

**Commission on Patient Safety and
Quality Assurance**

**Minutes of 2nd meeting
16 February 2007**

Summary of Action Points

	Action	By whom	Deadline
1	Action points to be circulated as soon as possible after each meeting	Secretariat	As soon as possible after each meeting
2	Margaret Murphy agreed to provide information on headings which are used in the Joint Commission Templates in relation to Safety Solutions; Secretariat to circulate	Margaret Murphy to provide Secretariat to circulate	
3	Provide paper outlining the structures of the health service	Dermot Smyth	
4	Circulate paper from Dr Paul Kavanagh on reviews of patient safety in other jurisdictions	Secretariat	As soon as possible
5	Written report to be prepared by the Chair (or rapporteur) of each subgroup and circulated	Chair / rapporteur of each subgroup to provide : i.e. Dr Tracey Cooper Dr Ailis Quinlan Ms Edwina Dunne/ Dr Richard Brennan Secretariat to circulate	
6	Provide paper on risk management activities in HSE	Ms Edwina Dunne	Before next meeting
7	Circulate details of conferences which were brought to attention	Secretariat	As soon as possible

Commission Members in attendance:

Chair: Dr. Deirdre Madden, Senior Lecturer in Law, University College Cork
 Dr. Richard Brennan, General Practitioner, Kilkenny
 Dr. Tracey Cooper, CEO, Interim Health Information and Quality Authority
 Dr. Philip Crowley, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health and Children
 Mr Tim Delaney, Head of Pharmacy, AMNCH
 Ms Mary Duff, SRN, Director of Nursing St Vincent's Hospital

Ms Edwina Dunne, National Head of Quality of Risk, Office of the CEO, Health Services Executive

Mr Paul Fox, Process Engineering Manager, Bausch and Lomb, Waterford

Dr. Mary Hynes, Director of Quality and Risk, National Hospitals Office, Health Services Executive

Ms Margaret Murphy, Patient/Carer representative, Cork City

Dr. Ailis Quinlan, Clinical Indemnity Scheme

Mr Dermot Smyth, Assistant Secretary, Department of Health and Children

Others in attendance:

Dr Paul Kavanagh, Specialist Registrar in Public Health Medicine, Department of Health and Children

Secretariat:

Mr Aidan Clancy, Department of Health and Children

Apologies :

Professor Fergal Malone, Professor of Obstetrics, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Dr Alf Nicholson, Consultant Paediatrician, Our Lady of Lourdes Drogheda

Mr Tiberius Pereira, Patient/Carer representative, Dublin

Dr Gabriel Scally, Regional Director of Public Health for the South West Region of England, Bristol, England

Introductions

The Chair welcomed Mr Tim Delaney to the Commission.

Agenda Item 1 – Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

Matters Arising

A request was made that the Action Points be circulated as soon as possible after each meeting. The Secretariat agreed to do this.

Agenda Item 2 – Dates of Future Meetings

The following dates were agreed for future meetings during 2007:

Friday 23 March 2007
Thursday 26 April 2007
Thursday 31 May 2007
Thursday 14 June 2007
Thursday 5 July 2007

SUMMER BREAK

Thursday 20 September 2007
Thursday 18 October 2007
Thursday 15 November 2007
Friday 14 December 2007

Agenda Item 3 – Revised Terms of Reference

The Commission discussed and agreed a revised set of Terms of Reference – copy of revised Terms of Reference attached.

Agenda Item 4 - Subgroups

The topics for each subgroup were discussed. A revised set of topics was agreed – copy attached.

Points made in the general discussion regarding the subgroups included:

- The need to ensure that the patients perspective is well represented
- The need to ensure that concept of quality is considered

- The need to consider the causes of adverse events

There was a short discussion regarding the possible co-option of interested parties to subgroups and the members agreed that the preferred approach was to invite such persons to make submissions.

The Commission broke into subgroups for a first meeting and reconvened in plenary session at a later stage. A short verbal report from each subgroup was discussed. It was agreed that a written report from each subgroup would be prepared by the Chair of each subgroup and circulated via the Secretariat.

