
AMICU *Association of Merseyside Intensive Care Units*

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Minutes of 54th Meeting of AMICU,
June 24th 2005 at the Quality Hotel, Little Sutton, Wirral
(Sponsored by an educational grant from Wyeth and Sanofi-Aventis Pharmaceuticals)

Apologies: Dr E Shearer, Dr A Breen, Dr N Scawn, Dr A Holden, Prof M Leuwer, Dr P Nee, Dr N Robin, Dr F Andrews,

Attendance: Dr R Wenstone, Dr N Beeching, Dr G Masterson, Dr P Mullen, Dr I Tweedie, Dr R Mehra, Dr R MacMillan, Dr J Harper, Dr S Kehinde, Dr Peyrasse, Mr M Lazenby, Mrs J Simpson, Dr P Peyrasse, Dr S Singh, Dr F Mostafa, Dr L McCrossan, Prof R Griffiths, Dr A Roitberg-Henry, Dr J Little, Dr Shoba, Dr R Pugh, Dr Olusumade, Dr Ssengu

05/05 Introduction

Dr Ian Tweedie, the Chairman of AMICU, welcomed the audience, thanked the meeting's sponsors (Sanofi-Aventis & Wyeth pharmaceuticals), checked the minutes of the last meeting for errors and matters arising and introduced the day's speaker.

06/05 Dr Nick Beeching's presentation

Dr Nick Beeching, consultant and senior lecturer in infectious diseases from the Royal Liverpool University Hospital, gave a 45-minute talk covering HIV disease and meningitis. His talk was very clinically orientated and was greatly appreciated by the audience. The talk was followed by discussion and questions lasting 25 minutes.

07/05 Business Meeting

Following a short tea break Dr Tweedie introduced the business meeting.

07/05/01 End of tenure for the Chairman and Secretary of AMICU

Dr Ian Tweedie announced that both the Secretary and Chairman of the association felt it was time for a change of officers. Members of the association were invited to contact either the Chairman or Secretary for further details.

07/05/02 Clinical subgroup report

Dr Ian Tweedie announced that increased funding via the specialist commissioner route was unlikely to be successful this year as critical care medicine is not included as one of the government's priority areas.

It was announced that the Network had endorsed the SAVE More (lives) course as an alternative to the ALERT course in the Cheshire and Mersey Network. It was felt that once the SAVE More (lives) course became established, that it might develop into a replacement for the ALERT course.

Dr Ian Tweedie announced that the Clinical Effectiveness Group was currently auditing the nutrition bundle throughout the Network and that the Surviving Sepsis Campaign was launched on 13th June. The most important news from the Transfer Group was that there is an ongoing problem with the completion of the ICBIS transfer forms in that only around 65% are currently completed. Members of the association were asked to bear this in mind when organising interhospital transfers. Whether elective surgical cases should be cancelled when the Network was on Red Alert was discussed at the Clinical Group meeting and the majority of units felt that that this would be inappropriate.

The recent NCEPOD report covering medical admissions to ITU was discussed and will form the basis for a future Network-wide audit.

07/05/03 Training

No report produced, as Dr Euan Shearer was not present

07/05/04 ICS Update

Professor Richard Griffiths described the recent ICS Spring meeting as having been very successful. He also discussed the media interest precipitated by the recent NCEPOD report.

The possibility of the ICS seeking a permanent home in the new Royal College of Anaesthetists was discussed and Professor Griffiths encouraged those members present to take the time to reply to the recent ICS manpower census.

07/05/05 AOB

Dr Ian Tweedie announced a second regional ICP monitoring course provisionally booked for Friday 14th October at Walton Centre for Neurology and Neurosurgery. Further details will be made available soon.

Professor Richard Griffiths brought up the subject of night-time discharges which are accepted as being associated with a high mortality. This seemed to be a problem across the Network and remains difficult to address.

Dr Ian Tweedie announced that the Liverpool Society of Anaesthetists is planning an ITU-themed meeting in January 2006. It is anticipated that a high profile speaker will be invited and he urged all members to attend.

Dr Richard Wenstone nominated Dr Fred Mostafa for Distinguished and Life Long Membership of AMICU in recognition of his services to critical care medicine both locally and nationally. Professor Richard Griffiths seconded his nomination. Dr Mostafa gave a short speech of appreciation and then the Chairman of AMICU formerly bestowed Distinguished and Life Long Membership of the association upon him.

08/05 Date of next meeting

The 55th AMICU meeting will be the annual joint meeting with ANWICU on the afternoon of Friday the 16th September at the Park Royal Hotel (formerly the Hanover International Hotel) in Warrington. Dr Bobby Misra will represent AMICU and the ANWICU representative is yet to be announced. This meeting will be held in conjunction with a Glaxo-sponsored remifentanil training day. It is anticipated that a morning ITU remifentanil training session will take place before the joint AMICU/ANWICU meeting and that a parallel anaesthesia remifentanil will take place in the afternoon. Further details will be announced in due course.