

Date and Time:	8 th June 2010 (10.00am-4.00pm)
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Minutes:	
Guideline Development Group Meeting	Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
Place:	<i>RCPCH</i>
GDG present:	Gillian Baird (GB) (Chair) Susan Anderson (SA) Carol Bagnall (CB) Tony Charman (TC) Diana Howlett (DH) Ann Le Couteur (ALC) Anne Marie McKigney (AM) Jamie Nicholls (JN) Sharon Richman (SR) Lorraine Scott (LS) Emily Simonoff Zoe Thompson (ZT) Penny Williams (PW)
NCC-WCH staff in attendance:	Hannah Rose Douglas (HRD) Juliet Kenny (JK) Lily Jin (LJ) Hugh McGuire (HM) Wendy Riches (WR)
NICE Staff:	Sue Latchem (SL) – from 2:30pm only
Observers:	N/A
Invited speaker:	N/A
Apologies:	Stephen Murphy (SM)

Notes (numbers correspond to items on the agenda)

1. Welcome, apologies, housekeeping, minutes from last GDG

GB welcomed the GDG to the 7th guideline development group for the guideline on autism spectrum disorder in children and young people. Apologies were received from SM and GB advised the group that WR would be acting for him on behalf of the NCC-WCH.

Minutes from the previous GDG were approved.

2. Declarations of Interests

GB asked all present to state whether they had any new interests to declare. LS, AM, TC, ALC, and GB all declared new interests.

LS

- What was declared?
 Participation in a diagnostic forum in Northern Ireland
- Is it a conflict? Why?

This was considered to be a personal non-pecuniary interest but the chair did not consider it to amount to a conflict of interests

- Did the GDG member have to leave the room?
No but LS was advised to update her Dol form

ALC

- What was declared?
Reminded group that she received fees/royalties for an ASD specific diagnostic tool under discussion during the meeting. She also declared that she had recently spoken at conferences on ASD specific topics.
- Is it a conflict? Why?
Her authorship of the diagnostic tool under discussion had already been declared as a specific non-personal pecuniary interest and she stated that it would not undermine her ability to maintain an open-minded attitude towards the evidence therefore the chair did not consider this to be a conflict. Her public statements at conferences were a personal non-pecuniary interest but again she stated that this would not compromise her ability to view the evidence in an objective light therefore the chair did not consider this to be a conflict.
- Did the GDG member have to leave the room?
No but ALC was advised to update her Dol form to include any new details about conferences

AM

- What was declared?
Participation in a small research project to map and evaluate the current diagnostic process used for assessment of autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) in children and young people in Gwent (2010). She also declared that she was a member of the Gwent NHS Healthcare Trust (now known as Aneurin Bevan Health Board) Working Party on Assessment and Diagnosis for Autism Spectrum Disorder – 2003 and a member of focus group looking at the assessment and diagnosis of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Wales.
- Is it a conflict? Why?
Her declaration regarding the participation in the research project was a specific non-personal pecuniary interest and therefore not a conflict. Her other declarations were considered to be specific personal, non-pecuniary interests but the chair did not consider them to be a conflict of interests
- Did the GDG member have to leave the room?
No but AM was advised to update her Dol form to include details of all interests declared

TC

- What was declared?
Declared authorships on 3 research papers that had been included for question 5
- Is it a conflict? Why?
All were personal non-pecuniary and TC confirmed that they would not compromise his ability to view the evidence in an objective light therefore chair did not consider them to amount to a conflict of interests
- Did the GDG member have to leave the room?
No but TC was advised to update his Dol form to include details of all interests declared. TC subsequently submitted an updated form that included a full publications list documenting all research projects undertaken over the last 10 years.

GB

- What was declared?
Declared authorships on 3 research papers that had included for question 5
- Is it a conflict? Why?
All were personal non-pecuniary and GB confirmed that they would not compromise her ability to view the evidence in an objective light. Her declarations were not was not considered a conflict of interests by the NCC-WCH/NICE
- Did the GDG member have to leave the room?
No. GB updated her form with relevant details prior to the meeting along with additional details about previously declared but not documented research papers included for questions 1 and 3b.

ES

- What was declared?
ES informed the group that she had applied for a research grant from the MRC on an ASD specific topic but qualified this statement by saying that, due to the timing of the project, the decision to award the grant would be made prior to the publication of the guideline draft so could not be influenced by its content. Furthermore the MRC is a non commercial grant giving body and as such does not seek to influence NICE guidance. Funding if received, would not be awarded until after the guideline's final publication date.
- Is it a conflict? Why?
Given her explanation GB noted that this was not considered an interest that needed to be declared.
- Did the GDG member have to leave the room?
No

3. Question 5

Group discussed evidence presented by HM and drafted recommendations

4. Question 7

No evidence was identified. ZT and SA gave a presentation and draft recommendations were discussed.

5. Question 6, 9 and 10

Protocols were discussed and agreed.

6. Question 8

LJ gave presentation of evidence and small group discussion followed. Group reconvened to discuss results of group work collectively and draft recommendations.

7. Update about collaboration with adults guideline and actions following meeting

GB informed group about development of adults ASD guideline and described briefly the outcomes of meeting she attended with SM to discuss opportunities for collaboration between the two guideline development groups.

HRD and GB confirmed actions and deadlines for work following meeting.

Next meeting 12th July Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) 10.00am-4.00pm