

BRITISH TRANSPLANTATION SOCIETY
117th Council Meeting, 10th March 2015 , 2.00pm
Bay View Suite - Bournemouth International Centre

MINUTES

Present:

Prof Anthony Warrens (AW)	BTS President (2013-2015)
Prof Derek Manas (DM)	Vice President (2013-2015)
Dr Iain MacPhee (IMcP)	BTS Secretary (2012-2015)
Dr Richard Baker (RB)	BTS Treasurer (2011-2016)
Ms Rachel Johnson (RJ)	Councillor without Portfolio (2012-2015)
Mr Nizam Mamode (NM)	Councillor without Portfolio (2013-2016)
Ms Diane (Martha) Evans (DE)	Councillor coordination & Tx Nursing (2014-2017)
Dr Rachel Hilton (RH)	Chair, Clinical Trials Steering Group (2012-2015)
Prof Vassilios Papalois (VP)	Councillor without Portfolio (2014-2017)
Dr Nicholas Torpey (NT)	Councillor Transplant Nephrology (2014-2017)
Mr Hussein Khambalia (HK)	President of the Carrel Club (2014-2016)
Mr James Gilbert (JAG)	Chair, Transplant Training and Education Committee (2013-2016)
Dr Antonia Cronin (AC)	Chair, Ethics Committee (2014-2017)
Dr Peter Andrews (PA)	Chair, Standards Committee (2014-2017)
Dr James Douglas (JD)	Archivist
In Attendance:	
Mrs Julie Mellish (JM)	KSAM Secretariat (Minute taker)
Mr James Neuberger	NHSBT

AW welcomed all to the Council Meeting, JM left the room to liaise with venue as wi-fi not working.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Dr Martin Howell (MH) Prof. Steve White (SW), Mr Paul Gibbs (PG), Prof John Dark (JHD), Ms Maria Hernandez- Fuentes (MH-F)

2. Minutes of the 116th Council Meeting, 17th September 2014

a. Accuracy

The minutes were accepted as true record

b. Action Points/Matters Arising

12: The Carell Club website currently separate from BTS: RJ to discuss with HK.

Training for transplant Physicians: the renal/hepatology curricula only require 6 months training in a transplanting centre. Aiming for 40% gastro to be hepatologists with 2 tiers. VP: European Tx med programme is well developed: need clinical experience to be eligible to take the exam. Approach to relevant SACs at Royal College of Physicians (**Action IM**).

14. BTS Website Management Group (*from minutes 30th June 2014*)

1.

All outstanding actions completed - RJ confirmed that changing members logins to their e-mail address for their user name had improved the booking experience for members and had reduced queries to the Admin team.

Further Action: RJ to identify any further improvements required and advise of increased budget to carry out the work.

4. Presidents Report (*from minutes 17th September 2014*)

c. Responding to the Press

AW told the Council that emails sent to media@bts all go to the four Executives. There is often a very short timeline given requesting someone to appear or respond to the press.

AW feels that BTS needs to provide a better PR service. Clearly the requests often need a

very specialised level of knowledge so AW asked how Council felt this should move forward.

MH-F commented that it is always very difficult to respond as always the response is needed within a few hours.

AW asked if KS could play a role and phone the different Execs, rather than relying on email.

NM added that quick responses are always needed and that relationships need to be built up with the press – also though that responses need to be in accordance with BTS views.

AW asked if a one hour session of media training, before a council meeting, would be helpful. It was agreed that this would be useful.

Action: KSAM to provide options for Media Training, potentially one hour following a future Council Meeting.

3. Future Council Meetings

To be discussed and agreed by incoming new Executive.

Post Meeting Note:- Exec agreed new format Council Meeting will be held over two days, 29th-30th June 2015, KSAM to find venue and arrange.

4. President's Report

a. Future Hoffenberg Lecturers' recognition

AW provided an e-mail from Prof Robert Sells asking Council to consider either a fee for speakers as well as re-imburement of expenses, or a medal or something similar. Council discussed and agreed that an engraved goblet or whisky tumbler would be appropriate.

