

Steering Group Meetings

The Steering Group continues to meet on a regular basis, there are two meetings left which are scheduled for this year;

- 18th September 2003, Room 5, Post Graduate Medical Centre, Stafford Hospital.
- 20th November 2003, Room 7, Post Graduate Medical Centre, Stafford Hospital.

(Dates of the Steering Group meetings for next year will soon be available on the PiP Website and will also be e-mailed to all representatives).

New Steering Group Representative Update

PiP would like to welcome Dr Janet Anderson who now represents Newcross Hospital in Wolverhampton. Much appreciation and thanks to Dr Rosie Rayner who Janet has replaced, for her dedicated involvement with the partnership.

PiPs Achievements 2002/2003**Conferences/Forums**

- Annual Conference March 2002
- Gastroenterology Workshop Oct 2002
- Diabetes Forum Oct 2002
- Psychology Conference Nov 2002
- Neurology Stakeholder Conference Nov 2002
- Guidelines Conference Jan 2003
- Workforce Planning Workshops Feb 2003
- Gastro Timeout April 2003
- Epilepsy Forum May 2003
- Annual Conference May 2003

Project Work/Reports

- Newsletter June 2002
- Annual Report Aug 2002
- Lancaster Student Neurology Report Sep 2002
- Neurology Stakeholder Report Nov 2002
- Surgery Terms of Reference Paper Nov 2002
- Newsletter Dec 2002
- Guideline Development March 2003
- New PiP Website April 2003
- Gastro Service Review July 2003
- Paediatric Anaesthetic Sub-group
- Paediatric Gen & Urological Surgery working group
- Paediatric Gastro working group
- Paediatric Neurology working group
- Paediatric Diabetes working group
- Paediatric Epilepsy working group

- Paediatric Guidelines working group
- Paediatric Rheumatology working group
- Paediatric Neonatal Intensive Care working group
- Paediatric Medical/Non Medical Workforce Planning working group
- Steering Group Meetings

PiPs Annual Conference

Many thanks to all who attended the PiP annual conference on the 15th May 2003, at Britannia Stadium. Professor Al Aynsley-Green was one of PiP's key speakers who's words of encouragement were very well received, and will provide a positive impetus for commissioners to get PiP onto their agenda. (Professor Al Aynsley-Green's Presentation is available under Papers & Reports, other reports on the PiP website). Overall the day was a success, PiP is now looking forward to the year ahead.

PiP published in the HSJ

A journalist from the Health Service Journal (HSJ) attended the PiP Annual Conference. A brief article was written for the HSJ highlighting the comments made by Professor Al Aynsley-Green at the PiP conference.

Presentation at the Children's Health Alliance

This event took place in Liverpool on 9th May 2003. David O'Neill and Julia Greensall were asked to give a presentation on PiP and its projects. David presented an overview of PiP and the gastro review, Julia presented the surgery project. All who attended were impressed with PiPs hard work

'A Spoonful of Sugar' Senior Pharmacist - Evidence Supported Healthcare Vacancy

Many thanks to Sue Clarke, Senior Pharmacist who has left North Staffordshire to begin her new job. Her involvement and support to PiP & the West Mercia guidelines project group is greatly appreciated. Her post is currently being advertised, for an informal discussion please contact Sue Bamford on 01782 552903 or Dr Charles Pantin on 01782 552331. This post involves providing a clinical pharmacy service to paediatric wards, including paediatric oncology and paediatric intensive care, and providing pharmaceutical advice to both the Child Health

Directorate and medical and nursing staff on the most cost effective use of drugs on the wards.

Launch of the New PiP Website **(www.partnersinpaediatrics.org.uk)**

PiP's new website is now live and available for all steering group representatives and working group members to use. Please contact Nicky if you have any papers, reports or information on conferences and events that you are organising. The website should be used to promote working group projects and to inform others of contact details, achievements, meetings and relevant papers and reports.

More PoP! (Progress On Projects) **Surgery Update**

PiP is continuing to work with the three Strategic Health Authorities in the West Midlands - and Trusts and commissioning leads across the partnership area - to take forward the recommendations set out in the West Midlands Regional Review. The Review had concluded that Trusts needed to review their services to determine how to meet the appropriate standards for children's surgery and anaesthetics.

The Surgery Working Group has met on three occasions during the year and has discussed the standards which all Trusts in the PiP area should be working towards achieving. The agreed standards have been taken from the key documents of the professional bodies and the recently published National Service Framework - Standard for Hospital Services.

The list of standards is not exhaustive, but focuses on the main criteria pertaining to all staff involved with children undergoing general surgical procedures and covers the 'child friendly' environment in which children should be cared for.

It proved difficult to arrange the planned visits to Trusts so, instead of undertaking visits, a database containing the standards in a form of a questionnaire has been produced. This will allow Trusts to assess themselves against these standards. The database has been forwarded to all Trusts undertaking children's surgery for completion.

Alongside the 'self-assessment' process, the SHAs have obtained more up to date activity data from all Trusts and have analysed this activity by PCT responsible populations.

The West Midlands Strategic Commissioning Group is overseeing the work and the objective is for all areas of the West Midlands - and the partnership area - to have agreed (if possible, by the autumn), a plan to achieve the required standards.

Two sub-groups of the Surgery Working Party have been set up:

Anaesthetic sub-group

This group is being led by Andrew Tomlinson, Regional Adviser and Alistair Cranston at BCH to address the specific issues related to the delivery of

paediatric anaesthetic services (elective and emergency) in individual Trusts and across the partnership area.

