

Sustainable Kidney Care committee

Date: Tuesday 16th April 2024, 2.00-3.30pm

Attendees: Suren Kanagasundaram (SK – chairing), Eleanor Murray (EM), Shazia Adalat (SA), Frances Mortimer (FM), Mark Harber (MH), Benjamin Talbot - observer (BT), Mark Wright (MW), Fiona Adshead (FA) Angeline Taylor (AT), Oliver Thomas (OT), Rona Grieve (RG), Lucy Brown (LB)

Apologies: Karen Jenkins, Rosa Montero, Claire McGuire, James Burton, Jo Pywell, Manraj Phull, Keith Moore

Minutes: UKKA Secretariat

Welcome, apologies & introductions

SK welcomed the group and new members Oliver Thomas (Renal SpR rep), and Lucy Brown (who has replaced Ben Whittaker as CSH Delivery Lead). SK thanked Ben for his work and contributions. Fiona McFadyen has also joined as nursing rep for Scotland and Claire McGuire as nursing rep for England.

Declarations of interest

None declared.

Minutes of last meeting

The committee agreed that the January 2024 meeting minutes were accurate.

Matters arising

- **1:34 acid concentrates – wind down:** Gareth Murcutt and Rosie Hillson have drafted an open letter on the environmental impact of 1:34 acid concentrates. SK has circulated the draft letter for comment/thoughts ahead of sign off by UKKA and approach to other organisations.
ACTION: All to advise SK if any comments, or objections for sign off of the 1:34 manufacturers open letter.
ACTION: SK to confirm the 1:34 acid concentrates manufacturers to FA, so they can advise SHC members.
- **No Fly Nephrology 2024** – There has been an informal push for private individuals to sign up - see [here](#) for who has already made the pledge. SK is proposing published as a letter calling on the nephrology community to seek ways to reduce flying for 2025. MH is also pursuing this via Green K.
- **Multiprofessional co-chair vacancy** - SK has now submitted the EOI and revised ToR to Jim Burton and Lisa Ancliffe for approval.

Workstream 1 (Action Learning and Education)

- **Green kidney care challenge, 2024** - The group continues to meet every 2 months, with recent activities focussed on opportunities with tech training, SpR training events and modules at Kings. There have also been several conference presentations, including a poster at the International Forum on Quality and Safety in Healthcare.
- **UKRI hub bid** – Bids are due to close on 17th April. RM is working on the UCL bid with input from CSH on demonstrating a pathway for implementation, with a fellow to support in kidney and transplant. If successful, the work would commence in November.
- **Sustainability champions update** – There are 21 champions currently. Recent priorities have been around building the networking and knowledge sharing community on sustainable kidney care through case study sharing. FM noted these are well received so would welcome further submissions. MH also noted that the RCP are looking for elevator pitch style studies (approx. 1 min videos) which they will brand and promote.

ACTION: All to send any sustainability case studies/videos to FM and MH for wider circulation across CSH and RCP.

SA noted they are working on improving sustainability champion representation in children's units.

- **Atlas of variation** – This sits between workstream 1 & 3. Resourcing options are currently being considered, including possible funding from the UKRI bid. The SpR Club have noted some interest in an audit, however will need time dedicated to drive and monitor progress.
- **Newcastle SHC carbon calculator project** – SK noted there had been positive feedback on the calculator. PD is now almost complete with the report under review. Development on the suite of tools will continue to underpin the work of communities working in the various care pathways. FA will also be working with FM and colleagues on evaluating the calculators available via KitNewCare.

Workstream 2 (Procurement, Infrastructure and Innovation – via GREEN-K)

- SK and Caroline Stigant have drafted the generic joint statement of demand for kidney care products and services, which is now sitting with a variety of experts before progressing to stakeholder engagement. Caroline will also be speaking at UKKW. FM raised the work of colleagues from Cambridge who are working on a generic statement of demand for remote testing for kidney patients, however hadn't included sustainability in the statement. FM felt it might be helpful for Cambridge to link in with SK.

ACTION: FM to connect SK with Cambridge colleagues working on statement of demand for remote testing for kidney patients.

Workstream 3 (Sustainable Kidney Care Pathways)

- **UKKA CPGs** – MW is currently working on the UKKA BBV guideline update and looking to ensure areas of sustainability are being addressed. MW feels there is scope to be more pragmatic about the amount of testing for BBV. FP noted that the UKKA has appointed two new guideline committee chairs, however, will continue to advocate for sustainability in all new UKKA guidelines.
- **Other WS3 projects** - MW noted that other WS3 projects are continuing. There is now a sustainability fellow on the regional project in Humber and NE, which will hopefully increase the pace of work. NHSBT also have a strand of people looking at sustainability in transplantation processes and funding for a chair has been approved.
- **Metrics** - MW noted the TRUNC HD project to develop dialysis metrics on energy input and return was paused due to lack of engagement. SK noted there may be a need to refocus on the definition of metrics from technical specifics to markers of implemented best practice. BT suggested asking the UKRR to add 3-4 key sustainability questions to the renal units' annual data collection (e.g. on rates of LD or pre-emptive transplant).

ACTION: BT to contact Fergus at the UKRR to check feasibility of adding sustainability questions to the annual data collection.

Workstream 4 (Climate Resilience)

This is now a formal workstream led by RM. SK will catch up with RM separately for an update.

Horizon EU KitNewCare project

CSH has now met with ISN to discuss the KitNewCare 4-year project, which was well received. ISN were enthusiastic about the opportunities to collaborate. SK noted the need to ensure all activities across the kidney sustainability landscape are joined up. FM is trying to ensure those involved in KitNewCare are connected, with more regular catch ups planned (every 6 weeks), with those involved in the UK work and also via sharing resources within KitNewCare for the GreenK work around educational objectives. FA has also agreed to chair the scientific advisory board with SK

joining as well. LB noted that they will be delivering a workshop on Green Nephrology at the ANN UK conference on Friday 19th April.

