

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

Thursday 16 December, 14.00 – 16:00
Zoom Virtual Meeting Room

Attendees

Professor Steve Thornton
 Professor Jon Dowell
 Professor Dame Jane Dacre
 Dr Katie Petty-Saphon
 Professor Helen Stokes-Lampard
 Susannah Thoms
 Professor Adam Hill
 Mark Shannon
 Dr Ian Steele
 Steve Easton
 Nicole Jewer
 Rachel Greatrix
 Professor Chris McManus
 Dr Latifa Patel
 Dr Christopher Scott
 Professor Colin Melville
 Daniel Smith
 Sean Corrigan
 Suzanne Chamberlain
 Olga Sierocinska King
 Andrew Ledgard
 Tom Bandenburg
 Christian Woodward
 Tom Oppé

Chair
 Research Subgroup Chair
 Chair Elect
 MSC
 AoMRC
 AoMRC Trainees
 NES
 BMAT
 NIMDTA
 HESA
 HESA
 UCAT
 UCL
 BMA
 BMA
 GMC
 GMC
 GMC
 GMC
 GMC
 MSC
 GMC
 GMC
 GMC
 GMC

Apologies

Professor Bill Irish
 Yuxiu Wei
 Dr Mike Masding
 Neville Chiavaroli
 Fahmida Yasmin

COPMed
 MSC
 UKFPO
 GAMSAT
 MSC

Action	Progress
1. OSK to draft a thank-you letter to all UKMED data contributors on behalf of Chair, including a thank-you to schools for HESA assessment data.	Draft letter with the GMC for their input on HESA assessment data collection.
2. Chairs of Advisory Board and Research Subgroup to agree a scoring matrix to assist in prioritising potential new datasets.	Ongoing
3. Chairs of Advisory Board and Research Subgroup to bring a paper for the next Advisory Board meeting with options for a more cohesive programme of research.	On the agenda
4. Prof Jon Dowell and Dr Katie Petty-Saphon to agree how the conference would be financed.	Ongoing

1 Welcome and introductions

Chair

1. The Chair Elect welcomed members to the UKMED Advisory Board, and everyone was introduced.

2 Approval of minutes from 25 June 2021 and matters arising **Chair**

2. The minutes of the meeting on 25 June 2021 were reviewed and approved as an accurate record.

3 UKMED data load cycle and calendar inc. active projects and HIC (slides used appended to these minutes)

3. Daniel Smith presented the calendar until next Advisory Board meeting in 2022.
4. He informed the meeting that UCAS agreed to provide data in January 2022, before test provider data load planned for February-March 2022 and followed by HESA data load in April 2022.
5. He confirmed that all HESA medical school assessment data has been received from first and final year courses and the GMC team is loading the data.
6. He highlighted interest from clinical academic training forum in the clinical academic funder data recently loaded into UKMED.
7. Daniel informed Members about new fields, such as course completion and plans for UCAS to add data related to Widening Participation.
8. Live projects were presented as well as two projects that are soon to start, three that are on hold, and projects waiting and re-scheduled. This demonstrated the backlog and why new applications approved in December 2021 would not receive their extracts until March 2022.
9. Members were informed about HIC transfer to Amazon Web Services, which should offer a faster and more reliable Safe Haven environment. Daniel confirmed that migration is to take place after testing by the GMC and safe haven users is complete.
10. Chair thanked data contributors for agreeing to the presented schedule. Daniel's support to a wide range of projects was recognised.

ACTION 1: OSK to draft a thank-you letter to all UKMED data contributors on behalf of Chair, including a thank-you to schools for HESA assessment data.

4 Potential new datasets to be prioritised

11. Daniel Smith introduced the paper with a list of potential directions to increase the scope of UKMED. He asked for direction of how to focus resources.
12. He confirmed that a new GMC data analyst post will be created to work on the undergraduate data load and associated reported, which should lead to more resource being available to work on UKMED extracts.
13. Comments were invited on areas that should be pursued.
14. Rachel Greatrix asked for more data on contextual admissions to include applicants, more selection tools to be explored e.g., interviewing, which would help with evaluation. It was noted in response that including applicants is outside of current scope of UCAS data and would likely be at an additional cost, while HESA contract permits collection of additional data, but could not include applicants.

15. Nicola Jewer confirmed on behalf of HESA that additional data collection should be feasible as the GMC is a statutory customer.
16. Chris McManus raised the issue of a matriculation survey and whether it could be collected at the point of application.
17. Written comments from Members were invited.

ACTION 2: Chairs of Advisory Board and Research Subgroup to agree a scoring matrix to assist in prioritising potential new datasets.

