Meeting Minutes. NZ Nephrology Group, Sudima Hotel, 15/5/15. 17:00-18:04

Present: Murray Leikis (Chair), Allister Williams, Peter Sizeland, Curtis Walker, Martin Searle, David McGregor, John Collins, Gerald Waters, Elene Ly, Walaa Sawiers, Tonya Kara, Ashek Hayat, Phil Matheson, Hla Thein, Jenny Walker, Richard Robson, Chris Hood, Janak De Zoysa

1) Apologies: Maggie Fisher.

2) Matters arising from last meeting's Minutes: Nil.

3) ANZSN (NZ Chapter) - ANZSN is restructuring with the new Committee recognising a need to refocus & develop a new strategic plan for ANZSN as well as review its relationships with various other bodies. Plans to revisit the education plan & the training opportunities. Review of finances and obligations for regional support – particularly the Asia-Pacific region renal societies. Project will take 12 months or more. There is interest from the ANZSN community at hosting the world congress in 2019. Applications are under way and if successful would be in either Melbourne or Sydney. This would be a good opportunity to have satellite meetings in New Zealand.

4) ANZDATA – noted were the delay in output of reports, which in part relates to the delay in receiving the data from units. An invitation from Murray Leikis and Tonya Kara to inform them if there are any changes sought to ANZDATA collection prior to the upcoming 3 yearly Heads of Units meeting where feedback can be given.

5) NRAB:
   – The establishment of a National Transplant Service and associated support structures under the leadership of Nick Cross were noted. There were 137 transplants last year - a good improvement, with the aim of increasing transplants by 10 per year.
   - The national CKD Consensus document was released in March, with John Collins leading the project. Implementation of this now follows e.g. electronic aids to GPs, standardising referral guidelines, obtaining KHA resources. This will require secondary renal services to upskill and support primary providers. BPAC has a contract with the MoH to deliver resources to primary care to support referrals to renal secondary care. BPAC plan to meet with renal units around the country to progress this work over the next 1-2 years.
   - The Access to Dialysis Document was discussed and will be out to units for consultation soon.
   - Vaccinations working group is looking at how appropriate vaccines can be equitably delivered to patients with CKD (including those on RRT and post-transplant).
   - Workforce: a document will be disseminated to the renal units later this year outlining the current issues

6) DNT – no discussion

7) SPEC – no discussion

8) RACP Training & Selection issues: NoRTH has indicated it has the infrastructure to support a national selection/matching process. All of the units have been contacted, and with one exception (but agreed to go with the majority), there is consensus to move ahead with a national matching scheme. The potential time frame is likely to be next year (mid 2016). Discussion was had about the selection and interview process, with further detail to be determined e.g. size and composition of the interview
panel(s). It is envisaged that the cost of the process would be charged to the RMO and reimbursed by their current DHB employer.

Discussion about how many Trainees per year. Consensus of around 5 new per year, which would result in around 15 in total over any 3 year period (there will likely be more doing joint training with General Medicine). The paediatric scheme would be separate from adult selection. How Trainees may be allocated / distributed was discussed, and will need to be finalised – suggestions included being deployed – but that this would come with responsibility to ensure training sites were adequate (and taking into account Trainee feedback).

9) PHARMAC and the Nephrology PTAC. Advice to group that nephrologists can apply to Pharmac through the NZ Nephrology group or directly to PTAC to have medications considered for addition to the funded schedule. Examples discussed were cinacalcet, potassium citrate and captopril (liquid).

10) National Renal Transplant Service. Discussed as above.

11) PD registry – data was presented at the meeting earlier this afternoon by John Collins. The project is going well.

12) NZ Dialysis Standards Audit – acknowledged the work by Suetonia Palmer & Tonya Kara. Data to be presented tomorrow (16/5) with formal report due out in the next month.

13) Upcoming meetings:
   - ANZSN ASM in Canberra in 7-9 September this year
   - The NZRG Meeting is in Wellington in October 15/16. Trainees are encouraged to attend and present their projects at the October meeting.
   - ISPD Asia-pacific meeting in South Korea later this year.
   - ISPD in Melbourne 2016 (27/2 to 1/3).
   - Asia Pacific Congress of Nephrology 17-21 September in Perth combined with ANZSN ASM

14) General Business: John Collins has resigned from the Haemodialysis Board of Practice and another renal physician can be nominated and appointed. The purpose of the Board is to oversee the training of haemodialysis technicians. Murray Leikis will send out an EOI to the NZ Nephrologist community.

15) Next meeting at the New Zealand Renal Group meeting October 16th 2015