

ASSOCIATION OF MERSEY INTENSIVE CARE UNITS

A.M.I.C.U.

Minutes of the sixth meeting of AMICU held on  
12th March 1993.

Supported with an educational grant from ELI-LILLY.

Present: Dr. S. Mostafa (Chairman)

Dr. D. Bardgett	Dr. P. Buckley
Dr. C. Charway	Dr. J. Dalton
Dr. R. Griffiths	Dr. J. Harper
Dr. C. Harris	Dr. J. Harrison
Dr. W. Horton	Dr. D. Jayson (Secretary)
Dr. A. Jones	Dr. R. Macmillan (Treasurer)
Dr. E. Shearer	Dr. N. Sutcliffe
Dr. G. Taylor	Dr. I. Tweedie
Dr. R. Wenstone	Dr. R. Wilkes
Dr. E. Williams	

Apologies: Dr. S. Atherton                      Dr. P. Drury  
                  Dr. N. Fergusson                    Dr. A. Gilbertson  
                  Dr. A. Kent                                    Dr. J. Ratcliffe  
                  Dr. B. Waters                                Dr. J. Watt  
                  Dr. D. West

**01/93 Welcome.** A warm welcome was given to Dr. P. Buckley and Dr. E. Williams attending the meeting from outside the region.

**02/93 Minutes.** The minutes of the fifth meeting of AMICU held on 11th December were circulated and approved.

**03/93 Matters arising.** Dr. R. Macmillan had further communications with Dr. Rivlin concerning audit in Mersey Region and is going to present the AMICU asthma audit at a regional asthma meeting arranged with Dr. Pearson.

**04/93 Treasurer report.** Dr. R. Macmillan had received 19 subscriptions for the year '92-'93 and there were no outgoings. Balance £475. It is assumed that outgoings in the form of postage & stationary will come out of this balance in the coming year. The yearly subscription of £25 will continue and a standing order form (available from Dr. Jayson) should be completed by all members and sent to the treasurer. It was agreed that there would be allowances made for those unable to attend the meetings. Unfortunately, the cost of registering as a charity was considered prohibitive at present. It is hoped that AMICU will offer a "prize" for original work presented in the coming year.

**05/93 Head injury.** Dr. J. Dalton presented the figures for 1991 in the Mersey Region and for the Regional Neurosciences Centre. Due to the number of available Neuro.ICU beds most patients with severe head injuries in this region are managed in D.G.H. ICUs. The problem of "bussing" patients with head injury to and from the regional centre was discussed. It is hoped that this will decrease now that more units have CT scanning facilities. Criteria for neurosurgical consultation were reviewed as in line with national guidelines. It is understood that consultation does not always require transfer of a patient. Head injury management is a continuous process and if a patient is managed in a D.G.H. ICU then this will require continuing neurosurgical input and referral. There is currently an audit of patients transferred to the regional neurosciences centre which will be reviewed at the next meeting of AMICU. The need for I.C.P. and C.P.P. monitoring was discussed and it was felt that, although there were probably benefits in terms of quality of ICU care, this could not become routine without neurosurgical support. Dr. Dalton finished the presentation by reviewing the general management of severe head injury.

**06/93. Proton.** Dr. G. Taylor presented a software system that he had developed as a patient database and audit aid in the ICU. He reviewed the need and place of computer systems in ICUs and described the development of the "Proton" database. He explained the software structure and showed some examples of how the data could be managed to produce scoring systems, reports and protocols.

**07/93. Specialist sub-committee.** Dr. R. Macmillan as chairman of the regional specialist sub-committee for anaesthesia and intensive care asked for comments on the speciality advice document. The relevant paragraphs to be circulated with these minutes. It was agreed that the AMICU chairman (Dr. S. Mostafa) should be the ICU representative on this committee.

**08/93. Next meeting.** This was arranged for Friday 11th June 1993, 14.30pm, at the usual venue.