

**National Collaborating Centre for
Women's and Children's Health**

**Confirmed 9th Meningitis in Children Guideline Development Group (GDG) Minutes
Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd June 2009, at the Royal College of Obstetricians and
Gynaecologists**

Present:	Andrew Pollard (AP)	(Chair)
	Sheila McQueen (SM)	Hospital Children's Nurse
	Nelly Ninis (NN)	General Paediatrician
	Alistair Thomson (AT)	General Paediatrician
	Angela Cloke (AC)	Patient/Carer Representative
	Linda Glennie (LG)	Patient/Carer Representative
	Matthew Thompson (MT) (day 1 only)	General Practitioner
	Simon Kroll (SK) (day 1 only)	Paediatric Infectious Diseases - Children
	Simon Nadel (SN)	Paediatric Intensive Care
	Paul Heath (PH) (day 1 only)	Paediatric Infectious Diseases - Neonates
	Ian Maconochie (IM)	Paediatric Emergency Medicine
	Caroline Haines (CH)	Hospital Children's Nurse
	Philip Monk (PM) (day 1 only)	Public Health Medicine
NCC Team:	Moira Mugglestone (MM)	Director of Guideline Development, NCC-WCH
	Paul Jacklin (PJ)	Senior Health Economist, NCC-WCH
	Roz Ullman (RU)	Senior Research Fellow, NCC-WCH
	Rupert Franklin (RF)	Project Manager, NCC-WCH
Invited:	David Turner (DT)	External Advisor - Clinical Microbiologist
	Caroline Keir (CK) (day 1 only)	Guidelines Commissioning Manager, NICE
	Mandy Harling (MH) (day 2 only)	Senior Implementation Adviser, NICE
	Edgar Masanga (EM) (day 2 only)	Costing analyst, NICE
Apologies:	Martin Richardson (MR)	General Paediatrician

Day 1

1. Welcome, introductions, minutes and declarations of interest

AP welcomed the group to the meeting. Apologies were received from those listed above. The minutes from the previous two meetings were reviewed and agreed as accurate records.

There were no new interests declared by those present at the meeting. It was agreed that no interests declared at the meeting or previously warranted exclusion of any GDG members from discussions of evidence or formulation of recommendations. Declarations are kept on record at the NCC-WCH and will be published in the full guideline.

2. Retrieval and transfer – review of evidence

and

3. Retrieval and transfer – discussion and recommendations

RU presented the review of evidence on specialist retrieval and transfer. The group discussed the evidence and their own experience of the area. Following this discussion, the group drafted recommendations and agreed that they should be finalised by the topic group following the meeting.

Break

4. Non-specific blood tests for bacterial meningitis – review of evidence

and

5. Non-specific blood tests for bacterial meningitis – discussion and recommendations

RU presented the review of evidence on non-specific blood tests. She explained the terminology which had been used in some of the papers and how this had been interpreted in the review. The group discussed the results and drafted recommendations. It was agreed that the topic group should finalise the recommendations following the meeting.

6. Wording research recommendations

MM gave a presentation on the process for drafting research recommendations. She explained the different areas research recommendations could cover, the appropriate way to structure them and the criteria for selecting those which should have high priority. The group were asked to refer to this presentation when drafting research recommendations in their topic groups

7. Review of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) parameters

The group reviewed the GDG interpretation and recommendations for this section. The group noted areas which might need to be developed.

Lunch

8. Review of corticosteroids for bacterial meningitis

The group reviewed the GDG interpretation and recommendations for this section. Following discussion, the group agreed the recommendations. It was noted that the GDG interpretation would need to be developed to capture the discussion.

9. Review of corticosteroids for meningococcal septicaemia

The group reviewed and agreed the GDG interpretation and recommendations for this section. Two research recommendations were drafted and the topic group agreed to develop these based on the criteria

that MM had set out.

10. Review of pre-hospital antibiotics

The group reviewed the GDG interpretation and recommendations for this section. The recommendations were amended slightly and agreed by the group. A research recommendation was drafted and the topic group agreed to develop this based on the criteria that MM had set out.

