



UKMED

UK Medical Education Database

Notes of a meeting of the UK Medical Education Database Development Group

Thursday 15 October 2015 10:00 - 13:00

MSC Office, Woburn House, 20 Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HD

Attendees

Professor Steve Thornton	Chair
Janet Brown	UKFPO
Luke Bruce	GMC
Paul Buckley	GMC
Harrison Carter (<i>by tel</i>)	BMA MSC
Professor Jane Dacre	AoMRC
Professor Jon Dowell	Chair, Research Group
Siobhan Fitzpatrick	MSC
Professor Derek Gallen	HEW/ COPMeD
Rachel Greatrix	UKCAT
Duncan Henderson	NES
Edward Knight	MSC
Andrew Ledgard	GMC
Dr JP Lomas	AoMRC Trainees
Marita MacMahon-Ball (<i>by tel</i>)	GAMSAT
Sarah McElwee (<i>rep</i>)	BMAT
Professor Chris McManus	UCL
Dr Katie Petty-Saphon	MSC
Alan Robson	DH
Daniel Smith	GMC
Veronica Vele (<i>by tel</i>)	GAMSAT
Kirsty White	GMC

Apologies

Simon Beeston (<i>rep</i>)	BMAT
Ian Curran	GMC
Keith Gardiner	NIMDTA
Jonathan Howes	HEE
Martin Hart	GMC
Prof Bill Reid	COPMed

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting, with a particular welcome to Professor Jane Dacre joining the group for the first time as the Academy representative, and Sarah McElwee attending for BMAT.

2. Approval of minutes from 19 June 2015

Enc 1

The minutes were agreed to be an accurate record. Matters arising included:

- Kirsty White updated members that work has been done with the Medical Schools Council to explore the information governance around data sharing of the PSA data, with ongoing work to resolve the legal queries.
- The business case for the Wellcome Trust will be reviewed at the February meeting.

3. Status update, *Kirsty White*

Kirsty White gave an update to the meeting, highlighting that the Health Informatics Centre in Dundee had been appointed to run the safe haven for UKMED data, following an open tender. The software licensing model is being reviewed and the HESA contract is close to being finalised.

A number of medical schools have asked about access to data for their own cohort which could be linked to other measures. UKMED is not currently set up to do so as it was not the original purpose, but there is potential to explore this further before data is included in the safe haven.

ACTION: Review at end of Phase 1 the value and potential to link data provided by individual researchers

a. Revised timeline for 2016

Members agreed to the timeline, which included:

- November 2015 – website launch including data dictionary made public.
- 11 Jan 2016 – deadline for receipt of data research requests
- Feb 2016 – Research Sub-Group and Development Group meetings to approve release of data
- March 2016 – safe haven open to approved researchers
- June 2016 – Development Group meeting to include review of Tranche 1 reports
- November 2016 – Development Group meeting to include review of Tranche 2 reports, Phase 1 evaluation and Phase 2 business case

The group agreed that over the summer, there should be a hiatus in receiving new research requests, until the outputs of the next 12 months are reviewed, and the business case for moving to Phase 2 is reviewed. Members reviewed the risk register and the need to develop a long term plan.

b. Inclusion of Tranche 2 research extracts

A two tranche approach was approved by the Development Group, whereby the three early data requests (to be discussed under item 6) would be released immediately (Tranche 1), if approved, followed by the open call for UKMED research data requests over winter 2015/16 (Tranche 2). This would enable the safe haven and process for data to be released to be tested, and it would also enable the business case to be tested following the results of these studies. Members agreed that Tranche 2 would also be a useful test as to the appetite for using UKMED, and whether funding would be made available for research.

Members considered how to manage volume of research requests, given that the safe haven is limited to 10 users simultaneously and that it could take 3-4 days to define and extract the data ready for release.

Thanks were recorded to the GMC for their huge work in between meetings for matching the data and preparing the datasets ready for the release.

4. Database Development, Daniel Smith

Enc 2

a. Revised Data Dictionary (includes data coverage)

Daniel Smith presented the updated Data Dictionary, noting that the current coverage may yet increase with some further matching.

A decision was taken regarding the match of applicant to medical school, in that any movement between medical school should be recorded, not just their graduating medical school (eg St Andrews' students who then transfer to Manchester at the end of Year 3, separately from Manchester students).

b. Query log and HESA response attached for information

HESA data cleaning (deduplication where the same person had more than HUSID – the individual student identifiers used by HESA) had accounted for around a 10% increase in data linking. DS reported that he would raise further queries with HESA, including why some cases, eg graduate entry students had missing qualifications

c. Update on BMAT and report on coverage of medical students

Sarah McElwee advised that a lot of work had been done internally to secure buy-in for joining UKMED. UKMED should proceed on the basis that BMAT will be joining as a data contributor, although final agreement has not been reached and further legal review is required.

d. Update on Prescribing Safety Assessment (PSA) data

Governance issues are currently being resolved – discussed under the actions arising from the previous meeting.

