

Commission on Patient Safety and Quality Assurance

Minutes of 14th meeting

14th March 2008

Summary of Action Points

	Action	By whom	Deadline
1	Arrange meeting with the Competition Authority	Chair	ASAP
2	Arrange meeting with the Mental Health Commission	Chair	ASAP
3	Subgroup reports to be produced	Chair of each subgroup	ASAP
	Circulate	Secretariat	

Commission Members in attendance:

Chair: Dr. Deirdre Madden, Senior Lecturer in Law, University College Cork
Dr. Richard Brennan, General Practitioner, Kilkenny
Dr. Eibhlín Connolly, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Dept of Health and Children
Dr. Tracey Cooper, CEO, Health Information and Quality Authority
Mr. Tim Delaney, Head of Pharmacy, AMNCH
Prof. Muiris X. FitzGerald, Physician
Ms Margaret Murphy, Patient/Carer representative, Cork
Dr. Alf Nicholson, Consultant Paediatrician, Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital
Mr Tiberius Pereira, Patient/Carer Representative, Dublin
Dr. Ailis Quinlan, Clinical Indemnity Scheme
Dr. Gabriel Scally, Regional Director of Public Health, NHS
Mr Dermot Smyth, Assistant Secretary, Department of Health and Children

Secretariat:

Ms. Elaine Tallon, Department of Health and Children
Ms. Ailish Corr, Department of Health and Children

Introductions

The Chair opened the meeting and thanked those in attendance.

Agenda Item 1 – Apologies

Ms. Mary Duff, Director of Nursing, St. Vincent's Hospital
Ms. Edwina Dunne, Head of Quality & Risk, HSE
Mr Paul Fox, Process Engineering Manager, Bausch and Lomb, Waterford
Dr. Mary Hynes, Director of Quality and Risk, National Hospitals Office, HSE

Agenda Item 2 - Minutes of Previous Meeting / matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

Action points from minutes

Action Point 1 – Decision made in relation to writing of the Final Report

Action Point 2 – Programme for two-day meeting 13/14 March circulated

Action Point 3 – Contact made with the Mental Health Commission. Date agreed for meeting between sub-group 3 and Mental Health Commission (10th April 2008)

Action Point 4 – Subgroup reports circulated.

Agenda Item 3 – Correspondence

No correspondence was noted.

Agenda Item 4 –Progress reports were given from each sub-group and the draft sub-group recommendations were reviewed and discussed.

It was agreed that the Commission's recommendations should be

- Clear, valid, measurable and contribute to patient safety;
- Evidence-based and linked to research findings, where possible;
- Cross-referenced to terms of reference;
- Clearly specify patient engagement;
- Linked to submissions, where possible;
- Linked to an implementation body.

Agenda Item 5 - Briefing by Dr. Holohan, Dept of Health & Children on recent reports into breast cancer & radiography services.

Dr. Holohan gave a comprehensive overview of the four reports relating to breast cancer services at the Midland Regional Hospital, Portlaoise.

The first report, prepared by Ms Ann Doherty, was requested by the Department's Secretary General. It deals with the background to the decision to suspend breast radiology services at Portlaoise in August last year and initiate a clinical review of those services.

The second report, prepared by the HSE Board on foot of a request from the Minister and with the assistance of Mr. John Fitzgerald, examines the management of all events following that decision.

The third report, by Dr Ann O'Doherty, on the clinical review of over 3,000 mammograms was published by the HSE, as well as a report on a review of ultrasounds.

It was noted that the report prepared for the HSE Board by Mr John Fitzgerald concludes there were serious weaknesses of governance, management and communication in dealing with the situation which arose at Portlaoise. This resulted

in unnecessary anxiety for many women. Dr. Holohan stressed that the Department and the HSE are now taking steps to ensure that similar events do not happen again.

Agenda Item 7 – A.O.B.

A discussion took place concerning arrangements to be made for a meeting with the Mental Health Commission.

Next meeting

Friday 11th April 2008

Venue: Conrad Hotel, Dublin 2

Signed _____

Date _____

Dr Deirdre Madden

Chairperson

Commission on Patient Safety and Quality Assurance