Action: Incoming secretary (LB) to action

b. Proposal for a Chapter of Pharmacists

The Solid Organ Transplant Pharmacists Group (SOTPa) wrote to AW to request affiliation of the SOTPa group with BTS by creation of a 'Chapter of Pharmacists' within BTS. The group was formed in 2013 following recognition that pharmacists working within solid organ transplantation needed a platform to promote networking, education and professional development. Council discussed and were in favour of formation of a 'Chapter of Pharmacists'.

c. Election Results

AW confirmed that Lorna Marson had been elected as VP for 2 years and then President for a further 2 years. All those elected will be ratified at the AGM.

d. NHSBT National Donation and Transplantation Congress

NHSBT Congress is being held very soon after BTS Congress. JN advised constraints by NHS rules to spend money this year. JN said the clash of event dates was unfortunate and that this would be avoided in future. JN to feed back comments made by council. It was uncertain if Conference would be bi-annual or if it could combine with BTS in the future.

Action: DM to speak to JN re joint NHSBT/BTS Congress for future event.

e. BTS stand at ESOT Congress Exhibition

AW asked if anyone was attending ESOT and could man the BTS Stand. DM suggested the stand could be manned for one hour per day of ESOT. Council could not confirm at the time of the meeting.

Action: Any council member attending ESOT and able to man the BTS stand for one hour, to contact BTS Secretary.

f. WIPIMD journal: BTS Guidelines impact

The BTS Guidelines are the 4th (DCD), 6th (Living Kidney Donation) and 8th (Mx of failing graft) most highly reference articles in the field of transplantation since their respective publication dates. This is a very positive reflection on the Guidelines Committee and their contribution to patient well being and to the Society and their work is greatly appreciated. DM also congratulated the Guidelines Team.

5. Vice President's Report

- a. **BTS Annual Congress 2015**
 The Dutch group had approx 249 registered to attend congress and the UK registered 400 so far. An increase in Oral presentations with the Medawar and van Rood being combined. Joint sessions with BASL (BLTG), TSC, NHSBT and the 'Transplant Nurses Chapter' have been strongly supported. The John Taylor Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Prof Peter Friend. Association with NHSBT continues on a regular basis and we are involved in discussions on most committees including the NORs review, Liver national allocation scheme and engagement with NHS England. There was discussion over certification requirement to lead NORs teams. JN: NHSBT not in a position to accredit. A European Diploma has been established VP. JN noted that working relationship are improving but boundaries need to be clear.
- b. **Past Presidents 'club'**
 The past Presidents committee dinner was held on 27th November. It was a productive meeting and will become a regular event. The PPC discussed it's role and suggested dealing with professional governance. They could deal with requests from members when they ask BTS to act on their behalf. VP commented on PPC saying there is concern that past Presidents may be seen to have influence on BTS, but DM confirmed that the group would not. VP suggested that the group should have a set of guidelines to ensure the powers of the group are understood clearly.
- c. **Transplant Surgeons Chapter**
 There was a stand-alone meeting held on 21st November (NORS and EVOP) which was a huge success with a number of European guests in attendance. The next TSC monothematic meeting will be with the ASGBI in Belfast 2016.
- d. **Training (Surgery)**
 Continued representation on ASGBI council and BTS are involved in the 'shape of training'. James Gilbert is Chair of the BTS training committee continues negotiation with the College and NHSBT. The London transplant rotation has been reviewed by the SAC and with the BTS will be revamped this year with representation from all regions.
- e. **Future BTS Congress**
 2016 – Glasgow
 2017 – Harrogate
 2018 – Cambridge
 DM advised the need for more planning incase the Cambridge venue is not ready in time.

6. Secretary's Report

- a. **NICE MTAs immunosuppression (Adult and Paediatric)**
 Council discussed the papers circulated. IMcP advised there are significant problems with it. There is a meeting taking place in May and there is a position available in the viewing gallery and that BTS were not accepted as participants for the discussion. IMcP suggested the BTS should have a guideline on Immunosuppression. PA said if BTS are unhappy with the MTA then BTS could look at producing a guideline. AW advised if it came out after MTA it would look reactive. PA advised, being reactive in this case would be more appropriate. RB agreed to reactive action. IMcP said NICE are not looking at what is best practice. NM suggested BTS could lobby NICE to generate a guideline. AW said it would be better for BTS to produce.
Action: AW summarised, no action at present but to respond when MTA comes out.
- b. **Education Forum: Survey results**
 RB advised there were not many responses and it was advertised late. The format should be reviewed could be a 3 day event or bi-annual, also fewer lectures and more seminars. Council discussed and suggested more strategic thinking on whole programme of BTS activities. AW advised that the Exec had discussed having an Educational rep on Council. All agreed it's a very important event for young and new speakers. It was suggested that Congress could be smaller with Educational programmes held at other times of the year. It was agreed the Education rep would need to be someone who understands the educational needs and requirements and not to repeat same format. Trainees should be involved. It was agreed that an Educational Strategic Working Group should be formed to discuss this further and put forward proposals for discussion at Council.