5. Safe haven arrangements, Andrew Ledgard

Encs 3,4

a. Update on arrangements, including information on security testing

Andrew Ledgard updated the meeting that HESA has agreed its final terms for inclusion within the safe haven including that the data are pseudonymised before they are included in the safe haven, and that outputs from the safe haven such as results tables are subject to HESA's statistical disclosure controls.

b. Researcher contract

Members noted that the software licensing would be in place for Tranche 1 data releases, as for these it is likely that the researchers may be able to use their existing licences with the safe haven as they would not be working on commercial contracts for these projects. If more than one piece of software is required by the researcher, an additional fee of £250 per additional software would be charged. Members accepted that this is a reasonable charge, provided that researchers are aware that they may be required to provide their own licence. The Development Group questioned the definition of an academic researcher and whether

this is too restrictive. This would also exclude some of the data contributors eg from the software licensing arrangements.

c. FOI

Members agreed the proposed process for responding to FOI requests, noting that individuals' data could not be released as it is identifiable. FOI requests relating to a single organisation would be directed to that organisations' FOI enquiries email address. FOI requests to UKMED would be logged for future review by the Development Group.

6. Research applications, Jon Dowell

Encs 5,6,7a-c

a. Report on the scoring of the research applications and recommendations

The three data requests were recommended by the Research Sub-Group to the Development Group, and all three were approved.

b. Updates/Revised application process

Professor Jon Dowell advised members that the initial review process had identified issues, and that Paper 5 now outlined the workable research application process. Members noted that the Medical Schools Council had agreed that individual medical schools could be identified by the research, unlike current UKCAT data releases. Once a research request has been approved, a summary would be added to the UKMED website. If the outputs are not published in a peer-reviewed journal, they will be published in full on the UKMED website.

UKCAT requested a seat on the Research Sub-Group for the remainder of Phase 1, on the basis that other data contributors are represented, and earlier sight of research proposals would be better than when papers are circulated to the Development Group [nb papers for this meeting had been circulated late]. This was agreed, and the membership of the Development and Research Groups would be reviewed in October 2016.

7. Website launch

a. Draft website text, FAQs and communications

Encs 8,9,10

Edward Knight provided the outline text of the UKMED website (www.ukmed.ac.uk), due to be launched in the w/c 2nd November. The following additions were agreed:

- Add the summary, researcher and title of the three approved data releases
- Clarifications to the FAQs

ACTION: Comments on the website text invited by Monday 26th October 2015

The website will continue to be developed over the next few months, so that by the close of research applications in January, the applications can be reviewed and scored via a secure log-in portal. This will be penetration tested – the GMC agreed to work with the MSC to achieve this.

The logo proposals were reviewed, and an adaptation of proposals 1 and 2 was agreed in principle.

8. Prior attainment and value-add reports

Enc 11

a. Prior attainment statistical commission

Kirsty White highlighted to members that the GMC is looking to commission research into the methodology for accounting for prior attainment, with tenders invited within the next month. Members provided feedback that it is not a straight forward proposal, and that any methodology will not be value-neutral. Members were asked to circulate the commission to interested colleagues.

b. Demo with EPM score in Medical School reports

Daniel Smith gave a demonstration to attendees on the potential to link up EPM and ARCP outcomes, and the kind of regular reporting which could be made through the UKMED. Feedback was offered including linking data to other predictors including gender, ethnicity UCAS tariff.

ACTION: Daniel Smith to explore reporting with the MSC and the UKCAT

9. AOB

The group congratulated Daniel Smith and GMC staff for the success in the UKMED Phase 1, enabling the project to open invitations for researcher applications.

Dr JP Lomas confirmed his support for the governance on behalf of trainees (data subjects).

Members thanked Janet Brown for her contributions to the Development Group and the data sharing with the UKFPO, and noted that Jonathan Howes would provide the operational input going forward on behalf of HEE.

Minutes approved at the Development Group meeting 25 February 2016

Glossary

AoMRC	Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, www.aomrc.org.uk
ARCP	Annual Review of Competence Progression
BMA	British Medical Association, www.bma.org.uk
BMAT	BioMedical Admissions Test http://www.admissionstestingsservice.org/for-test-takers/bmat/about-bmat/
COPMed	Conference Of Postgraduate Medical Deans (UK), www.copmed.org.uk
EPM	Educational Performance Measure
FOI	Freedom Of Information
GAMSAT	Graduate Medical School Admissions Test, www.gamsat.acer.edu.au
GMC	General Medical Council, www.gmc-uk.org
HEE	Health Education England, www.hee.nhs.uk
HESA	Higher Education Statistics Agency, www.hesa.ac.uk
HIC	Health Informatics Centre, www.medicine.dundee.ac.uk/hic
ISFP	Improving Selection to the Foundation Programme, www.isfp.org.uk
LETB	Local Education and Training Board
MSAR	Medical School Annual Return
MSC	Medical Schools Council, www.medschools.ac.uk
NES	NHS Education for Scotland, www.nes.scot.nhs.uk
NIMDTA	Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency, www.nimtda.gov.uk
PID	Project Initiation Documentation
SJT	Situational Judgement Test
UCAS	Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, www.ucas.com
UKFPO	UK Foundation Programme Office, www.foundationprogramme.nhs.uk