

BRITISH TRANSPLANTATION SOCIETY
106th Council Meeting, 20th June 2011
Association of Anaesthetists, 21 Portland Place, London W1B 1PY.

MINUTES

Present:

Mr Chris Watson (CW)	BTS President (Pres 2011-2013)
Professor Anthony Warrens (AW)	BTS Vice President (2011-2013)
Dr Chris Dudley (CD)	BTS Secretary (2009-2012)
Dr Richard Baker (RB)	BTS Treasurer (2011 – 2016)
Mr Paul Gibbs (PG)	Councillor (Transplantation Surgery) 2011-2014
Dr Andrew Bushell (AB)	Councillor (Basic Science) 2011 - 2014
Ms (Nicola)Kay Hamilton (NKH)	Counc (Recip Coordinator/Transpl nurse) 2011-2014
Professor John Dark (JHD)	Councillor (Cardiothoracic Transpl) 2011 – 2014
Dr Paul Harden (PH)	Chair, Clinical Trials Steering Group
Mr. Argiris Asderakis (AA)	Chair, Training and Education Committee 2010-2012
Mr David Van Dellen (DVD)	Carrel Club President
Mr Jacob Akoh (JA)	Councillor without Portfolio 2011 - 2014
Mr Peter Andrews (PA)	Chair of the Standards Committee
Dr Iain MacPhee (IM)	Councillor (Nephrology) 2010 - 2012
Mr Simon Bramhall (SB)	Councillor without Portfolio 2010 - 2013
Dr James Douglas (JFD)	Archivist

In Attendance:

Miss Sally Ross (SR)	KSAM Secretariat (Minute taker)
----------------------	---------------------------------

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from; Jacqui Spencer and Craig Taylor, Mr. Vassilios Papalois and Murat Akyol.

2. Minutes of the 105th Council Meeting, 8th March 2011

a. Accuracy

The minutes were signed off as a true reflection of the last council meeting.

b. Action points

CD has modified the guidance for judges for the Roy Calne Award and has communicated where appropriate.

CT has circulated all the papers in relation to the guidelines for the selection of HLA matched unrelated haemopoietic stem cell donors and has sent to PA.

JD has circulated his comments to Council on the NICE Guidelines.

3. Future Council Meetings

- a. Monday 24th October 2011 1.00 pm Association of Anaesthetists, London
- b. Tuesday 21st February 2012, BTS Congress, Glasgow

4. President's Report

- a. On behalf of the Executive

Nothing further to report not covered later in the agenda.

b. ODFT implementation group

The ODFT programme delivery board disbanded this year. In order to put pressure on implementing the guidelines, Chris Rudge has put together a group to keep the momentum going as an interim measure. Keith Rigg will continue to represent the BTS.

c. KSAM contract renewal

d. Position statement on organ transplants for non-UK nationals

A proposal was put to Council that the BTS produce a position statement to support Elizabeth Buggins' paper for non UK nationals, the Council all agreed to this (*sorry Chris I came back in to the meeting at this point, so missed most of the discussion*).

e. The Transplant Library

In previous meetings approval was sought from the Council to utilise excess funds for the BTS to give members access to the Transplant Library database which covers all journals from 1970 – present. The cost of this is £2,500. The Council proposed that this be offered through the member area of the website for two years and monitor the member traffic.

f. Hoffenberg lecture

Margot Brazier, Professor of Law in Manchester has been suggested by Bob Sells as a potential speaker for the Hoffenberg lecture 2012. She has accepted and will talk to the title 'Body Parts and baleful Stars: A Short Medicolegal History of Transplantation.' The Council discussed the option of holding a separate Ethics meeting at a different time in the year, however it was agreed to keep this meeting within the BTS Congress.

g. Provision of HLA typing for solid organ donors

An issue has arisen as HLA typing of donors is unfunded. NHSBT do not think it is in their remit, even though they commission retrieval and NCG do not believe that it is in their remit, but state that there must be money in the system somewhere.

The change in commissioning in the NHS means that there may be funding for this. Bruce Keo may be able to lever money into the NHSBT, if not CW will contact the commissioner and see if funding can be gained through another channel.

