

Damien Longson reported that the morning FECC had been cancelled as there was no outstanding work at present to do on the curriculum. The curriculum had been sent to PMETB for approval, and Dr Longson had met with Dr Gareth Holsgrove who was positive about its fate.

15 Meetings

15.1 Faculty residential meeting: 12th – 14th March, 2008, Assembly Rooms, Newcastle upon Tyne

Sally Fricker joined the meeting. Else Guthrie thanked Sally for her work at the Newcastle meeting. Sally reported that the meeting should hopefully have made a surplus of between £700-£1000. 100 people had booked for the first day of the meeting but due to the inclement weather conditions only 60 had made it to the meeting. In contrast, 100 people had booked for the second day and 90 had turned up.

15.3 Faculty residential meeting: March, 2009 – Prague

Sanjay Rao circulated a provisional programme for the 2009 meeting. He informed the Exec that there had been some feedback that the 2008 meeting was too academic in nature. He suggested that instead of having a new research presentation, that new service-based ideas and updates be presented instead. He also suggested holding a pre-conference workshop to catch early arrivals, the focus of which would be on trainees and new consultants.

The Exec held a brief discussion on the merits of holding the conference over 2 or 3 days. Sally Fricker argued that it would be financially advantageous to opt for 2 full days rather than 3 or 2.5. The Exec agreed that the 2009 meeting should be held over 2 days accordingly.

It was also decided that there would be a meeting of the Executive Committee at 1500 on the day preceding the conference (at the venue), with a dinner held in the evening for Exec members.

The Exec noted that it would be advantageous to have as few international speakers as possible to try and keep costs down.

Sanjay Rao invited suggestions for workshops. These included:
Accreditation related work
The role of A&E liaison and how this fits in with staff training
Older people's liaison services
Dementia strategy
Overarching policy implications in all jurisdictions
Palliative care

Dr Rao advised the Exec that he was trying to steer away from topics which had been covered previously or that did not concern all jurisdictions. Judith Halford offered to contact the Scottish section of Liaison Psychiatry to garner their views on cross-jurisdictional topics. Dr Rao noted that positive feedback had been received regarding short 1 minute research presentations. He added that he was hoping to supplement the meeting's income via inserts in the programme and having satellite meetings.

Difficulties in liaison nurses acquiring funding to attend were discussed, with a possible approach of offering subsidised places suggested.

The issue of not paying expenses for College members was raised; Prof. Guthrie indicated that the rules did not seem likely to change with regard to this in the foreseeable future.

The venue for 2009 was confirmed as being the Andels Hotel in Prague, and the dates as being the 19th-20th March (Exec 18th).

15.4 New Research Presentation Prize

Else Guthrie confirmed that the winner of this prize would only receive a certificate as opposed to a cash sum.

15.5 Ireland 2011

It had been suggested that the 2011 meeting be held in Cork. The Exec were mindful that this would have to avoid St Patrick's Day.

Reporting Items

16 Policy and Working Groups

16.3 CR 155 'Report of the working group on the psychological care of surgical patients', 1998

Charlotte Feinmann reported that this report needed complete re-writing as it was now ten years old. She asked whether the Exec thought that general advice or specific detail would be most effective; the Exec suggested that a general picture would be preferable.

16.8 Deprivation of liberty consultation

This had been submitted; a response was awaited.

16.9 Scotland

Judith Halford reported that a significant component of the upcoming Scottish Division meeting was focused on liaison psychiatry. She undertook to send details to Mel Temple.

Action -> Judith Halford

Dr Halford also confirmed that the Managing Acute Mental Health report was not applicable to Scotland.

20 Any Other Business

The Exec agreed that it would be helpful to have a section on 'upcoming meetings from other organisations' added to the Exec agenda

21 Dates of Future Meetings

Monday, 20th October: 12.30pm working lunch 1pm start, Strategy Meeting with Regional Reps, Council Room

Tuesday, 21st October: 9.00am executive committee meeting, Council Room, working lunch at 12.30

Tuesday, 8th December: 1.00 p.m. working lunch and 2.00 p.m. executive committee meeting, Council Room