

Minutes of the BHS Executive Conference Call

Sunday 1st May 2011

Chairman: John Hodgkinson

In attendance: John Hodgkinson, John Timperley, Gordon Bannister, Fares Haddad, John Nolan, John Skinner

An urgent executive meeting for The British Hip Society was called on Sunday 1st May 2011 to discuss the possibility of an arthroplasty / femoro acetabular impingement register and how the British Hip Society should support that.

The phone call comprised John Timperley, John Hodgkinson, John Nolan, Gordon Bannister, and John Skinner and, Fares Haddad.

Apologies were received from Richard Field and Jonathan Howell and Graham Gie.

There had been prior email correspondence on this matter and the up to date situation was presented by John Timperley who has been chairing the sub committee charged with dealing with this issue and who had been liaising with the national joint registry NJR.

It would appear the National Joint registry is not in a position to make any decisions at this stage as a new chairperson has been appointed and its not clear how that quickly that chair will be up to speed and able to make major decisions. It was agreed that the members of the BHS had voted unanimously in favour of data collection on FAI but it was also noted that the only dissenters at the time were some of the non-arthroplasty surgeons who are involved in this work and that their input was going to be critical. John Timperley confirmed that he had been in liaison with John O'Hara, Johan Witt and others. It was confirmed however that neither Damian Griffin or Richard Villar had responded as requested.

The proposal from John Timperley was that a deal should be struck with Bluespier who were apparently able to provide the necessary

data repository for £10,000 and to run it for £3,000 per year. John's plan was for the Hip Society to provide the initial start up funding and for the National Joint registry to hopefully buy this database out eventually.

A minimum dataset had already been circulated and John was keen to have further feedback on it beyond the initial feedback that he had received. **Action John Timperley to re-circulate the database.**

There was a lengthy discussion around what the minimum software should include and whether it should be small enough to be manageable or large enough to be research useful and whether Bluespier could potentially achieve that. There is also a discussion around whether it was within the mandate of the hip society to pay for such a database / registry or whether this was something that should be funded externally. External funding via the NJR grants or the ARC was discussed.

John Timperley suggested the forms would all be web based and that the data set would come from the NJR such that it was easy to complete. The opportunity and pressure was that NICE could recommend that every such case was documented. Ultimately we could also go to the insurance companies and persuade them not to fund such surgery in the private sector unless it was entered onto the national database. It was agreed that the key to this database was to confirm that this sort of surgery was successful but also to look at end points beyond further surgery and that it was important to spot the cases where inappropriate surgery was undertaken either through the absence of pathology, the presence of debateable pathology or because the disease was too advanced. It was felt there would be a data repository and that ultimately link it with the NJR and hospital episode statistics would be needed to make full sense of the data and use it appropriately. It was felt by someone executive that ownership by the BHS rather than by the Department of health would be a major plus.

There was some debate about whether Bluespier would be able to provide the necessary expertise or data. John Nolan, Gordon

Bannister and others noted a poor experience working with them in the past and very slow progress.

It was difficult to reach a consensus. It was agreed;

- 1) It was unanimously agreed that the British Hip Society executive supported the inception of a database for non-arthroplasty hip surgery and felt that it would be valuable for the British Hip Society to have some ownership of it and be involved in its running.

- 2) There was disagreement as to whether The British Hip Society should fund it. It was felt that NICE should be given reassurances that The British Hip Society would mandate such a database by October 1st and try and get it up and running. No formal agreement to fund it was made until further discussions about what it would truly cost and until a tendering process was put in place.

- 3) It was felt that Bluespier would not necessarily be the chosen provider. John Timperley was going to meet with them on Tuesday, look at their version of the minimum data set and confirm what they can provide to give reassurances and perhaps get a written contract proposal. Other providers should be looked at as well. Fares Haddad promised to forward the ACL registry document for inspection.

- 4) It was agreed John Timperley would feed back after the meeting on Tuesday and that another phone call would be set up to discuss the situation further perhaps even prior to the next BHS executive phone call at the end of May.