

National Renal Advisory Board

Minutes

9.30am to 2.00pm
6th November 2009
Meeting Room 1
CMDHB
19 Lambie Drive
MANUKAU

Board members

Present: Johan Rosman (chairperson); Grant Pidgeon; Adrian Buttimore;
Debbie Eastwood; John Collins; Karin Norman; Kelvin Lynn;
Maggie Fisher; Nick Polaschek; Norman Panlilio

Apologies: Tonya Kara

Guests: Fredric Doss

Secretary: Paula Wood

AGENDA UPDATE

Welcome

The meeting officially opened at 9.55 am.

1. Review of previous minutes

The board reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting which was held on 26th June. There were no requests for any further changes and so therefore the minutes were fully endorsed by the Board. However, it was decided that there should be two sets of minutes kept for the record, that being, one full set of minutes for Board members and another revised set for public viewing. The reason behind this is so the public document can be loaded onto the Minister of Health and Kidney Health NZ websites. The board discussed the process for the review of the minutes. It was decided that the following steps should be adhered to:-

1. Secretary to provide 1st draft
2. 1st Draft to be sent to the board members for their review, creating the 2nd Draft
3. Chairperson to review the 2nd draft and also create a public version
4. Secretary to hold both final copies – for full committee endorsement at next meeting
5. Once fully endorsed, the secretary to provide both the Ministry of Health and Kidney Health NZ with a PDF copy of the public version which is to be loaded onto their websites

2. Review of the Action items

The action items recorded at the previous meeting held on 26th June were reviewed by the Board members and have been updated accordingly.

3. Terms of Reference – *final draft for committee endorsement*

The final version of the Terms of Reference for the National Renal Advisory Board was tabled. There were a couple of slight changes to wording and the current membership table was also updated accordingly. The Terms of Reference for the National Renal Advisory Board (NRAB) will remain valid until Nov 2010.

4. Review of NRAB memberships

There were several memberships that needed to be discussed. Fredric Doss was a guest at this meeting; however he will officially replace the membership which has been previously held by Adrian Buttimore from 2010. Johan Rosman's and Debbie Eastwood's membership were due for renewal but they may take up a 2nd term and so it was decided that in the meantime, they should begin to identify a replacement. This will be reviewed at the next meeting. The members agreed that it was important to introduce new members onto the Board; however, a certain amount of stability within the membership was also required in order to assist with the transition of new members to the board.

The Chair advised that he had received a letter from Karin Norman President of the Renal Society of Australasia (RSA) in regards to a replacement for the membership which was recently held by Miranda Walker. The letter advised that they did have a suitable candidate; however, they were unable to take up the role as member to the NRAB for another 12-18 months. The letter continued to explain that in the interim, Miranda Walker would be happy to continue her membership with the NRAB and in fact the letter confirmed that the Nursing Advisory Group believes that Miranda was the best person to continue as a representative on the NRAB. Karin Norman advised the Board by saying that she had approached several DHBs, but unfortunately without success. Johan Rosman asked Karin Norman what was the process previously for placement membership. Karin Norman confirmed that in the past the NRAB would approach the RSA and they would then conduct an Expression of Interest (EOI) process.

The Board agreed that it was risky to keep Miranda on as a member whilst waiting for the other person to take up the membership. The board's reason behind this was that they felt that if this nominee was unable to take up the role for another 12-18 months, that there was a chance that it may never happen. They concluded by agreeing that it was best to find a replacement. The board's discussion was summarised by confirming that perhaps:-

1. The board should look outside of the RSA and approach all Renal Nurses
2. Place an advert on the Ministry of Health website
3. Karin Norman to email the list of service managers to Nick Polaschek and Debbie Eastwood for follow up
4. All nominations are to be forwarded to Johan Rosman (Chair) by next meeting

The consumer representative member was still to be discussed. Kelvin Lynn advised that he had received two expressions of interest. They were Michael Papesch (Chair of Wellington Region Kidney Society) and another from Nora Van Der Schrieck. Kelvin Lynn asked that the Board discuss the two candidates with the view to appointing one of them. Kelvin Lynn left the meeting to allow an open discussion. After much discussion, it was agreed that as the NRAB had asked Kidney Health New Zealand for their recommendation, that they would appoint Michael Papesch and that perhaps over time they may increase the membership of the consumer representatives from 1 to 2 in the future.

In regards to Grant Pidgeon's membership, Grant Pidgeon thought that his replacement was to be decided at the recent NZNG meeting, but unfortunately, it appears that this is not the case.

5. NRAB Website

Nick Polaschek has been working hard to establish a NRAB presence on the Ministry of Health website. Johan Rosman said he had taken a look at the link which was provided to all the board members and he said that he thought the website looked terrific.