It was agreed at the first meeting that all participants who attended would work with their surgical colleagues, to agree local guidelines for their Trusts. It was also agreed that, in order to address training issues, anaesthetists from DGHs would visit the tertiary centres to do some shared lists on routine cases. Staff from the tertiary centres will also visit the DGHs to review practice. Alistair Cranston is leading this work.

HST Committee sub-group

John Lotz, Consultant Surgeon at Stafford General Hospital, is working with Bob Spychal, Chairman of the HST Committee in Birmingham, and leading a group looking at training issues for Surgeons.

Stakeholder Conference

The focus of the surgery work is going to be brought together and presented at a Stakeholder Conference which the SHAs and PiP are holding on 22nd September 2003. David Fillingham, Director of the Modernisation Agency, is the keynote speaker. It is hoped that representatives from all organisations concerned will be able to attend.

The venue for the Conference is the Britannia Stadium, Stoke on Trent. To reserve a place, please contact Nicky Smith on 01782 552002 or e.mail nicky.smith@nstaffsh.wmids.nhs.uk

Julia Greensall, PiP Project Manager

Gastroenterology Service Update

It has been agreed at the last PiP steering group that the gastro business case should be submitted to the PCT's as a service review. Kieron Murphy has already put this document before 10 PCT's with a view to gaining agreement on joint working between PiP and commissioners in taking this forward.

Andy Spencer, Consultant Paediatrician, University Hospital of North Staffordshire

SOAPS: there is life as we know it out there!

In June, David O' Neill and Steve Cropper met with three members of SOAPS - Specialist Obstetric and Paediatrics Services - who had written asking about PiP's work. SOAPS is a partnership covering West and East Yorkshire, and, like PiP is exploring how services can be more evenly provided and sustained across a sub-region through the development of clinical networks. Their partnership is substantially commissioner-initiated and -led. So far, there are formalised networks have been developed for PICU and NNICU; rheumatology is the sub-specialty where SOAPS had made most progress towards a PiP-style network. A return visit has been proposed, with possibility of a more structured exchange of learning next year.

Dr Steve Cropper, Academic Advisor for PiP

Work Force Planning

The Balance of Care approach is a methodology which responds to new demands. The approach is wide ranging in its scope encompassing data analysis, planning workshops - involving care professionals and service users - and training in whole systems development of services for older people. The definition and derivation of appropriate client group target populations for specific services are carried out through undertaking local surveys or using estimation techniques. The workshops bring together key local players - and organisations - with discussion and debate supported by the use of the spreadsheet-based Balance of Care model which is used to support a local, multi-disciplinary workshop process. In this way inputs from all relevant players - including clients and carers, care professionals and managers - can be harnessed across all relevant local organisations (statutory, independent or voluntary).

The Balance of Care approach works by establishing the client group population needs as its starting point. These are translated into a set of dependency groups within which people will have similar dependency characteristics. For any given dependency group there may be a range of appropriate care options that can be specified; definitions of these will be subject to local circumstances and requirements. Depending on how people might be allocated across those options, there will be different resource implications for volumes, costs and types of services to be provided - and different impacts on the agencies responsible for providing them. The Balance of Care model enables extensive - and fast - policy testing to see what these effects might be.

Dr Paul Forte, Reader in Health Planning & Management, Keele University

Neurology

Following the very successful neurology conference on 7th November 2002, it has been agreed that the West Midlands Specialised Services Agency will now pull together a group to work on the future development of the service across the three Strategic Health Authorities. In parallel PiP will be looking to work with member PCT's on those aspects of the service which require local rather than regional development.

Mr Jon Cook, Commissioning Advisor for PiP, Birmingham and Black Country Strategic Health Authority.

Diabetes

PiPs is again working actively with Lancaster University. They are reviewing our last audit and looking in depth across the region at workforce issue and the needs of different areas in delivery of a diabetes service. We hope the results will enable us to advise the various diabetes NSF groups on paediatric

diabetic provision'.

Trish Smith, Consultant Paediatrician, University Hospital of North Staffordshire.

Rheumatology

A number of members have expressed concerns about the paediatric rheumatology provision in the PiP area. A meeting of interested members is scheduled for 29th September 2003, in the new University Medical School, University Hospital of North Staffordshire. Anyone interested in this service is welcome to attend. Please inform Nicky Smith of your interest.

Date for Diaries!

Surgery Stakeholder Conference

This conference is to take place on **22nd September 2003**, at Britannia Stadium, Stoke on Trent. Anyone wishing to attend or requires further details, please contact Nicky Smith on 01782 552002 or e.mail nicky.smith@nstaffsh.wmids.nhs.uk

Gastro Workforce Workshop

This workshop is to be held on **29th September 2003**, at Stafford's Post Graduate Medical Centre. Any one wishing to attend or requires further details, please contact Nicky Smith on 01782 552002 or e.mail nicky.smith@nstaffsh.wmids.nhs.uk

Diabetes Conference

This conference is to take place on **9th October 2003**, at Stafford's Post Graduate Medical Centre. Any one wishing to attend or requires further details, please contact Nicky Smith on 01782 552002 or e.mail nicky.smith@nstaffsh.wmids.nhs.uk

Publications

Partners in Paediatrics Annual Report 2003 will be available in September 2003. Copies will be posted to all Steering Group members. Please call Nicky if you are not on the steering group committee and would like a copy sent to you, Tel. 01782 552002 or you may view it on our website

www.partnersinpaediatrics.org.uk

Are you interested in finding out more about PiP?

If so, we would be delighted to offer you more information on the partnership. If you would like to get involved in one of the project groups, please contact your Trusts representative, the partnership coordinator or PiPs Lead Clinician. Further details about each of the working project groups are available on the PiP Website.

www.partnersinpaediatrics.org.uk

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- Dr Angela Moore
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