

Notes from the Pathology User Group Meeting

Date of meeting: 23 rd . September 2010 @ 13:30hrs.	
Held at: Pathology Meeting Room 1, Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust (RBFT)	
Present: Karen Batsford, IM&T Manager, Balmore Park Surgery; Michelle Jennings, Manager, Brookside; Dave Asplin (DA), Quality Manager, RBFT; Ann Halford (AH), Central Services Manager; RBFT; Maria Harris, Phlebotomist, Chapel Row Surgery; Carole Jenner, Practice Nurse, Chapel Row/ Newbury PBC; Richard Rogers (RR), Principal BMS, Haematology, RBFT; Mark Sleeman (MS), Pre-reg Clinical Biochemist, RBFT; Jo Spicer, Pathology Liaison, Wallingford Medical Practice; Andy Button, Practice Manager, Swallowfield Surgery; Geoff Lester (GL), CSUD, RBFT; Emma Ashley, Biochemistry, RBFT.	
Apologies: Mary Rawlinson, Nurse Practitioner, Burma Hills; Phillip Haynes, Partner, Brookside; Glen Higgins, Practice Manager, Sonning Common Health Centre; Louise Mander, Balmore Park Surgery; Paul Robinson, Clinical Biochemist, RBFT; Geoff Pinney (GJP), Pathology Services Manager, RBFT; Sarah Morton, GP, Balmore Park Surgery; Janice Greenhill, Reading Walk in Health Centre.	
Notes	Action
The notes from the last meeting were agreed.	
Security of telephoned results Trialled with microbiology and found to work OK so it will now be introduced across all pathology via the use of the Practice NHS e-mail code. Complete.	
Reference ranges on reports PSA for over 80's not quoted on the advice of the Trust consultant, Peter Malone. So a "canned comment" has been developed and is now being transmitted when appropriate. It was requested that results that fall outside these suggested limits be flagged and this will be looked at and it was decided that the clinician will make a value judgement on whether to flag based on circumstances. Complete.	
GP Electronic Order Processing (EPR – Electronic Patient Record) This is now part of the EPR project. An update on progress was given and roll out is planned for early 2011 with most practices connected by May. X-ray results will be included and a link into the hospital EPR is also part of the plan. Mark Sleeman has visited some Practices to see how the results look at the receivers' end and is continuing this exercise which is proving a worthwhile exercise for all parties.	MS
Consumable Orders This was one of the projects put on hold by Trust IT so effort could be directed at the EPR project. Justification package to be put together to submit for funding.	AH

<p>Reporting/ Coding urine protein/ creatinine ratios</p> <p>There is still some confusion and GL is continuing to review including QOF coding.</p>	<p>GL</p>
<p>Helpline</p> <p>No further information on the work is going on in the background looking at automated messages. Practices tend to phone direct to clinicians so affects patients more.</p> <p>For adding biochemistry tests, please use biochem.add@royalberkshire.nhs.uk. Use of the pathology lab number helps with these requests (an 8 digit number usually beginning with a 2).</p>	<p>AH to monitor</p>
<p>Fasting Lipid Profile</p> <p>Agreed that ideally these should include HDL and will do under the electronic system as part of “clinical scenario tests”. Till then ask for “HDL” in Any Other Tests box if needed. Can be added via the add-on e-mail link above. Specimens are kept in lab store for approx 7 days.</p>	
<p>Vision Interpretation of Results</p> <p>Being investigated. Results sent out correctly, listing probably by Vision but interface also being checked.</p>	<p>MS</p>
<p>Reference Range Summary</p> <p>Attached to last meeting notes.</p> <p>Additionally RR agreed to look into another reference range for antithrombin III and Protein S.</p>	<p>RR</p>
<p>Topic of the Day</p> <p><u>Service Improvements?</u></p> <p>A discussion took place about the service requirements now and in the future and how pathology can help improve the service it offers. The question “what would tempt you to go elsewhere” was raised. Some key points raised were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathology offered is not just “numbers” but clinical data and advice. • Analytical quality is key to accurate, repeatable results and pathology take part in all relevant EQA schemes (External Quality Assessment) and are proud to be consistently good/ excellent. This information can be made available to interested parties. It was thought this would be via a nominated person within a GP consortia. • Pathology Harmonization is an ongoing issue that is being tackled at local and national levels but, at present, be aware of possible differences between test methods/ equipment especially when looking at long term trends if different providers are used. • Patient self testing, although more difficult to commission and manage could be beneficial to certain patients. • Pathology are happy to help design a service specification to ensure any future procured services meet user requirements from a clinical perspective. 	

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<p>Any queries or suggestions please contact us (Dave Asplin, Quality Manager, dave.asplin@royalberkshire.nhs.uk, tel.- 0118 322 7975; fax - 0118 322 7566; Ann Halford, Central Services Manager, ann.halford@royalberkshire.nhs.uk, ext.7753; Geoff Lester, Clinical Director, geoff.lester@royalberkshire.nhs.uk).</p>	
<p>Clinical Governance AH has performed another label quality audit and this shows an improving situation. No other clinical governance issues were raised.</p>	
<p>Quality & Service issues A discussion on requirements for handwritten labels for transfusion/ blood bank took place. It was stated that this is a national requirement by MHRA and has been shown to reduce errors.</p>	
<p>Any other business</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Although DA/ AH pass on IT related queries to pathology IT as required, they can be contacted directly via pathologymessages@royalberkshire.nhs.uk 2. DA agreed to contact X-ray reference timescales given to patients as to when their results will be with the GP taking in to account the time a hard copy report takes to arrive. 3. Ellen Pirie introduced herself as a key link with the PCTs and Practices as our business innovation manager. For example she is heavily involved in producing the Practice/ PCT newsletter the Trust send out. Her contact e-mail is ellen.pirie@royalberkshire.nhs.uk, her telephone – 0118 322 6924. There is also an office e-mail - GPhelp@royalberkshire.nhs.uk. 4. Haematology do not have an e-mail address for clinical queries but a consultant is available via the bleep system, bleep 922. They can be reached via the switchboard (0118 322 5111). The anticoagulation clinic have their own contact details – 0118 322 7691. 5. It was asked whether a similar meeting to this could be held in Newbury. RBFT agreed to look into this. 6. Labels. Since the Berkshire PCT procured label printers which do not need the special labels (which were expensive), Practices are procuring their own labels. RBFT can provide details of a suitable source. Seiko labels are not suitable. 7. Pathology are happy to give a tour of pathology (e.g. for new starters such as community nurses/ midwives etc.). If this is of interest contact AH. 	DA
<p>Date of next meeting TBA. DA to send out possible dates for the April 2011 meeting and go with the majority vote.</p>	DA

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