However, it was discussed earlier that the fully endorsed minutes from each of the NRAB meetings should be removed and replaced with a public version of the minutes and that they should be always in a PDF format. Refer back to agenda item 1 for the review process for each set of minutes.

The consensus from the board members was that the website was great and that the links were really useful. Final discussion concluded by confirming that all members are very welcome to email Nick Polaschek with future requests for any documents to be loaded on the site. It was also suggested that a visitor counter on the website would be very useful and that the progress of the website should be an on-going agenda item.

6. Access to Renal Replacement Therapy in NZ – submitted by John Collins

John Collins has been drafting this document and said that he was comfortable with the final version which was tabled at today's meeting. John Collins said that it reflects previous discussion and was a good account of what is to be sent to the Ministry of Health. The NRAB members thought that it should also be sent to all Clinical Directors (CDs), all Chief Operating Officers (COOs), all Chief Medical Officers (CMOs) and all Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) as well as being loaded onto the MoH website. All were in agreement that this paper should be published nationally and that it should also be translated into Maori. Karin Norman also agreed that she would take it to the next RSA board meeting. Discussion concluded with this paper being fully endorsed by the NRAB.

7. Report from Kidney Health New Zealand – Submitted by Kelvin Lynn

Kelvin Lynn presented his update on Kidney Health New Zealand and confirmed that their theme for 2010 would be linking between diabetes and CKD with a major focus of the Auckland region and further workplace CKD screening. Kelvin Lynn continued his update by advising that they have been working on a web-based resource and could confirm that there will be seven topics, those being:

1. What is chronic kidney disease
2. What are the treatments for kidney failure
3. Diet and CKD
4. Being a living kidney donor
5. Being a kidney transplant recipient
6. Diabetes and CKD
7. Conservative treatment for kidney failure

Kelvin Lynn confirmed that Mr Tony Ryall was still considering Kidney Health New Zealand's position on reimbursement of living kidney donors and the payment for treatment related expenses to home dialysis patients. Kelvin Lynn continued his update and could advise the board members that KHNZ decided not to run an annual conference in 2009 for patient support groups. He said that instead, it was decided to provide the community with local workshops. Kelvin Lynn said that they felt that this was more successful and a less expensive way of doing things as it meant that they could concentrate on community concerns within that region. Kelvin Lynn said it was a much more focused event.

John Collins said that on behalf of the Board members, he would like to congratulate Kidney Health New Zealand for the work that it is doing. Kelvin Lynn concluded his update by asking the Board members if they knew of anyone who may be interested in becoming a member of the Kidney Health NZ Board, could they email him with the persons contact details.

8. Subcommittee reports

Standards & Audits – provided by Grant Pidgeon

Grant Pidgeon advised the Board that the latest report was not ready for publication as there is a delay in getting the data. However, he said that he still needs to tweak the graphs to determine the best way to display them. John Collins thought that it was important to show the Fistulas, Grafts and Catheters separately. Kelvin Lynn thought that there was a much better way of displaying data which would capture areas of improvement which would be good for those viewing them, as it would show the areas that they are making progress in. Grant Pidgeon agreed, however, he confirmed that the data is to be captured in accordance with the Standards set. Grant Pidgeon continued to say that there are some standards that are not being met.

Grant Pidgeon said that as a group he thought that we should stop collecting EGNR data. He said that in regards to the Haemoglobin concentrations, they have been collecting data less than 110 and greater than 130. Grant Pidgeon continued his update to the Board by advising that he is still currently looking into the transplantation rates for renal services via regions as well as investigating how to capture the waiting lists per region. He said that he intends to explore this with ANZDATA. The Board felt that in summary we should be looking at data that measures and reflects day to day practices and that Ian Dittmer's report would possibly be good to have on the agenda at each Subcommittee meeting.

Grant Pidgeon concluded his update by saying that there is a real concern that the data is often late. Grant Pidgeon also confirmed that he is happy to chair the subcommittee meeting, however, he asked for any Expressions of Interest in becoming a member of the subcommittee and in particular, from a nursing background.

Transplantation – provided by Maggie Fisher

There were no comments recorded here, as there was discussion earlier in the meeting to cover this subject.

RSA Nursing Interest Group – provided by Karin Norman

Karin Norman said that the last meeting was held in September and that the meeting was facilitated by Kidney Health New Zealand. She said that the main focus was on the Professional Development Framework that Miranda Walker was author of. She said that they are trying to align three separate documents into one draft and that they expect to have a draft of each component by the next scheduled meeting in March 2010. Karin Norman concluded by saying that the reviewed document which she had received from Miranda Walker was by far, way more than they had been expecting and that things were progressing really well.

