

GARNet

Gastroenterology Audit and Research Network

Minutes from meeting 3 July 2016 at 20.00, West Bridgford

Present: Andrew Baxter, Richard Ingram, Giles Major, Sami Sarmed, Aye Aye Thi

Apologies: Tom Archer, Waleed Fateen, Sham Haq, Mustafa Jalal, Madhavi Kasi, Farooq Khan, Ching Lam, Phil Oppong, Nav Palaniyappan, Rob Scott, Caroline Sharratt, Prarthana Thiagarajan, Peuish Sugathan, Queenie Tan, Emily Tucker, Jon White

Review and approval of previous minutes: first meeting, no previous minutes

Approval of agenda and items: no formal agenda circulated

Matters arising:

1. GARNet

Agreement to proceed with the name GARNet – Gastroenterology Audit and Research Network. Potential to include a regional name if/when necessary – East Midlands Trainees (EMiT). Domain name secured – <http://www.thegarnet.org> – but full website and database hosting not yet in place.

2. Aims and priorities

Discussion about the purpose and aims of GARNet. This would be a trainee-led, collaborative network, focussed on delivering high quality, multicentre audit and research projects. Encouraging levels of interest and support locally, regionally and nationally.

The aims, structure and output of some other trainee-led collaboratives were reviewed, following on from the WMRC presentation at regional teaching on 8 June.

Agreement that although trainees will need to feel a part of GARNet as it is established, this needs to be balanced against having some concentrate plans and information in place. Others are then more likely to come on board.

Opportunities to support other potential activities that were raised, including NIHR Clinical Research Network projects, other trainee-led collaboratives both within and outside the region in gastroenterology and in other specialties, inter-observer endoscopy validation studies, signposting to other potential meta-analysis and research projects.

Focussing on deciding the purpose/principles of GARNet and its first project(s) were felt to be more important at this stage, rather than lengthy discussion of the constitution and committee structure. GARNet will need to show that it can efficiently and successfully deliver output.

Action: RI to draft GARNet mission and aims for circulation

3. Membership

Options included: emailing people to sign up, that every East Midlands registrar was assumed to be a member unless opted out. Agreement that every registrar could be a member but would need to agree to follow the GARNet constitution including authorship rules. Membership should be open to all training and non-training grades including medical students. Consultants and academics as associate members, including early discussion of who could be approached at various sites.

4. Authorship

Authorship agreements will need to be defined openly and in advance, so that anyone involved or considering becoming involved in GARNet or a GARNet project understand what to expect. Collaboration will be at the core of GARNet, so each and every contribution must be recognised.

Other trainee-led collaborative have agreed to publish output in different ways. There are procedures for journal publications, national and regional presentations and posters, and local presentations. Some, such as SWARM, publish under the name of the collaborative, with various levels of involvement (e.g. regional project lead(s), local trust project lead(s), project investigator, project contributor). Some, such as WMRC and EMSAN, publish in forms such as [regional project

lead(s)) [project committee] [highest contributor(s) to the study] et al on behalf of the name of the collaborative, with all other contributors listed as individual authors. Therefore, every contributor can be identified in PUBMED etc as a named author.

This will need further discussion and agreement across GARNet in future, but using the latter approach was the preference of the majority attending the meeting today.

5. Potential projects, plans for first audit and timeline

Objective is a deliverable, straightforward audit that is relevant to patient care at every site. Need to secure a "quick win" including published output and to promote GARNet as a viable network. Plan to highlight the demographic characteristics of the East Midlands (population exceeds 4.5 million) and the patients served by its hospitals.

Discussed various projects including: assessment of need for detox., diagnostic tap and investigation burden of patients admitted with ascites. Agreement to audit PPI use pre-endoscopy in acute upper GI bleeding and collect additional data about participants and secondary end points. Agreement for prospective design, vs retrospective design. Agreement to audit acute admissions (including patients transferred pre-endoscopy), exclude current inpatients.

BSG meeting is in Manchester in June 2017 (abstract deadline likely February 2017). Midlands Gastroenterological Society 100th meeting is in Birmingham in November 2016 (abstract deadline 30 August), so would need to aim for the 101st meeting likely in May 2017.

Launch GARNet proposing this audit as our initial project. Timeline: Jul/Aug 2016 finalise audit proposal and identify interest, Aug/Sep 2016 develop website and back office, Sep 2016 identify participants and register audit, Oct 2016 launch GARNet and final planning/testing, 1-30 Nov 2016 audit data collection, Dec 2016 analysis and locally-tailored recommendations/implementation, 1-31 Jan 2017 re-audit data collection, Feb 2017 analysis and submission.

Action: GM to draft audit proposal for circulation, RI to coordinate feedback, SS to draft pro-forma

6. Recognition of involvement by training programme

Agreement of need to ensure that TPDs confirm in advance that GARNet project involvement will fulfil audit requirements at ARCP. Confirm what SEC and SAC will expect, and the necessary level of project involvement.

Confirm potential through HEEM for main GARNet meeting(s) to be granted internal study leave to facilitate full attendance, or incorporate into regional teaching day programmes. Encouraging support regionally and nationally to deliver a launch event in future.

Action: RI to contact Aida Jawhari and Debasish Das

7. Logo

Reviewed several options for GARNet logo.

Action: AB to finalise logo

8. NIHR

NIHR are keen to support the establishment of trainee-led networks and to involve trainees in the delivery of Clinical Research Network Portfolio studies.

Action: RI to continue discussions with NIHR

Any other business:

Discussions over hosting and requirements for website and database infrastructure are ongoing.

Identified some potential options for initial funding for website and setup costs, with further advice on other options expected shortly. GARNet will require a bank account with authorised signatories (minimum 2 to authorise transaction); to explore Natwest Communities Account or similar.

Date and venue of next meeting: late Aug or early Sep 2016, details to be confirmed. Inaugural Annual General Meeting in Oct 2016, details to be confirmed.