

Trent and North Anglia Paediatric Nephrology Network

Annual Meeting

Thursday 14 May 2009, 3.30pm

**Postgraduate Education Centre, QMC Campus, Nottingham University
Hospitals NHS Trust**

Present:

Prof Alan Watson (Nottingham), Dr Farida Hussain (Nottingham), Dr Jonathan Evans (Nottingham), Dr Martin Christian (Nottingham), Dr Andy Lunn (Nottingham SpR), Dr Peter Houtman (Leicester), Dr Angela Hall (Leicester), Dr Gail Moss (Sheffield), Dr Alasdair Scammell (Lincoln), Dr Venkat Setty (Boston), Dr Simon Rhodes (Kings Mill), Dr Kunle Ayonrinde (Chesterfield), Dr Helena Clements (Kings Mill)

Summary of the last year

All attendees had received a copy of the Unit's annual report for 2008. Alan Watson gave a summary of the move to QMC almost a year ago. There had been a squeeze on beds in general and specifically HDU beds with the reconfiguration of a new HDU at the QMC Campus. As yet, the Unit has not had to close to acute admissions but has come close on several occasions. There is also inadequate parent accommodation at present.

There is pressure on dialysis patients with unprecedented numbers of children on both PD and haemo.

The consultants continue to operate a consultant of the week system. They can be contacted through switchboard or via their secretaries, pager or mobile. At the present time there is no national grid trainee in paediatric nephrology and this situation will not change until at least September 2010. Alan Watson expressed a preference that referrals be made consultant to consultant to improve continuity of care, particularly when there are patients who need to be discussed repeatedly. The "renal registrar" may be inexperienced.

Nephrourology

The weekly nephrourology meeting continues to be the linchpin of managing patients with complex urinary tracts. Many patients from around the region are discussed here and it is now common practice to import scans into our PACS system for a formal report by the NUH paediatric radiologists.

In Kings Mill there has been an exporting of this nephrourology meeting with a 3-monthly meeting held before each nephrology outreach clinic. The meeting is attended by Farida Hussain, Mr Manoj Shenoy (Consultant Paediatric Urologist) and Dr Kath Halliday. Paed Radiologist, as well as paediatricians and radiologists from Kings Mill. Helena Clements spoke in support of the improvement to patient care that they have experienced in Kings Mill since implementing this meeting.

Alan Watson raised the issue of specialised radiology investigations. Since the NICE guidelines even MCUGs have been carried out less frequently. There have been several examples where local hospital radiology departments have failed to catheterise babies. Alan suggested these **investigations should be restricted** to Sheffield, Nottingham, Leicester and Cambridge where there are paediatric radiologists. Helena Clements questioned how the current service provision might be audited. At this point Peter Houtman explained something of his new role as the representative on the BAPN national executive for general paediatricians with an interest in nephrology. His aim is to enable nephrology networks and he plans to start by conducting a nationwide survey of satellite units.

Helena Clements suggested radiologists should set defined criteria for reporting, e.g. renal length, MAG3 scans that include a delayed image. Farida Hussain mentioned that since imported films are now being formally reported by the NUH paediatric radiologists, these reports are being copied to the original referring paediatrician.

Action: Further discussion with radiologists

18 week wait

There has been concern in some units that referrals to a 3-monthly renal outreach clinic breaches the 18-week wait. These patients should already be on a pathway and do not need to change so there is no need to start a new clock.

Meetings

There continue to be two nephrology meetings per year. The spring meeting has taken on a theme and been opened up to national invitation. This year saw the fourth such symposium which was on the theme of renal stones. There were speakers from London and Leeds. Following this meeting a proforma for investigating metabolic causes of renal calculi was drawn up and a **copy of this is attached**.

Next year's meeting will be on the theme of enuresis and neuropathic bladder and will be on Friday 26 March 2010. Please look out for an invitation to this nearer the time.

The autumn meeting is one of sharing cases. The next meeting will be on **Friday 23 October 2009**.

There was some discussion about an education meeting for general paediatricians, primarily aimed at those of consultant level. Gail Moss will organise a "Nephrology for Paediatricians" meeting to take place in Sheffield on **20 November 2009**.

Peter Houtman mentioned that there is a framework of competencies and training required for a **paediatrician with an interest in nephrology** which can be accessed on the training section of the BAPN website (www.bapn.org) under the title of "SPIN" training (special interest in nephrology).

Alan Watson mentioned that the BAPN was likely to become a subgroup of the Renal Association. Since the meeting the BAPN membership have voted in favour of this and it will now happen.

Outreach clinics

A new outreach clinic will be starting in Derby in August and will be 2-monthly initially. Jonathan Evans will be the supporting paediatric nephrologist.

There are plans to develop clinics in Doncaster (Martin Christian) and also early explorations of setting up a clinic in Kettering. West Suffolk Hospital and Hinchingbrooke Hospitals have also expressed an interest in a renal outreach clinic.

The ideal model of clinic would be for a renal dietitian and specialist nurse to be present at each clinic. Currently there is dietetic support from Nottingham for Leicester and Cambridge only. That support is also in abeyance at present due to maternity leave.

Medicines for Children Research Network

There is no result yet from the pilot study for the nephrotic study. As yet no funding has been secured to continue this as a definitive study.

Studies in the pipeline include the additive use of ACEI and ARB in children with chronic renal failure, the use of vitamin D in CKD stage 3 and antibiotic prophylaxis in antenatally detected VUR.

Alan Watson also mentioned a paper in progress from Nottingham about automated urine microscopy and there was some discussion whether this might be repeated at other large centres.

Action: ARW will e-mail paper if accepted

AOB

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 6pm for dinner at The Wollaton.