Action: All Council to provide ideas of anyone they deem suitable to join the new group and e-mail to the new Exec, DM, RB, LM, LB

- c. Results of Council Elections
No unfilled posts this year.
Uncontested posts:
General Secretary: Lisa Burnapp
Councillor representing Donor Coordination: Amanda Small
Councillor representing Basic Science: Maria Hernandez-Fuentes
Member of the Clinical Trials Committee: Chris Callaghan
Member of the Standards Committee: William McKane

Elected:
Vice-President: Lorna Marson
Councillor Without Portfolio: Rachel Johnson
Councillor representing Liver Transplantation: Krishna Menon
- d. Correspondence with Renal Association on Transplant Nephrology training
Discussed under matters arising.

7. Treasurers Report

- a. Congress Budget 2015
439 BTS registrations, 320 Clinical Abstracts and 84 Scientific Abstracts submitted. BTS membership now 745. Congress budget breakdown attached.



Budget Congress
2015 v7.XLSX

- c. Annual BTS Budget



BTS Draft Budget
2014-2015.XLSX

- d. Report from accountants
BTS continue to try and keep all costs down. Secured £33k sponsors for next year. Projected to make £40k from this Congress, split with NTV.



B10203 - Audit
Summary Memorandu

- e. Restricted Funds
There is currently £97k held in the Restricted Funds pot from Hoffenberg and other grants received over the years. RB agreed to write to get funds released so they can be used. The BTS Auditors have suggested the fund should be reduced if possible. RB advised grants could be applied for if members wanted to attend ESOT. It was suggested this could be advertised in the E-bulletin as it was not well known this was available.
Some of the BTS activities are uninsured so need to keep enough reserves for future large events. RB advised the fund had decreased over the last 5 years by £100k.
AW advised the level of fees for attending Congress had been kept low as BTS want to keep costs down and break even and not to make a profit. This has been past policy. It was agreed to keep the delegate fee rates down. RB advised the BTS are reliant on sponsors contributions for Congress.

Action: RB to write to funders to get permission to transfer some of the money into the active BTS bank account so it can be used.

8. Ethics Committee Report

- a. RCPCH Death by neurological criteria guideline and consultation
Report and BTS consultation response circulated prior to meeting. AC advised good guidelines

produced in this group, how should BTS respond? PA said BTS do not have expertise in this field. UKDEC on paediatric donation is currently in draft, to be signed off Friday 13th. PA suggested producing an appendix

Action: AC to ask RCPCH if BTS can offer an appendix to the document and report back to Council.

- b. Consultation on the proposed Organ and Tissue Donation (Scotland) Bill
No decision until next government. Further amends post election. AC commented the Donor Register will be changed to have 4 options. NHSBT do not have a view. The register will be up and running in time for the act.
- c. DH and NHSBT working group on ante-mortem interventions in DCD
2 meetings have taken place chaired by Dr Paul Murphy with a Stakeholder meeting to be held on 31st March. DM asked if there were any surgeons representing, AC confirmed Chris Watson and Gabriel Oniscu will attend. UKDEC also attend and Anthony Warrens. UKDEC have published their view online re 'Heparin'.
Action: AC to attend the meeting and update Council.
- d. UKDEC updates
There is doubt whether UKDEC will continue, no decision before general election. AW asked Council if BTS should lobby government on why UKDEC should continue? What should the relationship between UKDEC and BTS Ethics Committee be? AC said, need to be separate as important to maintain the independence of the Ethics Committee as there are certain issues that should be considered individually and some jointly. The objective of the BTS is to increase transplantation and the objective of UKDEC is to improve standards and ethics. AW suggested if funding ceases for UKDEC it would be appropriate if the work sat with the BTS Ethics Committee. NM commented BTS need to wait until after the election to make any decision.
- e. HTA draft statement on consent for transplantation research where donors are deceased
Response submitted by the BTS Ethics Committee, HTA have responded and awaiting next draft.
- f. NHSBT draft framework to support clinical trials in organ donation and transplantation research
Ethics Committee have commented and will discuss further after meeting on Thursday 12th and will then submit further draft. AC asked what is NHSBT's take on this? JN advised, originally to provide a framework for researchers to carry out research.
Action: JN and AC to discuss further outside of Council meeting.
- g. BTS Ethics Symposium
Council was asked if there was any interest in putting up videos of Vox Pop interviews on the BTS Website? DM asked if this could be done. AW expressed concern over lack of clarity over what was and wasn't the BTS Event and the need to ensure it is marketed as a BTS Event.
Action: DM/RJ to discuss putting Vox Pop Interview on BTS Website, outside of Council meeting.

