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Minutes of 50th meeting of AMICU
July 2nd-2004 at the Suites Hotel, Knowsley, Merseyside
(Sponsored by an educational grant from Wyeth and Aventis Pharmaceuticals)

Attendance

Consultants: Dr G Masterson, Dr J Gannon, Dr I Tweedie, Dr P Mullen, Dr L McCrossan, Dr A Guha, Dr T Hankin, Dr Euan Shearer, Dr F Mateu, Dr R Nelson, Dr F Andrews, Dr N Scawn, Dr R McMillan, Dr J Chambers, Dr N Snook, Dr R Najaraj, Dr A Roitberg-Henry

Trainees: Dr A Cherion, Dr Dr M Stallwood, Dr P Peyrasse, Dr S Hargreaves, Dr A Axon, Dr S Prabhu

Others : Mr M Evans (Aventis), Mr M Lazenby (Wyeth), Ms L Gibson

Apologies: Dr R Wenstone, Dr A Breen, Dr S Tighe, Dr A Holden, Dr P Nee, Dr R Stevens, Dr J Harper, Dr F Mostafa, Dr P Charters, Prof Griffiths

08/04 Introduction

Dr Ian Tweedie welcomed the audience, thanked the meeting's sponsors (Aventis & Wyeth pharmaceuticals) and introduced the day's speaker.

09/04 Dr Nicola Snook's presentation

Dr Nicola Snook is a consultant in ITU and liver transplantation anaesthesia at St James' Hospital in Leeds. She gave a presentation entitled "Critical Care for Hepatic Failure" which lasted 60 minutes. Her presentation was very comprehensive and stimulated 20 minutes of questions. The Chairman thanked Dr Snook for her contribution.

10/04 Cheshire and Mersey Critical Care Network Guidelines for the management of the Cervical Spine in the Unconscious Trauma Patient

Dr Arpan Guha gave a 45 minute summary of the proposed guidelines that resulted from the meeting of the local expert group. The guidelines were based on published evidence and expert opinion and will hopefully result in an improvement in care of the unconscious trauma patient. The guidelines will be sent to all the Network's comprising units for consultation.

11/04 Business meeting

11/04/01 Regional Advisor's Updatee

Dr Euan Shearer informed the audience that 4 NTN's in Critical Care would be advertised next August with the intention of commencing next May. The step 1 training would be undertaken at

Whiston and the step 2 training would take place at either Aintree or the Royal. Some of the posts would be non-NTN posts and therefore not count towards a CCST in Critical Care medicine. Euan also informed the membership that the Network had been awarded 10 non-funded SHO posts in Critical Care Medicine. These posts had been split between Aintree and the Royal and most of the posts have been included as part of the new Foundation Year 2 scheme to be piloted in the Mersey region this year.

The closing date for applications for the Diploma in Critical Care Medicine is 5th November and the examinations are scheduled to take place on the 26th and 27th April 2005.

Euan reminded the audience that the ICBTICM have recently changed the criteria for units to be recognised for SHO training to the same standards as those required for SpR training (namely a minimum of 4 beds, 200 admissions per year, 10 consultant PAs per week and compliance with the working time directive).

11/04/02 Feedback from Network's Clinical Group meeting

Gary Masterson informed the audience that the minutes of the recent Network MRSA working group are available on the AMICU website. It is anticipated that Sean Tighe or Jane Harper will give the association an update at the next AMICU meeting.

Ian Tweedie was pleased to announce that the Network had been successful at securing funding through specialist commissioning for the development of outreach services and data collection. The Network has written to all trusts' Chief Executives and Directors of Finance.

Ian Tweedie is planning to present some Network Head Injury data at the next AMICU meeting. A delay has resulted from one unit's failure to return the data to Ian.

12/04 Any other business

There was no other business for discussion and Ian Tweedie brought the meeting to a close..

13/04 Date of next meeting

The 51st AMICU meeting will be the annual combined meeting with ANWICU on 24th September at the Hannover International Hotel in Warrington. Dr Francis Andrews from Whiston will represent AMICU.

GRM July 2004