

ASSOCIATION OF MERSEY INTENSIVE CARE UNITS

A.M.I.C.U.

Minutes of the sixteenth meeting of AMICU held on  
22nd September 1995.

Supported with an educational grant from ROUSSEL  
and ABBOTT LABORATORIES.

Present: Dr S Mostafa (Chairman)  
Dr J Dalton                      Dr I Tweedie  
Dr A Kent                         Dr D Jayson (Secretary)  
Dr A Martin                      Dr R Griffiths  
Dr J Chambers                  Dr S Hill  
Dr S Tighe                        Dr W Horton  
Dr M Calleja                    Dr J Tytler  
Dr J Harper                      Dr R Mannar  
Dr G Taylor                      Dr J Gannon

Apologies: Many and various (see written notes)

**17/95 Minutes.** The minutes of the fifteenth meeting of AMICU held on  
16th June 1995 were circulated.

**18/95 Matters arising.** It was noted from the Protocols and Definitions  
task group that the hopeless prognosis admission situation had been  
allowed for in the published document and that this was a "senior  
clinician" decision.

The External Review was now available and the results were discussed.

The forthcoming Regional ICNARC Audit meeting was noted with optimism

**19/95 Hyperbaric Oxygen.** Dr Tighe (Chester) gave a comprehensive  
review of this subject/treatment including principles, indications and  
practicalities.

**20/95 Linkman.** Members were encouraged to:

- 1. Join the European Society of Intensive Care.
- 2. Pay their ICS subscriptions by deed of covenant.

The BUPA decision on private practice in Intensive Care was discussed

**21/95 Regional Review.**

It was noted that as a result of the external review only three extra  
ICU beds had been funded in the Mersey Region.

Regional funding for ICNARC was going to be made available for each unit  
covering the first year's subscription and a part-time audit assistant  
for one year. Further funding to come from purchasers in the following  
years.

The review had noted a shortage of Intensivists/Anaesthetists but no overall nursing shortage, although there were some "local" problems. It was agreed that an AMICU audit of local nursing vacancies and "skill mix" should be arranged.

ICU costing and contracting should start in 1996/97 and ICU episodes will be identified (ie number of patient-days). There will be a fixed cost per unit and a variable cost depending on number of patient-days. There was general agreement, because of this, that ICU clinicians should check that their local hospital information systems correctly identified all ICU patients.

It was noted that the ICBIS (Intensive Care Bed Information Service) was working and transfer posters were being produced.

**22/95 AMICU Officer Elections.** Notices are being sent out to ask for nominations as the current officers had served 2 terms. It was felt that it would be healthy for the association to have a change of officials.

\* **23/95 December meeting.** Provisionally a joint meeting with Lancashire/Manchester Groups to be arranged (Dec 15th). Notices for a Registrars Prize are being sent out with this meeting in mind.

**24/95 Information Pharmacist.** Damien Cooper from Hoechst Roussel gave a brief presentation of his role.

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*Spl. Mosty*  
*15.12.95*