5 Research applications submitted by 5 November 2021 deadline and final report

18. Prof Jon Dowell introduced the remit of the Research Subgroup for the benefit of the new members.
19. He summarised seven applications which were submitted in the latest application window, of which four were approved, one was rejected and one asked to resubmit, with retrospective application asked to provide final report.
20. Prof Dowell noted that while NES is making good use of workforce data, there is a missed opportunity from other nations.
21. He raised the fact that two applications were submitted by WPG, which has a commercial interest in findings. He outlined that authors will be asked for technical reports on the test they deliver to facilitate better understanding of the data they bring among UKMED researchers.
22. It was suggested that the National Statistics Agency could provide examples of how to manage commercial interest in research applications
23. There was a discussion whether UKMED should state what are its priority areas for research. It was noted that there is no UKMED tendering process, while the GMC has a research budget. It was confirmed Research Subgroup provides direction to researchers who have already applied, but in the context of their original intentions expressed in the application.
24. Professor Colin Melville felt that the idea of a programme of research should be investigated further, as UKMED has to date produced many dispersed research projects.
25. Dr Latifa Patel summarised the BMA's priorities as focused on the gender pay gap, and the issues affecting workforce. She stated that the BMA would welcome steer from UKMED for researchers to focus on these areas.
26. The desire to improve quality of research through a large data science investment has been expressed.
27. Findings from UKMEDP115 final report have been approved for publication.

ACTION 3: Chairs of Advisory Board and Research Subgroup to bring a paper for the next Advisory Board meeting with options for a more cohesive programme of research.

6 Plans for 2022 UKMED conference

28. Professor Jon Dowell presented plans for a conference, building on the first UKMED conference in 2019. He informed Members about a planned collaboration with ASME, linked to their research meeting. He mentioned that this could be extended for another third day for a strategic meeting of the Advisory Board.
29. The aim of the conference was outlined as showcasing UKMED research, while also offering learning for new potential applicants on how to use the data.
30. As the conference would be financed by MSC, Dr Katie Petty-Saphon raised the issue of a reduced budget this time round.

ACTION 4: Prof Jon Dowell and Dr Katie Petty-Saphon to agree how the conference would be financed.

7 Renewing UKMED ethics exemption

31. Professor Jon Dowell informed members that ethics exemption from QMUL may no longer be extended to projects that do not include QMUL staff.
32. GMC confirmed that a member of staff will prepare an application for a new UK-wide exemption.

8 Communications update inc. WHO chapter

33. Olga Sierocinska King confirmed that the MSC and GMC teams agreed arrangements in case of sudden media interest. She presented the new resources that would be developed in 2022 to support prospective applicants and general public, with the aim of streamlining communications from the team.

9 AOB

34. Members thanked Prof Steve Thornton for chairing the group and recognised major developments of the project under his steer.

DRAFT

Glossary

AoMRC	Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, www.aomrc.org.uk
ARCP	Annual Review of Competence Progression
BAPIO	British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin
BMA	British Medical Association, www.bma.org.uk
BMAT	BioMedical Admissions Test, www.admissionstesting.com/for-test-takers/bmat/about-bmat
COPMeD	Conference of Postgraduate Medical Deans (UK), www.copmed.org.uk
DHSC	Department of Health and Social Care, www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care
DPA	Data Protection Act, www.gov.uk/data-protection/the-data-protection-act
EEA	European Economic Area
EPM	Educational Performance Measure
FPAS	Foundation Programme Application System
FtP	Fitness to Practise
GAMSAT	Graduate Medical School Admissions Test, www.gamsat.acer.edu.au
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation, https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/data-protection-act-2018
GMC	General Medical Council, www.gmc-uk.org
HEE	Health Education England, www.hee.nhs.uk
HEIW	Health Education and Improvement Wales, www.heiw.nhs.wales
HES	Hospital Episode Statistics, www.digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-tools-and-services/data-services/hospital-episode-statistics
HESA	Higher Education Statistics Agency, www.hesa.ac.uk
HIC	Health Informatics Centre, www.medicine.dundee.ac.uk/hic
IS	Information Services (part of GMC)
LRMP	List of Registered Medical Practitioners
MAPs	Medical Associate Professions
MSC	Medical Schools Council, www.medschools.ac.uk
NES	NHS Education for Scotland, www.nes.scot.nhs.uk
NIHR	National Institute for Health Research, www.nihr.ac.uk
NIMDTA	Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency, www.nimdtta.gov.uk
PID	Project Initiation Documentation
PIRE	Project Implementation Review and Evaluation
PSA	Prescribing Safety Assessment
SEC	Socio-Economic Classification
SJT	Situational Judgement Test
UCAS	Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, www.ucas.com
UCL	University College London
UCAT	University Clinical Aptitude Test, www.ucat.ac.uk
UKFPO	UK Foundation Programme Office, www.foundationprogramme.nhs.uk
WPG	Work Psychology Group, www.workpsychologygroup.com