

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

Friday 25 November 2022, 12:30 – 14:30
MS Teams Virtual Meeting Room

Attendees

Professor Dame Jane Dacre
Professor Jon Dowell
Professor Adam Hill
Denise Hughes
Mike Masding
Dr Elizabeth Hughes
Jonathan Howes
Professor Bill Irish
Ania Kosicka
Richard O'Kelly
Mark Shannon
Colin Watson
Rachel Greatrix
Richard O'Kelly
Rachel Wilkes
Daniel Smith
Andrew Ledgard
Christian Woodward
Professor Colin Melville
James Apperley
Emma Fletcher
Tom Bandenburg
Dr Katie Petty-Saphon
Olga Sierocinska King
Yuxiu Wei
Fahmida Yasmin
Professor Chris McManus
Lara Akinnawonu
Kelly Dore
Alexander McIntosh

Chair
Research Subgroup Chair
NES
NIMDTA
UKFPO
HEE
HEE
COPMeD
DHSC
UCAS
BMAT
GAMSAT
UCAT
UCAS
HESA
GMC
GMC
GMC
GMC
GMC
GMC
GMC
GMC
GMC
MSC
MSC
MSC
MSC
Independent
BMA
CASPER
CASPER

Apologies

Professor Helen Stokes-Lampard
Neville Chiavaroli
Dr Latifa Patel

AoMRC
GAMSAT
BMA

Action	Progress
1. E Fletcher and D Smith to arrange a more detailed presentation of the preliminary report on expected numbers entering FP with the UKFPO staff.	
2. D Smith to invite ORCHID for the next Advisory Board meeting.	Completed
3. GMC Information Governance team to respond to individual Members who have specific queries regarding third-party safe haven.	Closed

4. Chair, O Sierocinska King and D Smith to prepare a proposal of a strategy day.	Research strategy on the agenda
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1 Welcome and introductions

Chair

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

2 Approval of minutes from 24 June 2022 and matters arising

Chair

2. The minutes of the meeting on 24 November 2022 were reviewed and approved as an accurate record.
3. Actions were reviewed.
4. The Chair informed Members about NIHR meeting postponement till early 2023. She alerted Members that numerous challenging areas were identified during a call with NHS Digital and that given the restructuring of the organisation, this has put a pause to exploring the collaboration further.
5. Members were informed that there are ongoing conversations to prepare a DSA for the AKT.

3 Update on workforce data projects

Emma Fletcher

6. The Chair provided an update on research collaboration with HEE.
7. E Fletcher presented an interactive report with preliminary analysis of numbers of medical students due to graduate. She received feedback that to describe graduation not on the expected date she should use an alternative term to 'attrition'. The Board felt that forecasting attrition in the sense of those who have left and not returned to finish the course would also be of great value. The GMC agreed to attempt to incorporate this into the analysis.
8. The UKFPO and DHSC welcomed progress so far and stressed the importance of understanding numbers starting FP for workforce planning.
9. The Chair noted there was slower progress on two other projects. The UKMED was grateful for funding from HEE and expected it in due course. Confirming of the data availability for the clinical academic project was holding that part of the project back.

ACTION 1: E Fletcher and D Smith to arrange a more detailed presentation of the preliminary report on expected numbers entering FP with the UKFPO staff.

4 UKMED data in third-party safe haven

James Apperley

10. The Chair introduced the impetus for exploring the third-party safe haven as an alternative route to linking educational and clinical outcome data given challenges faced in discussions with the NHS Digital.
11. J Apperley underlined the resource advantages of the third-party safe haven approach. Steps for sharing UKMED data to match with third-party data were described. He stressed that information governance would be complex and security issues paramount, such as preventing de-identification, preventing data loss and protecting data subjects' rights. He estimated a two-year lead-in time.
12. The scale of the commitment was recognised not only on the GMC's part, but also work for data contributors who would need to agree and amend their DSAs and privacy notices.

13. Possible next steps were outlined, with ORCHID research proposal as a test case. There was feedback that a scoping exercise would be useful to understand available safe-haven options in order to select collaboration with the one most strategically aligned with UKMED.
14. Research Subgroup Chair cautioned about the need to prepare a prioritisation approach in case of an increased number of research applications.
15. It was agreed that governance principles between UKMED and third-party safe haven would need to be established, including rights to replicate research.
16. The reception of the proposal has been positive. UCAS representative noted that they have an obligation to link datasets were this would enable research in the public interest. He also indicated that the route of secure research deposit through ONS could be explored.