The following general points were made in the discussion that followed

- There is a need for the Commission's recommendations to be targeted at a level above the operational level
- The Commission's recommendations would have a significant influence on the Irish healthcare system
- The level of support for clinical governance is limited outside the major university hospitals
- Cultural issues – professional culture, ward culture and organisational culture – are a major consideration for the Commission
- Licensing may be but one of a number of ways to regulate issues of concern to the Commission
- There is a risk of developing solutions which are not well integrated into the healthcare delivery system – they could become “silos”
- It is important to be aware of other groups doing work similar to that of the Commission (for example, in the HSE) and to avoid duplication
- The same governance structures should be required in both public and private healthcare facilities
- There is a risk that hospitals might be *over assessed* by different regulatory and or inspection regimes; it was suggested that hospitals are already being assessed by up to 83 external agencies
- It is important that any system of regulation should have “teeth”
- There is a risk with a licensing system that, for practical reasons, it may not be possible to revoke a licence; phased or partial revocation (e.g. a treatment unit) was suggested as more pragmatic approaches
- The distinction was drawn between minimum standards (which are achieved through licensing) and continuous improvement

Mr Dermot Smyth requested Ms Edwina Dunne to provide the Commission members with a paper describing initiatives on risk management being undertaken by HSE.

Agenda Item 5 - AOB

A request was made to co-opt a person to one of the subgroups,. The Chair expressed a preference for inviting experts to present or make submissions, but agreed to revert on the subject.

A number of forthcoming conferences of relevance to the Commission were brought to attention:

- Action Against Counterfeit Medicines in Ireland Conference, Fitzpatrick Castle Hotel Killiney, Co. Dublin, Wednesday 21st February 2007
- Patient Centredness and Complaints Handling, Berkley Court Hotel, Dublin 4 Tuesday 6th March (1-5pm)
- WHO: International Forum on Quality and Safety in Health Care 18-19 April 2007 – Barcelona

HIQA, in collaboration with WHO, will be involved in a 3 day patient safety event in Dublin scheduled for September 2007

Dr Paul Kavanagh agreed to provide a paper on how other jurisdictions had review of the issue of patient safety. The Secretariat undertook to circulate to Commission members.

Signed _____

Date _____

Dr Deirdre Madden
Chairperson
Commission on Patient Safety and
Quality Assurance

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Commission on Patient Safety and Quality in Health Care

Terms of reference:

Having regard to the findings of the Lourdes Inquiry and to responses to health system failures in other jurisdictions:

The Commission will develop proposals for a health service wide (encompassing both the public and the private sectors) system of governance based on corporate accountability for the quality and safety of health services. These proposals should constitute a framework which includes mechanisms and arrangements that will enable the verifiable implementation of nationally agreed managerial and clinical standards. The framework should include any necessary legal, managerial, administrative, technical, human resource measures.

As a component of any proposed framework, the Commission will *inter alia* examine and make recommendations in relation to:

- a system of leadership for clinicians and managers which would underpin robust corporate accountability for institutional and clinical performance;
- a statutory system of licensing for public and private health care providers and services;
- the process of quality assurance of clinical services (with an emphasis on clinical outcomes) for public and private health care providers and services;
- procedures for healthcare professionals and managers to anticipate risks and promote good performance through effective risk identification, near-miss and critical incident reporting;
- the participation of patients and carers and support staff in engaging with health care providers on health services planning and the quality of care received;
- the participation by all health care staff in audit programmes which will aim to ensure quality improvement and that trends in adverse clinical events, complaints, adverse drug reactions and adverse events with medical devices are effectively analysed and disseminated;
- the means to ensure that evidence-based practice is supported and applied routinely in everyday practice;
- the governance of regulatory bodies in the health system and ways in which effective integration can be enabled between the various bodies.

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The Commission on Patient Safety and Quality Assurance

Proposed sub-groups

1. Review of patient safety and quality in healthcare management and analysis of the gaps in current practice and the role of the patient/public in this

Possible membership:

Chair: Tracey Cooper

Paul Fox

Dr. Mary Hynes (alternate chair)

Dr Gabriel Scally

Tiberius Pereira

Dr. Philip Crowley

2. Review of the clinical audit and adverse event reporting systems, of the cause of adverse events and the role of the patient/public in this

Possible membership:

Chair: Dr. Ailis Quinlan

Tim Delaney

Professor Fergal Malone (alternate chair)

Dr Alf Nicholson

Margaret Murphy

3. Exploration of the scope of a licensing system for public and private health care and the role of the patient/public in this

Possible membership:

Chair: Edwina Dunne

Dr. Richard Brennan (alternate chair)

Dermot Smyth

Dr. Deirdre Madden

Mary Duff

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