Plant-based by default

- **Diet sheets and video uptake** – PKB are looking to upload five new pieces of sustainable diet information via their website; the 3 x diet sheets, plus the KCUK plant-based literature which is in the process of being updated. AT is just awaiting sign off from the RNG committee. AT has had an abstract on the diet sheets accepted for UKKW.
- **Plant-based by default letter** ([link](#)) – SK has circulated the letter from plant based health professionals, who are looking to lobby the chief dietitian of each UK trust to promote plant based diets by default. Lisa Ancliffe and Katie Vinen have approved UKKA badging and both RNG and CSH will be endorsing this too.

Sustainable conferences

MH has previously been working with Sarah Crimp (UKKA Secretariat) on this and Route Zero has now been implemented for UKKW 2024 in Edinburgh and a link added to the [UKKW webpage](#). MH noted that Real Zero are attempting to enable as many institutions as possible to sign up to the Holburn Declaration, which contains a framework for sustainable conferences.

ACTION: MH will forward the most recent version of the Holborn Declaration to SK and FP.

SK is keen to establish the action required for UKKA to commit to the declaration as UKKA policy and also develop an event carbon accounting policy (similar to BTS) and co-development of a sustainability checklist for UKKW 2025.

ACTION: FP to update SC on the above on her return to work and link in with MH and SK on next steps.

Upcoming events

- [UKKW 2024](#) (12.06.24). MH is speaking on tipping points - ecological and social, RM on climate resilience and Caroline Stigant on procurement.
- [Annual dialysis conference](#) (19.09.24)
- [Joint Conference on Research Outputs](#) (29.04.24)
- Other opportunities

SKC webpage

The SKC webpage has now been updated to include the no-fly nephrology information and pledges. Membership and workstream information has also been updated. The new UKKA website is imminent, however please continue to send requests for updates to the current SKC webpage to FP.

Social media – comms

Recent comms have been around the no-fly nephrology information which was circulated in UKKA eNews. Information and a link to the final Scholars report summary was also circulated and Caitlin Sewell created individual profiles of the scholars and their project for Twitter/X.

SK asked OT and the committee nursing representatives if they would consider some wording aimed at the SpR & nursing communities around the SKC committee aims and activities.

ACTION: OT and nursing reps to consider some wording to promote sustainability within their communities and forward to FP.

ISN GREEN-K

MH updated the group on the ISN project. Progress on the educational workstream has been slow, however the working group should be progressing by June. CSH have now met with ISN and LB has had some productive meetings around aligning the ISN work with the KitNewCare project. MH

requested all to highlight any good work happening across the sustainability space, as the ISN will promote via their social channels. Likewise, LB is happy to share across the CSH network. SK noted the other active GREEN-K workstream on Procurement, reported, as above.

ACTION: All to highlight any sustainability good news to MH and LB for social media promotion.

Devolved nations

EM noted there is ongoing advocacy to the Scottish government for a kidney management action plan. The Scottish renal registry are keen to get sustainability into their annual report. EM will continue to monitor the situation in Wales.

Greener NHS update

MP will provide future updates on a quarterly basis.

Research update

JP to update at next meeting.

UKHACC membership

FP advised we now have SKC committee members on 2 of the 3 UKHACC policy working groups. AT has joined the food system and sustainable diet group and RM has joined the adaptation group. RM also attended the last UKHACC committee meeting as SK was unable to attend. FP updated on the following UKHACC activities:

- **Event coming up - In Conversation with Lord Stevens - Architect of the Greener NHS Plan on the challenges of health and climate change.** 4-5.30pm Wednesday 8 May 2024. In person at BMA House, London (limited capacity) or online. [Registration for UKHACC members is now open here.](#)
- **Case studies** - UKHACC are seeking to collate case studies from across membership organisations of progress made against the [UKHACC 10 commitments](#) for members (launched in March 2023). UKKA joined after the launch, so didn't official endorse at the time. A specific call to members requesting case studies will be issued in May, so the committee may wish to consider a submission.
- **Letter to MPs** - UKHACC are coordinating a letter to MPs with signatures from members, highlighting priorities for the next general election. Further details in due course.
- **The UKHACC Ride for their Lives** – This event will take place at 2pm on Sunday 9 June in Regent's Park, London to raise awareness of clean air. Anyone interested let FP know who can send further details.

ACTION: FP to send the UKHACC Ride event information to LB.

AOB

- None

Next meeting: Thursday 11th July 2024, 14:00 – 15:30 hrs

Actions

AP1	All to advise SK if any comments, or objections for sign off of the 1:34 manufacturers open letter.	ALL
AP2	SK to confirm the 1:34 acid concentrates manufacturers to FA, so they can advise SHC members	SK
AP3	All to send any sustainability case studies/videos to FM and MH for wider circulation across CSH and RCP.	ALL
AP4	FM to connect SK with Cambridge colleagues working on statement of demand for remote testing for kidney patients.	FM

AP5	BT to contact Fergus at the UKRR to check feasibility of adding sustainability questions to the annual data collection.	BT
AP6	MH will forward the most recent version of the Holborn Declaration to SK and FP	MH
AP7	FP to update SC on the above on her return to work and link in with MH and SK on next steps.	FP
AP8	OT and nursing reps to consider some wording to promote sustainability within their communities and forward to FP.	OT
AP9	All to highlight any sustainability good news to MH and LB for social media promotion	ALL
AP10	FP to send the UKHACC Ride event information to LB.	FP