Action: CW.

h. Endorsement of clinical trials

BTS have been increasingly asked to approve clinical studies by researchers applying for grants. The executive has decided in an attempt to encourage a more coordinated approach to only endorse one multicentre study at a time. Further endorsement will be conditional upon completion of a preceding study that targets a similar patient population.

Guys Hospital have developed a committee that meets to discuss the relevance of a trial, on receipt of a request, led by Rachel Hilton.

CW to ask Rachel Hilton to come up with a process for the BTS to become involved with endorsing studies.

Action: CW

i. NHSBT Advisory Group

The chairs of the NHS advisory group meet twice yearly and have invited the president of the BTS to attend.

The advisory group in the last meeting announced the appointment of Rutger Ploeg to implement his programme which involved optimising donors and donor organs. Primarily he will establish a biobank which would collect tissue, blood and urine samples from all organ

donors for subsequent research. He will also establish a “national consortium of interested individuals, probably one member from each advisory group, plus a BTS representative, to formulate research studies in the area.”

j. EU Organ Donation Directive – need for BTS response

When the EUODT is implemented each centre will have to pay for a licence to undertake their works, e.g. transplantation centres need a licence to transplant, retrieval centres to retrieve etc.

The BTS will need to respond once the directive has been published, John Dark, Simon Bramhall, Jacob Akoh, Paul Harden and Murat Akyol to review the document on behalf of the BTS.

Action: JD, SB, JA, PH, MA

k. Research in organ donors and DEC – publication awaited

Each establishment has to have a licence. The UK research Ethics Committee met last year and produced a paper on research donors. There is still a question whether the HTA have to be involved with providing the licence. JD and Marlene Rose met with the HTA after the congress to discuss this further. A report was produced after the meeting and circulated to the BTS executive.

l. ESOT 2012

CW reminded the Council of the ESOT Congress in September and the involvement that the BTS has in the meeting and asked all to support where they can.

5. Vice President’s Report

a. BTS Congress Glasgow 2012

AW advised that a good programme is in place and that most speakers have agreed in principle. The proposal is to have a pre meeting symposia on Tuesday 21 February focusing on ‘how to do good research.’ Day two will open with ‘Trials and Tolerance.’ Early morning workshops will be held on the mornings of day three and four. The nurses will be presenting on the third day with the Hoffenberg Lecture as the closing session. The programme will soon be available on the BTS Congress website.

6. Secretary’s Report

a. NICE

CD reported that there was a good representation at the Hepatitis B scoping session and CD is currently awaiting a report from this.

A technology appraisal has been undertaken for chronic Hepatitis C.

A draft scoping document has been produced on Balatacept but no further work has been done on this. The proposal is that the document will be reviewed and a consultation will take place in January ’13.

b. Endorsement of Pharma sponsored educational events

The BTS is increasingly receiving requests from Pharmaceutical companies to endorse events, but never see a final programme. The proposal is that the TTEC pull together standards and guidelines on this so that the BTS don’t have to keep answering the same questions.

There was much discussion re charging the companies for endorsement; however the Council agreed that there will be no charge.

c. Declaration of Interests

All Council members were reminded to complete the Declaration of Interest forms and to return to Julie at KSAM. Julie to chase if not received in a month.

Action: JM

7. Treasurer's Report

RB reported that overall the organisation assets are looking good. The BTS Congress last year made a surplus of £10K which is good in the current economic climate.

There was discussion over the BTS debtors following the congress and SR to look into the people that are still outstanding payment for the congress as there is a proposal to change payment to credit card only. This may however cause a problem for Pharma companies wanting to do multiple registrations and receive an invoice for payment.

Action: SR

The early morning sessions at Congress will use interactive keypads, which will generate an additional cost to the Society of approximately £1700. This facility will also be offered to the Ethics Committee.

RB also asked the Council to authorise the DCD guideline meeting costs in July. The Council authorised this additional spend.

RB advised the Council that he is looking to broaden the horizon for sponsorship outside of Pharma e.g. pension companies etc. The Council were happy with this.

8. Ethics Committee Report

Nothing to report

9. Transplant Training and Education Committee Report

Nothing to report

10. Standards Committee Report

The Living Donor guidelines are now finished and will appear on the website this week.

NASH guidelines are slightly delayed due to the Liver Group continuing their review.

The Liver guidelines are still in the process of being written.

The production of the DCD Guidelines is to be led by Derek Manas and is the main focus for this year.