NZ Board of Dialysis Practice – provided by Adrian Buttimore

Adrian Buttimore advised the Board that the NZ Board of Dialysis Practice only met yesterday and so he has not been able to prepare a report to the NRABs meeting today. He said that he will work with Fredric to ensure that a report is ready for the next NRAB meeting in Feb 2010. Adrian Buttimore continued and said that he felt that the NZ Board of Dialysis Practice needed to improve and provide a more efficient and effective way of communicating. He said that its members had begun the process of drafting a set of Terms of Reference and they are in the process of reviewing its memberships. He confirmed that as Fredric Doss was to replace his membership on the NRAB that Fredric would also take over the Chair of the NZ Board of Dialysis Practice.

9. Renal Service Improvement Project – submitted by Nick Polaschek

Nick Polaschek began by saying that Cabinet made the decision a week ago that various services will be transferring into their new unit as part of the NZDHB & MOH shake up. He said that they are to expect some restructure as a result of it; however, he was unsure at this time as to how the restructure will look. Nick Polaschek said that Johan Rosman's presentation to the National Review Group about the NRAB was very positive and that Johan Rosman was named in their report. John Collins asked Nick Polaschek if he thought that this would open up some new opportunities for the NRAB. Nick Polaschek replied by saying that he thought that it may help advance proposal and new initiatives and that he will be looking into National services and thinks that transplantation services will be included.

Nick Polaschek continued his update and confirmed that the income replacement for transplantation patients' proposal needs to go back to the Ministry. Kelvin Lynn asked that the minutes record the Boards' appreciation for Nick Polaschek's contribution that he brings as a member of the NRAB.

10. CKD pilots in primary care - submitted by Nick Polaschek

A brief summary of this pilot was provided with the agenda. Nick Polaschek advised that a pilot will begin in early February 2010 and will be overseen by a small group. Debbie Eastwood mentioned that CMDHB had recently had an independent evaluation done to identify themes of work.

11. Maori & Pacific attitudes towards transplantation from professional Perspectives. A report commissioned by MoH for Renal Services - submitted by Nick Polaschek

Nick Polaschek provided the members with a copy of the Maori & Pacific Attitudes Towards Transplantation for their information. A Board member said that clearly in terms of information the document needed to be translated into Maori. It was decided that it also could be loaded onto the Websites and distributed as widely as possible.

12. Draft Midland regional renal plan – update on progress - submitted by Nick Polaschek

Nick Polaschek provided the Board members with a short version of the Midland DHB Draft Midland Regional Renal Plan 2009. Maggie Fisher thought that the document was terrific and very much needed in order to gain improvement in the Midland region. Nick Polaschek asked for the Board members to review the document as he was happy to receive their feedback on it.

13. Policy for opening new centres – submitted by Johan Rosman

Johan Rosman asked the Board members what their thoughts were on developing a policy for opening new centres. It was agreed by the Board members that there was too much conflict of interest between the members around the table to discuss it any further.

14. Renal Guidelines for GPs – submitted by Grant Pidgeon

Grant Pidgeon said that a recent document titled “Making a difference in chronic kidney disease: Part 1 Catching renal impairment early” was causing some concern amongst the GPs. Kelvin Lynn suggested that perhaps the NRAB could investigate how to get these sorts of documents onto the MoH Guidelines Group. Kelvin Lynn said that obviously there needs to be consistency in information published across New Zealand. John Collins disagreed and said that he thought we should concentrate on adhering to the guidelines that are in place, before we go about producing National Standards / Guidelines.

15. Dunedin study on Dialysis in the elderly - submitted by Nick Polaschek

Nick Polaschek asked the Board members “did they think this study was important from a national point of view when compared to other possibilities?” Nick Polaschek thought that the document should be published so that it is available for feedback. Some members thought that it would be inappropriate to provide comment.

16. Additional agenda item: Pharmaceuticals – submitted by John Collins

John Collins expressed a concern regarding the lack of certain pharmaceutical supplies. He said that we should draft a request to the MoH asking that they construct a system that would avoid this situation. He said that he does not want patients to go offshore to get their medication. The Board thought that this needed to be discussed at length at the next Transplantation subcommittee meeting.

17. Additional agenda item: Roche invite re Renal Information Systems

Roche is facilitating the agenda for a workshop on Renal Information Technologies Systems. The Board was unsure of the hidden agenda behind this and asked that Grant Pidgeon and John Collins work together to determine if the Board should get involved, or not.

18. 2010 proposed meeting dates – submitted by committee secretary

It was thought that the first meeting to be held in February may clash with another conference that some of the members would be attending. It was decided that the Board secretary look into this and reschedule that meeting to a later date, if need be.

The meeting was officially closed at 2.20pm.