11. Review of empiric antibiotics

The group reviewed and agreed the GDG interpretation and recommendations for this section. The group drafted a research recommendation and the topic group agreed to develop this based on the criteria that MM had set out.

12. Review of antibiotics for confirmed disease

The group reviewed the GDG interpretation and recommendations for this section. The group agreed that more detail should be added to the interpretation to explain the recommendations. The topic group agreed to develop this.

Break

13. Review of signs and symptoms of bacterial meningitis and

14. Review of signs and symptoms of meningococcal disease

The group considered symptoms and signs for each disease and their relative frequencies as identified by the literature. They discussed the best way to represent the information in order for it to be clinically useful.

15. Review of skin aspirates

The group reviewed the recommendations and interpretation for this section. It was noted that an additional search would be needed to ensure that this section covered all the topics listed in the scope. The technical team agreed to conduct the search before the next meeting

16. Any other business

There was no other business on day 1 of the meeting. AP thanked the group for their work and closed the first day of the meeting.

Day 2

17. Welcome and plan for the day

AP welcomed the group to the second day of the meeting and introduced MH and EM.

18. Implementation, costing and communications

MH and EM gave presentations on the roles of the implementation, costing and communications leads for the guideline. Members of the group were asked to volunteer to work on the different projects.

19. Review of polymerase chain reaction (PCR)

The group discussed the interpretation and recommendations for this section. It was noted that there would need to be further details added to the GDG interpretation to clarify the health economic modelling results. The topic group agreed to develop this.

20. Review of non-specific tests for meningococcal disease

The group discussed the interpretation and recommendations for this section. Amendments were made to the recommendations and it was noted that some of the wording might require greater clarification.

21. Review of contraindications to lumbar puncture

The group discussed the interpretation and recommendations for this section and agreed the recommendations.

22. Review of lumbar puncture in neonates

The group discussed and agreed the interpretation and recommendations for this section.

23. Review of cranial tomography (CT) scan for bacterial meningitis

The group discussed the appropriate value on the Glasgow Coma Scale which would prompt a CT scan. Following this discussion, they agreed the recommendation. It was noted that further information would need to be included in the interpretation and the topic group agreed to develop this.

24. Review of scoring systems

The group discussed and agreed the interpretation and recommendations for this section.

25. Review of fluids and vasoactive agents

The group discussed the interpretation and recommendations for this section. It was agreed that the recommendations should be re-organised to ensure that they followed on in a clinically useful way.

26. Review of intravenous (IV) fluids

The group discussed the interpretation and recommendations for this section and agreed them. It was agreed that it would be valuable if all of the recommendations for the sections on fluids, inotropes and intubation could be combined so that they followed on in a meaningful way. The topic group agreed to develop this.

27. Review of fluids for bacterial meningitis

The group discussed the interpretation and recommendations for this section and agreed them.

28. Review of intubation

The group discussed the interpretation and recommendations for this section. It was noted that further

details would need to be added to this section in relation to the different drugs which could be used.

29. Review of immunodeficiency

The group discussed and expanded the interpretation and recommendations for this section.

30. Review of adjunctive therapies

The group discussed and agreed the interpretation and recommendations for this section.

31. Long-term effects of meningococcal disease

It was agreed that this section would be discussed at the next meeting by which time the review for long-term effects of bacterial meningitis would have been completed.

32. Plan for the meeting

The group were reminded that they would be presented with the review on long-term effects of bacterial meningitis at the next meeting. They would also need to return to the signs and symptoms reviews and the review on corticosteroids. They would also need to choose their key recommendations and research recommendations.

33. Any other business

There was no other business. AP thanked the group for attending and closed the meeting.

Signed:..... Date:.....
Dr Moira Mugglestone, Director of Guideline Development, NCC-WCH

Signed:..... Date:.....
Dr Andrew Pollard, Meningitis in Children GDG Chair