9. **Transplant Training and Education Committee Report**

The Training and Education Committee held its Congress meeting with the Chapter of Surgeons Committee. The main reason for this is because a number of participants are members of both Committees and the majority of the issues surrounding training being discussed were related to surgical training and therefore impacted on both committees. There was discussion on whether the two Committees should merge for the following key reasons:-

1. There is an overlap of members on both Committees and given the pressures of time and availability, streamlining the number of meetings seems sensible.
2. Significant overlap of discussions surrounding training and education at both Committee's meetings.
3. Majority of discussions around training issues surround the challenges and issues for transplant surgeons, although training in transplant nephrology and other non-surgical fields has been discussed at meetings. These areas have generally been poorly represented so difficult to support.
4. The merger would ensure that there is one key voice when in discussion with critical stakeholders such as BTS Council, JCST, Colleges and NHSBT.

The proposal to merge was approved by Council in June 2014 and joint meetings have been held since.

Current Training Challenges were reported to be:-

Organ Retrieval

Vascular Access Surgery

Donor Nephrectomy

Pressures of the 'emergency focussed' General Surgical curriculum

It is recognized there is significant uncertainty surrounding the impact of the 2013 ISCP (Intercollegiate Surgical Curriculum Project). Revised curriculum for general surgery with its heavy focus on emergency surgery.

Comments/discussion from Council: DM advised BTS did meet with Vascular Access but it was a difficult meeting. ASGBI – Ian Anderson has produced a document re Fellowships. AW asked how can Council provide input and give a clinical view?. There were joint Fellowships in the past BTS/RCS and they worked well.

VP – need to do a mapping exercise to see which centres would be willing to be involved and contribute. This is standard practice in the US and the UK needs to catch up.

BTS Council need a recommendation from the Committee on the support that Council can provide.

Action: Committee to circulate document to Council to approach industry and other groups re Fellowships.

10. Standards Committee Report

PA reported the new guideline on 'UK Guidelines for Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation in Patients with HIV' was finalised and uploaded to the BTS Website and they are the first national guidelines in this field. PA thanked those who wrote, commented on and contributed to, especially Rachel Hilton who took the lead role in writing and editing. An Article will be submitted to Transplantation on this guideline.

Council discussed cost of drugs to cure hepatitis C virus infection, approx. £40K to cure. Highly effective post transplant but quality of evidence lacking.

(See report for full update on other guidelines)

Action: RH agreed to assist PA to collate data on HepC to produce data for next meeting in June.

11. Carrel Club Report

HK reported at the Carrell Club meeting in Cardiff the Research Collaborative was launched. 20 Trainee representatives from 2- transplant units in the country attended to work towards creating the first national transplant research collaborative project. It was decided to study urinary complications following renal transplantation. The project is due to commence later this year.

Next meeting due in November 2015, date tbc.

12. Clinical Trials Committee Report

Report circulated prior to the meeting by RH.

Elected members of the Group, Dr Rachel Hilton, Professor Dave Collett, Mr Gabriel Oniscu.

Recent Activities:

05/09/14 – UK Kidney Research Consortium Transplantation Clinical Study Group and Industry Joint Meeting. Members of the BTS Clinical Trials Committee were present and RH has held subsequent face to face meetings with Chiesi, Alexion and Immunocor to explore funding opportunities for current and future clinical studies.

23/09/14 – Autumn 2014 Clinical Trials Workshop (Liver) – Several proposals for future clinical studies were discussed and will be presented at the Annual congress 2015)

National Renal Research Strategy Steering Group

RH represents the BT on this Committee of renal experts whose remit is to develop a national strategy for kidney research. The first phase of consultation is now completed and an initial draft document is being prepared for wider consultation to be completed by June 2015.

