

Sustainable Kidney Care committee

Minutes

Date: 20 October 2021

Chair: Suren Kanagasundaram (SK)

Minutes: UK Kidney Association secretariat (SEC)

Attendees: Monique Burgin (MB), Keith Channing (KC), Catherine Floyd (CF), Mark Harber (MH), Emily Horwill (EH), Colette Mead (CM), Keith Moore (KM), Frances Mortimer (FM) Eleanor Murray (EM), Stephen Palmer (SP), Jo Pywell (JP), Mark Wright (MW), Katie Vinen (KV), Manraj Phull - Greener NHS (MP)

Apologies: Fiona Adshead (FA), Chris Stait (CS), Shazia Adalat (SA)

Invited guests: Gaynor Whyles – JERA (GW)

Introductions

As this is the first full committee meeting, all attendees briefly introduced themselves. Manraj Phull was invited to speak about Greener NHS. Gaynor Whyles was invited to speak about the work of JERA Consulting, an innovation procurement consultancy.

Overview of committee structure and workstreams

The committee will run three delivery workstreams:

- Action learning and education
- Procurement, infrastructure and innovation
- Sustainable kidney care pathways

There will be a core partnership between the UKKA, the Sustainable Healthcare Coalition (SHC) and the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare (CSH). Links will also be made with the Renal Services Transformation Programme (RSTP), and the ERA-EDTA as a consistent international ask is considered to be more powerful. The committee will also work with Greener NHS with MP providing their representation on the main committee.

Consideration needs to be given to how the committee will engage patients. Patient charities will be interested in collaborating and the UKKA patient council can be brought in.

SHC is working with NIHR on sustainable clinical trials, to understand the intervention points, carbon footprint and how to affect decision making.

Kidney Research UK is already setting up a research network to look at potential changes to the dialysis pathway. Jo Pywell will ensure that sustainability is on the Kidney research UK agenda.

Greener NHS

Manraj Phull, Chief Sustainability Officer's Clinical Fellow, gave an overview of Greener NHS. The programme has clear parallels with the committee workstreams. A roadmap has been created and shared with all NHS suppliers. This has been well received and a survey shows that suppliers are keen to be involved.

NHS Estates and Facilities is working on a framework for sustainable infrastructure, which will be ready early next year.

Manraj Phull will discuss communication with Greener NHS, to ensure that information and resources are easily accessible, and the financial/environmental savings balance is clear.

Workstream 1: Action learning and education

Leads: Mark Harber and Frances Mortimer

The aim of the workstream is to create good practice examples and enable people to learn by doing. The Green Nephrology network has been rebranded as the Sustainable Kidney Care network and the network pages on the SHC website have been refreshed. The network portal on the SHC website has 543 members.

Current priorities of the workstream:

- Green Nephrology previously had representatives in 80% of renal units – this needs reinvigorating.
- Signpost resources and events already available (presence at events, comms strategy.)
- Promote free elearning modules created by SHC
- Look at funding for scholars programme
- Adapt the generic funding proposal to kidney care
- Workstream will recommend key ideas to take forward

Sustainability is not included in curricula (eg renal technicians) at present. Curriculum leads need to be engaged.

Workstream 2: Procurement, infrastructure and innovation

Lead: Suren Kanagasundaram

This workstream will look at:

- How to harness the tendering process to ensure sustainable procurement
- How to ensure infrastructure is fit for purpose
- How to create an environment where industry can be confident in innovation
- How to generate resilience in the supply chain

Innovation Procurement and ECOQUIP+

Gaynor Whyles, Director at JERA Consulting Ltd, gave an overview of the work of the company. JERA is involved in sustainability projects across Europe, as part of EcoQUIP+. This is funded by the EU and has two UK projects, Towards Zero-waste Operating Theatres, and Sustainable Waste Reduction and Management Service.

JERA has a small amount of time available to support the committee as a spin-off project if this is thought appropriate.

Innovation procurement and sustainable procurement are quite different. It is important for requirements to be clear during the tendering process and to engage the supply chain 18 – 24 months before procurement is due.

A step by step process defines when innovation in procurement is needed.

Workstream 3: Sustainable Kidney Care Pathways

Lead: Mark Wright

This workstream will look at

- What metrics should be collected – and the practicalities
- How metrics can be used to design service specifications

- How the need for dialysis can be reduced
- Engaging with RSTP leads

The practicalities of gathering data within a variety of areas – PFI buildings, old estate, new estate etc – will not be simple. SHC work in Newcastle showed a range of different methodologies, with widely different outputs and data collection partly dependent on frontline renal staff.

AoB and next steps

- Workstream meetings to be set up
- UKKA enews briefing on COP26.
- Webinar on 25/11 at 4pm
- Lobbying for dedicated sustainable kidney care session in the UKKW2022 programme
- Request slot at CleanMed Europe's Healthcare Without Harm conference in 2022
- Look at how MDT groups can contribute

Actions

AP1	Assist workstream leads to set up meetings	SEC
AP2	Create programme for webinar on 25/11	SK/FM/MH
AP3	Request session at UKKW 2022	SK
AP4	Request session at Healthcare Without Harm 2022	FM
AP5	Ensure sustainability is on the Kidney Research UK agenda	JP