

## Notes of a meeting of the UK Medical Education Database Advisory Board

Friday 1 Dec 2023, 13:00 – 15:15  
Zoom Virtual Meeting Room

### Attendees

Professor Dame Jane Dacre	Chair
Professor Peter Johnston	Research Subgroup Co-chair
Professor Colin Macdougall	Research Subgroup Co-chair
Professor Elizabeth Hughes	NHSE WT&E
Professor Adam Hill	NES
Mark Shannon	BMAT
Rachel Greatrix	UCAT
Mike Masding	UKFPO
Rachel Wilkes	Jisc
James Apperley (deputy for Andrew Ledgard)	GMC
Tom Bandenburg	GMC
Adam Troughton	GMC
Emma Fletcher	MSC
Dr Katie Petty-Saphon	MSC
Emma Fletcher	MSC
Professor Chris McManus	Independent
Rob Tucker (deputy for Chinelo Nnadi)	BMA MSC
Denise Hughes (deputy for Camille Harron)	NIMDTA
Adrian Jackson	MPS Foundation

### Apologies

Professor Bill Irish	COPMeD
Sander Kristel	UCAS
Mike McKirdy	AoMRC
Sean Corrigan	GMC
Fahmida Yasmin	MSC

Action	Progress
1. Chair and Ch McManus to approach Kath Woolf and Paul Tiffin to gauge interest on completing a project using UKMED and NIHR funding.	NIHR funding call deadline passed with a large number of applications
2. C Macdougall and P Johnston to invite A Jackson and MPS colleagues to Research Subgroup for further discussion.	Pending
3. C Macdougall to add discussion about showcasing UKMED research for the next strategy day.	Pending
4. C Macdougall to formally write up UKMED strategy and plans.	Completed, on the agenda
5. T Bandenburg to explore whether NTS contains questions about intercalated degrees and ACFs, or if they could be added.	
6. P Johnston to explore with T Bandenburg new questions for the NTS.	

1. The Chair welcomed members to the UKMED Advisory Board, and new Members and guests were introduced.

**2 Approval of minutes from 30 June 2023 and matters arising Chair**

2. The minutes of the meeting on 30 June 2023 were reviewed and approved as an accurate record.
3. Chair informed Members that NIHR issued a call for bids for projects on workforce and education issues. She described the call as aiming to allow for a breadth of applications.
4. C Macdougall suggested UKMED may want to propose research, while recognising the timeline was challenging. Chair informed Members an extension to the application deadline has been requested but is unlikely to be granted. She encouraged members to submit bids for funding.

**ACTION 1:** Chair and Ch McManus to approach Kath Woolf and Paul Tiffin to gauge interest on completing a project using UKMED and NIHR funding.

5. A Jackson presented opportunities for funding from MPS for global research into human factors' impact on healthcare. He outlined two funding opportunities yearly with maximum funding of £200,000 per project (£100,000 per year max.) He informed Members that next expressions of interest open 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024 and shut on 3 May.
6. There was a discussion of commissioned research and potential project ideas outside two funding windows, such as UKMED workshops and commissioned piece of work in collaboration with UKMED.
7. Chair highlighted that this could boost the collective pool of analytical skills. Creation of a research community was suggested. The impact of a commissioning approach was noted in that UKMED might no longer approve completed bids but facilitate stronger research teams.
8. Chair expressed conflict of interest due to being on MPS board and asked Research Subgroup co-chairs to step in.

**ACTION 2:** C Macdougall and P Johnston to invite A Jackson and MPS colleagues to Research Subgroup for further discussion.

**3 Research strategy C Macdougall**

9. C Macdougall summarised the key themes of the strategy awayday, which included data subjects and their knowledge of the process, as well as funding and expertise capacity.
10. He noted agreement was reached on the working version of the purpose statement.
11. Chair mentioned that a meeting between BMA and GMC has been set in December to explore further the perspective of the data subjects.
12. There was a discussion of areas where guidance from Advisory Board was sought. It was suggested that a "shopping list" of data missing from UKMED could be created to help assess how it would be addressed.
13. The GMC expressed concern about confidentiality if semi-qualitative data was to be collected.
14. It was considered whether PA/AA data should be included in UKMED if these courses were registered with the GMC.
15. There was support for a future joint paper on ground rules for data use.

16. The move away from a reactive approach resulting in repeated studies was discussed. The potential for proposing topics, involving MPS and NIHR funding calls was considered.
17. There was consideration of commercial involvement by HEIs and pro bono contributions.
18. It was agreed that proof-of-concept studies like OPTIC and ORCHID will need to be evaluated before commitment to linking education and training to patient outcome data.

**ACTION 3:** C Macdougall to add discussion about showcasing UKMED research for the next strategy day.

**ACTION 4:** C Macdougall to formally write up UKMED strategy and plans.

**4      Operational capacity review      T Bandenburg**

19. T Bandenburg presented a review of operational capacity, addressing bottlenecks and staff shortages. He reassured the Board that recruitment was underway to fill vacant roles.
20. He confirmed that research specifications from the autumn application window will be started in New Year to allow for GMC to catch-up with backlog due to staff shortage over the summer.
21. T Bandenburg suggested ways to raise the rate of successfully completed projects through stricter requirement of statistical skills in teams applying for UKMED data as well as creating a pool of resource so that additional expertise could be brought in to support projects if needed.
22. P Johnston suggested workshops at conferences to advertise UKMED and to inform on the level of skill needed.