James Lind Kidney Alliance Kidney Transplant Priority Setting Partnership

The Steering Group includes representation from patient/carer groups and clinicians, with RH representing the BTS. In order to identify important treatment uncertainties of practical clinical importance in the arena of kidney transplantation an online survey was developed and circulated to all partner organisation. There were 182 responses to the survey which in turn generated 500

questions which was honed down to 256 questions. These are now being refined into clear questions and a prioritisation process in order to rank the importance of unanswered questions.

Parallel session at BTS Annual Congress 13th March 2015 – Emerging clinical trials in transplantation: are we there yet? Chaired by RH & GO.

13. BTS Website

- a. RJ reported that the plan to update all member logins is complete. The process has been much smoother this year for delegate bookings with fewer queries received by Admin.
- b. RB advised that some presentations were being recorded at Congress and will be uploaded to the BTS Website in due course.

Action: RJ to meet HK, Carrell Club to discuss requirements.

Action: KSAM to provide traffic reports to RJ on website prior to each Council Meeting.

Action: RJ to liaise with DM to discuss platform to support videos on the BTS website.

14. Report from Constituent Parts

- a. Basic Science

MH-F provided an update via e-mail:-

Aim 1: To create a small committee / group of Basic Science for BTS

Include the members and group in the website.

Suggestions for membership from the Council are welcome.

Aim 2: Increase the presence and weight of Basic Science in the annual congress

I'd like to gather the opinion of the members that consider themselves to be Basic Scientists.

I'd like to send a survey to get ideas to revamp the importance and maybe the format of Basic Science contribution to the BTS.

This could be sent to Basic Science members or to all of the members, could I have your opinion on this?

Then act on the information received. I will keep the council posted.

Aim 3: publication of other opportunities and meetings for Basic Scientists in Transplantation.

Establish formal links with Basic science committees from ESOT, TTS, and ATC.

I would ask for the help of the secretariat to communicate information to the membership.

Maybe add a small section in the monthly president letter, if there are issues to communicate.

Action: Council to provide comments on suggestions provided in report to MH-F.

- b. Transplant coordination & Nursing (DE)
Nothing to report.
- c. Histocompatibility (MH)
Report circulated prior to the meeting – no comments.
- d. Liver Transplantation (SW)
No report.
- e. Transplant Nephrology (NT)
Transplant 2020 – Lobby group to promote donation. Main aim to increase awareness.
- f. Transplant Surgery (PG)
No report.
- g. Cardiac & Pulmonary Transplantation (JD)
Report circulated prior to the meeting – no comments.

- h. Donor Coordination (Position to be filled following AGM)
No Report.

16. Reports from Allied Groups

- a. Association of Surgeons (DM)
Nothing to report.
- b. BRS (PA)
Nothing to report.
- c. CORESS (PG)
Nothing reported on the transplantation front.
- d. NHSBT ODT KAG (RB)
Nothing to report.
- e. Renal Registry (IMcP)
Renal Registry had 2 BTS member reps on it but now does not exist. Does BTS think it is important to maintain a link? All agreed yes and asked that incoming Council to establish link. NT volunteered to progress this.
Action: NT to establish new link with Renal Registry
- f. RCP/RA Joint Speciality Committee (IMcP)
Nothing new to report but agreed this should remain, PA volunteered to take over from IMcP.
Action: PA to take over RCP/RA Joint Speciality Committee role.
- g. RIXG (RB)
Nothing to report. RB suggested BTS should withdraw from this group. This was agreed at September Council meeting and should not appear on future agendas.
Action: LB not to include on future agendas.
- h. Clinical Reference Group (NM)
There was some discussion on Tariffs for transplants. PA advised looking at the NHS England website for information re funding and tariff costs. NM suggested new minister should be pressured and Transplant 2020 could put pressure.

17. Archivists Report

The Human Transplantation (Wales) Act is coming into force in December 2015. AC and JD have written an assessment of its provisions and likely effects, which will appear in the Modern Law Review in March.

18. Any other business

Barry Fuller / Paul Craddick entered the meeting to present an idea for a Transplant Exhibition to be held at RCS.

Council discussed and agreed that funding could not be given at this time and requested further documented information to assist with future discussions prior to making final decision on providing support from BTS. Paul Craddick agreed to send full details of the proposed exhibition to the BTS Executive.

DM agreed to include a register of individuals who carry out legal work in the next Bulletin.

AW thanked IMcP for his exceptional hard work as Secretary over the past 3 years.

DM thanked AW for his hard work on Council over the past 11 years as Treasurer, Vice President and President.

Meeting Closed 18:00