11. Transplant 2013

The All Party Parliamentary Group on Transplantation held a Question Time panel discussion in Parliament on 10 May 2011. Keith Rigg has remained the chair of the Transplant 2013 group. The group is proving much more successful than originally thought, mainly brought by the dedication from Keith. A report was circulated to the Council prior to the meeting.

Any questions that people may have can be directed to Keith Rigg who will ask questions to the Minister, Anne Milton directly at the next meeting on 28 June.

12. Carrel Club Report

DVD confirmed that 40 people attended the last Carrel Club meeting which was held in Bournemouth. The main topic raised was over vascular separating and their concerns.

DVD asked if there would be the opportunity to include a parallel session for trainees into the annual Congress, this will be discussed in the Organising Committee meeting after the Council meeting.

13. Clinical Trials Steering Group Report

The initial meeting has been held and the group objectives set.

There was discussion over current trials being held in each area, and a monthly telecom has been scheduled for regular updates. The group will also be meeting at ESOT on the Tuesday evening.

Buy in is needed from the UK centres as there is the need to recruit more patients, 800 recruits need to be made within the next 12 months.

UKT Database should be made available to all units involved in the clinical trials.

Need to ask each unit to nominate a member to attend the annual clinical trials meeting to be advised of what is happening over the year. This meeting can be scheduled for the morning before the Congress starts (9-10am) in Glasgow.

Action: PH

14. Reports from Constituent Parts

a. Basic Science

AB confirmed that there is lots of enthusiasm regarding the Medawar medal and feels that we need to keep encouraging the offer of the bursaries to the basic scientists.

AB to look at the list of basic scientists that Wilson Wong put together a few years ago. Target all front line staff in the basic science divisions.

Action: AB

b. Transplant coordination & Nursing

NKH reported the ongoing issues with the lack of study leave, funding etc that nurses and transplant coordinators face in attending the BTS Annual Congress. NKH advised that this year there were very few SNOD's in attendance at the meeting.

CW to write to JS to ask her to investigate the SNOD's attendance at the BTS meeting.

Action: CW

There was much discussion over issuing additional bursary funding to abstract authors, there will be a tick box available on the abstract submission form, and the top ten authors in each section will be awarded the bursary at the same time their abstract is accepted for an oral presentation.

c. Histocompatibility

Nothing to report.

d. Liver Transplantation

Nothing to report.

e. Transplant Nephrology

The MHRA have assembled a working group to look at immunosuppression for Transplantation. Very much a scoping meeting initially. The second meeting is scheduled for September. Responses are receptive around the table.

f. Transplant Surgery

PG reported that there was disappointment expressed that vascular surgery had separated itself from the general surgical SAC. A meeting is scheduled for October and there is a proposal in place to combine with the Carrel Club.

g. Cardio-Pulmonary Transplantation

Nothing to report

15. Reports from Allied Groups

a. Association of Surgeons

Nothing further to report

b. BRS

Nothing to report

c. CORESS

Nothing to report

d. Kidney Alliance

IM advised that the KA is currently going through a restructure and moving to a structure dependent financially on their constituent parts. The KA are dependent on the BTS being involved and paying the fee of £6k a year which funds the Secretariat. The BTS currently pay Transplant 2013 who provide a lobbying service. The BTS still fails to understand what the KA would provide for us.

The membership has just been renewed but CW needs to advise the Kidney Alliance that we will withdraw for 2012 and then reassess in 2013.

Action: CW

e. NHS BT ODT KAG

Nothing to report

f. Renal Registry

Increase the degree of data between NHSBT information and the renal registry data.

There was question over IM's tenure as the BTS representation, as this has come to an end on the renal registry, all agreed that he continue his tenure as long as he is a BTS Council member.

g. RCP/RA Joint Speciality Committee

RB advised that he is finding it difficult to attend these meetings as they are all London based, and a suggestion was made that he change a group with IM.

h. RIXG

This group focuses on the co-ordination of all IT within the transplant units. Nothing further to report.

16. Archivists Report

The BTS has been donated a copy of the autobiography by Sir Terence English. This was included in the last e bulletin.

17. Any other business

8th March 2012 world kidney day, the theme is 'Transplantation.' This to be discussed in the next meeting.

Meeting was declared closed at 15:15.