**5      Update on workforce data projects      T Bandenburg**

23. T Bandenburg informed Members that two out of three HEE-commissioned projects have been completed, with Andy Knapton from the GMC working on the final one.
24. There was discussion of the potential inclusion of clinical academic data in UKMED, as well as more accurate identification of intercalated degrees.

**ACTION 5:** T Bandenburg to explore whether NTS contains questions about intercalated degrees and ACFs, or if they could be added.

**6      Update on linking UKMED and Oxford-Royal College of GPs Research and Surveillance Centre (ORCHID) database      J Apperley**

25. J Apperley reported that sufficient identifiers have been found to link data between UKMED and ORCHID.
26. He informed the Board that a data sharing agreement has been signed with the next step for ORCHID to test matching capabilities.

**7      Research Subgroup membership      C Macdougall**

27. C Macdougall informed the Board that last Research Subgroup meeting was joined by three observers who are to be invited to join the subgroup.
28. It was agreed that the Research subgroup membership should be reviewed regularly.

**8 Research applications and final reports submitted by 16 Oct 2023 deadline**  
**P Johnston**

29. P Johnston informed Members that six applications were submitted. Five have been accepted.  
30. The Board agreed with the recommendation to publish findings of three projects.

**9 UKMED data load cycle calendar including live projects**  
**A Troughton**

31. A Troughton announced his new role as a UKMED Data Manager and provided updates on various data loads, including UCAS, HESA, test provider data, recruitment, NTS, exam data, ARCP, and ORCHID.  
32. He provided information about progress with OPTIC study with UKMED data in HIC awaiting NOD to send their data.  
33. Chair thanked A Troughton and the GMC for their work.

**10 AOB**  
**Chair**

34. There was a discussion about adding questions to NTS.  
35. C McManus advocated for qualitative data in UKMED quoting ESRC and UKMACS as positive examples.

**ACTION 6:** P Johnston to explore with T Bandenburg new questions for the NTS.

**Glossary**

AKT	Applied Knowledge Test, part of Medical Licensing Assessment
AoMRC	Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, <a href="http://www.aomrc.org.uk">www.aomrc.org.uk</a>
ARCP	Annual Review of Competence Progression
ASME	The Association for the Study of Medical Education <a href="https://www.asme.org.uk/">https://www.asme.org.uk/</a>
AWS	Amazon Web Services
BMA	British Medical Association, <a href="http://www.bma.org.uk">www.bma.org.uk</a>
BMAT	BioMedical Admissions Test, <a href="http://www.admissionstesting.com/for-test-takers/bmat/about-bmat">www.admissionstesting.com/for-test-takers/bmat/about-bmat</a>
CASPER	Online situational judgment test <a href="https://takealtus.com/casper/">https://takealtus.com/casper/</a>
COPMeD	Conference of Postgraduate Medical Deans (UK), <a href="http://www.copmed.org.uk">www.copmed.org.uk</a>
DHSC	Department of Health and Social Care, <a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care">www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care</a>
DPA	Data Protection Act, <a href="http://www.gov.uk/data-protection/the-data-protection-act">www.gov.uk/data-protection/the-data-protection-act</a>
DSA	Data Sharing Agreement
EDI	Equality Diversity Inclusivity
EEA	European Economic Area
EPM	Educational Performance Measure
FitP	Fitness to Practise
GAMSAT	Graduate Medical School Admissions Test, <a href="http://www.gamsat.acer.edu.au">www.gamsat.acer.edu.au</a>
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation, <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/data-protection-act-2018">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/data-protection-act-2018</a>
GMC	General Medical Council, <a href="http://www.gmc-uk.org">www.gmc-uk.org</a>
HEIW	Health Education and Improvement Wales, <a href="http://www.heiw.nhs.wales">www.heiw.nhs.wales</a>



HES	Hospital Episode Statistics, <a href="http://www.digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-tools-and-services/data-services/hospital-episode-statistics">www.digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-tools-and-services/data-services/hospital-episode-statistics</a>
HESA	Higher Education Statistics Agency, <a href="http://www.hesa.ac.uk">www.hesa.ac.uk</a>
HIC	Health Informatics Centre, <a href="http://www.medicine.dundee.ac.uk/hic">www.medicine.dundee.ac.uk/hic</a>
IS	Information Services (part of GMC)
LRMP	List of Registered Medical Practitioners
MAPs	Medical Associate Professions
MSC	Medical Schools Council, <a href="http://www.medschools.ac.uk">www.medschools.ac.uk</a>
NES	NHS Education for Scotland, <a href="http://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk">www.nes.scot.nhs.uk</a>
NHSE WT&E	NHS England Workforce Training and Education Directorate
NIHR	National Institute for Health Research, <a href="http://www.nihr.ac.uk">www.nihr.ac.uk</a>
NIMDTA	Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency, <a href="http://www.nimdtta.gov.uk">www.nimdtta.gov.uk</a>
ORCHID	Oxford Royal College of General Practitioners' database <a href="https://orchid.phc.ox.ac.uk/index.php/orchid-data/">https://orchid.phc.ox.ac.uk/index.php/orchid-data/</a>
PSA	Prescribing Safety Assessment
SEC	Socio-Economic Classification
SJT	Situational Judgement Test
UCAS	Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, <a href="http://www.ucas.com">www.ucas.com</a>
UCL	University College London
UCAT	University Clinical Aptitude Test, <a href="http://www.ucat.ac.uk">www.ucat.ac.uk</a>
UKFPO	UK Foundation Programme Office, <a href="http://www.foundationprogramme.nhs.uk">www.foundationprogramme.nhs.uk</a>
WPG	Work Psychology Group, <a href="http://www.workpsychologygroup.com">www.workpsychologygroup.com</a>