ACTION 2: D Smith to invite ORCHID for the next Advisory Board meeting.

ACTION 3: GMC Information Governance team to respond to individual Members who raise specific queries regarding third-party safe haven.

5 MAPs data in UKMED

Daniel Smith

17. D Smith informed Members that GMC will be regulating new groups of registrants and that MAPs data is expected to be integrated into existing GMC processes.
18. It was noted that UKMED contributors were interested to learn about careers of applicants to medical school who are not admitted, and that MAPs data may provide a partial answer.
19. R Greatrix indicated that UCAT may be used for some MAPs courses.
20. The Board supported MAPs data inclusion in UKMED.

6 UKMED data load cycle and calendar inc. active projects and HIC Daniel Smith

21. D Smith confirmed 2022 datasets have been loaded and noted ones expected e.g. off-shore campuses of UK medical schools.
22. He noted that HESA 2021/22 assessment records from schools will include all years of medical school courses.
23. The Board was informed that the planned migration from Oracle to MS-SQL might cause delays to UKMED standard processes.
24. D Smith confirmed that the new AWS TRE environment has been set up with projects starting to be migrated and using it effectively. However there have been some licensing issues with SPSS, it is no longer possible to use the Dundee license, so the GMC will be purchasing SPSS licenses for use in the Safe Haven.

7 Standard and routine reporting of UKMED data

Daniel Smith

25. D Smith informed Members about routine GMC reports based on UKMED data: PSA and medical school assessment data collected by HESA. D Smith emphasised the importance of annual reporting as a useful quality check on data prior to its use by UKMED researchers.
26. The Chair thanked the GMC team involved.

8 CASPER data in UKMED

Daniel Smith

27. D Smith introduced CASPER. The Board welcomed their interest to explore becoming a data contributor.

9 Research applications submitted by 14 October 2022 deadline and final reports
Jon Dowell

28. J Dowell informed Members that six were being recommended and two asked for resubmission, with one dependent on successful data collection of curricula details.
29. He informed the Board that the process of reviewing final reports has been scrutinised to ensure it captured key elements such as errors of fact or interpretation and whether any analysis additional to the original application has been carried out. He mentioned that it was hoped it would ensure the level of feedback provided to research teams was appropriate.

10 Succession planning **Chair**

30. Chair announced that with the retirement of the Research Subgroup Chair planned for March 2023 the position will be advertised.
31. Members were grateful to J Dowell for his championing of UKMED, the original idea to extend the UKCAT research database into postgraduate training by linking to the GMC register and the high standard of his work.

11 Ethics approval for UKMED projects **Daniel Smith**

32. The Chair confirmed that the blanket approval was no longer effective and instead, individual applicants will be advised to confirm with local ethics committees whether their project is exempt or to seek approval.
33. D Smith clarified that UKMED does not fit criteria for NHS Health Research Authority REC Favourable Opinion because the basis for processing is not data subjects' consent.

12 Feedback from UKMED at ASME RME conference **Jon Dowell**

34. J Dowell summarised UKMED workshops at ASME and indicated that ASME RME was keen to collaborate in the future.
35. The Board agreed for UKMED to continue providing events together with ASME.

13 UKMED strategy day **Chair**

36. The Chair sought Members' opinion on a UKMED strategy day and they were broadly supportive.

ACTION 4: Chair, O Sierocinska King and D Smith to prepare a proposal of a strategy day.

14 AOB

37. M Shannon informed the Board that 2023 will be the last year of BMAT.
38. The Board thanked him and his team for their role in providing data to UKMED.

Glossary

AKT	Applied Knowledge Test, part of Medical Licensing Assessment
AoMRC	Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, www.aomrc.org.uk
ARCP	Annual Review of Competence Progression
ASME	The Association for the Study of Medical Education https://www.asme.org.uk/
AWS	Amazon Web Services



BMA	British Medical Association, www.bma.org.uk
BMAT	BioMedical Admissions Test, www.admissionstesting.service.org/for-test-takers/bmat/about-bmat
CASPER	Online situational judgment test https://takealtus.com/casper/
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
DSA	Data Sharing Agreement
EDI	Equality Diversity Inclusivity
EEA	European Economic Area
EPM	Educational Performance Measure
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
ORCHID	Oxford Royal College of General Practitioners' database https://orchid.phc.ox.ac.uk/index.php/orchid-data/
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