

West Midlands Smoking Cessation in Pregnancy (SCIP) Network Minutes

Monday 20 March 2006, 11:30 – 12:30

Perinatal Institute, Crystal Court, Aston Cross, Birmingham B6 5RG

Present:

Christina Charlton	Coventry PCT HP
Ceri Evans (CE)	South Worcs SSS
Ann Fitchett (AF)	S. Birmingham SSS
Jason Gardosi (JG)	Perinatal Institute (Chair)
Paul Hooper (PH)	Government Office WM
Terry Lawrence (TL)	Independent Consultant
Kathy Lee (KL)	HOB SSS
Vicky Masters (VM)	Solihull SSS
Carmel O’Gorman (COG)	N.Birmingham SSS (Project Manager)
Michelle Pugh (MP)	Hereford SSS
Sue Randall (SR)	South Warks SSS
Claire Sweeney (CS)	Shrewsbury Sure Start
Lorraine Williams (LW)	East Birmingham Sure Start
Claire Hallahan	Perinatal Institute (minutes)

1. Apologies

Angie Collard (WMSSHA), Annabel Cooper (Gloucester SSS), Wendy Dudley, (North Staffs), Helen Efstathiades (Sure Start East Birmingham), Mary White (Coventry TPCT), Lorna Allen (Sure Start Kingstanding), Yvette Brook (Sure Start Tamworth), Yvonne Hermon (Dudley, Beacon & Castle), Lynda Jones (Sandwell SSS), Terry Lawrence (Independent Consultant), Kevin Lewis (Shropshire & Telford PCT), Amanda Parkes (Dudley, Beacon & Castle)

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and were agreed as true record.

3. Matters Arising

They were discussed in agenda items.

4. Project Manager’s Update

NICE Brief Intervention Guidance: February saw the last opportunity for stakeholder comments. COG has re-iterated previous comments to ensure they are taken into account. A recommendation was made to include more qualitative research – references were put forward.

A draft of the NICE document was circulated to the group for feedback and comments but there was little response. On this occasion NICE had worked to tight deadlines and therefore time for reviewing drafts was short. The overall response from those present was that they document was comprehensive and they were happy with it.

NICE Programme Guidance: Best Provision of Stop Smoking Services. Stakeholder comments were submitted in January. COG will inform the group when these comments are available on NICE website.

COG has been accepted as a member of the NICE Programme Development Group (PGD). PH is also a steering group member. COG will feedback at the next SCIP meeting. It was decided that NICE Guidelines would be added as a new agenda item.

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) have produced an information leaflet on the use of NRT in certain situations including pregnancy and breastfeeding. COG has requested 200 leaflets (free of charge), which will be sent to anyone that would like copies.

The need for a standardised consent form for NRT has discussed previously. JOG felt that standardised documentation was important and that we would have proof that women had been given information plus consent to collect data. There was a brief discussion on what the consent meant; it was agreed that it was that they had received the information and not that they were consenting to using the NRT.

COG asked the group if they could send her a copy of their risk assessment and consent form etc that they use and then she can put together standardised paperwork.

ACTION COG/ALL

JOG suggested that the group form a small focus group to develop this further and asked for volunteers. CE and KL agreed to help.

5. Standardised Record Keeping Project

PH highlighted the need for better data on smoking cessation. GO is aware that the quality of data can often be lacking. The Choosing Health for the WM report once again highlighted the link between smoking in pregnancy and perinatal / infant mortality. GO and WMPI had a meeting and agreed to move forward standardised data collection along the lines already discussed by the Network last year. The aim is to have a standard way of recording the information between mother and smoking cessation advisor. JOG stated that work on the data collection system should now be proceeded with and progress reviewed at the next meeting

ACTION COG

6. Conference Updates

Ann Fitchett reported on the recent International Tobacco Control Conference. Ann presented a poster. It emerged that compared to other countries England are proactive on using NRT in pregnancy. Practitioners in the US are reluctant to use NRT due to the threat of litigation. Disappointingly only a small proportion of the event focussed on smoking during pregnancy.

JOG said it was apparent that there are some international considerations worth knowing about. He queried when the last international conference on smoking cessation in pregnancy was held. There has not been one for several years. It would be worth exploring whether there are any plans for this, or whether PI should consider arranging one for next year.

UKPHA Conference – Both PH and COG attended with COG presenting a poster. They agreed that it was not as focussed on health as it could have been and were disappointed that smoking was hardly mentioned. However, they were pleased to see Help 2 Quit SSS mobile clinic there.

The 2nd UK National Smoking Cessation Conference takes place in June. COG also added that she had submitted an abstract about the network activities.

Ann Fitchett reported on a Cannabis study day that she has recently attended. There is only one local drug clinic in the West Midlands that treats cannabis addiction. Drug use agencies will treat cannabis addiction if the person presents for treatment with heroin or cocaine addiction.

7. Training Update

There are two separate training requirements, one for frontline midwives and another for the advisers. COG has been in touch with Terry Lawrence (TL) and Michael Ussher (MU) and Alison Trout (AT). During the focus group interviews in November – many SSS Advisors requested training in the following areas:

- Novel ways to quit smoking
- Evidence base for interventions
- Strategies for recruiting women to smoking cessation
- Changes in policy

There was discussion on which way the training needs would be best met. Organising workshops would require a commitment from PCTs to fund staff to attend. Several members stated that a key need was to get an update on latest developments. This could be done through a follow up of the successful national conference organised last year – perhaps in autumn. To be discussed further.

8. AOB

There was no other business to discuss.

9. Date & Time of Next Meeting – Monday 8th May 2006 11:30-12:30