**Maternal Medicine Clinical Studies Group Meeting**

Place: RCOG, London (Singapore Rm)

Date and Time: 13th February 10.00 am

**Present in person: Prof Louise Kenny (Chair of MM CSG), Dr Jenny Myers (Treasurer), Dr Lucy Chappell (Secretary); Prof Guillermina Girardi, Dr Kate Harding, Mrs Angela Hyde, Dr Fergus McCarthy; Dr Tracy Mills; Dr Dharmintra Pasupathy**

**On telephone: Dr Ian Crocker; Dr Fiona Denison; Prof Marian Knight; Prof Catherine Nelson-Piercy; Prof Lucilla Poston; Prof Andrew Shennan**

1. Apologies

Prof Fionnuala McAuliffe, Ms Molly Paterson, Prof Shakila Thangaratinam

1. MOMS meeting

KH suggested that there should be a short presentation within the main meeting on MM CSG successes, current activity, future strategy and vision

They will also host an open MM CSG meeting at lunch or between meeting and dinner

*Action:*

*LK to confirm speaker and title for presentation*

1. Remit of the CSG/ Criteria for MM CSG consideration of studies/ Means of influencing the funders

From the RCOG website: “The Maternal Medicine CSG develops clinical and basic science research studies to improve pregnancy outcome in women with medical conditions such as diabetes, renal disease, and hypertensive disease (including pre-eclampsia). Our multidisciplinary executive group helps researchers to optimise study design prior to submission for research funding and encourages collaboration between research teams.’

History of CSG development discussed. Difficulties and risks of sharing projects acknowledged especially if competitive bids for commissioned calls. MM CSG should assess feasibility and importance. KH suggested that CSG could facilitate development of smaller projects and enhance research strategy, preventing unnecessary duplication of work. Current criteria are clinical studies that are multi-centre and basic science involving human participants; AS suggested that it could be open to industry and other specialties. Option of MM CSG remit should be to include work on prioritisation. Aim to influence all funders especially NIHR akin to inclusion of CTU. Could explore option of asking NIHR to include in guidelines and application form – i.e. to ask the applicants to discuss with NIHR RH&C network, CSG and PPI. Issues re conflict discussed.

*Action:*

*LP as chair of the research committee to write to NIHR panels to ask for feedback from panels as to provision of remit and consider options for*

*All members to send confidentiality agreement and declaration of agreement*

1. Priority setting for HTA and EME

Comments on priority setting from HTA discussed at last MM CSG and research questions due to go to March HTA board for further discussion. LP has raised issue of long delays in priorities appearing as commissioned call and will feedback. Important not to miss window of opportunity as point of equipoise may pass for clinicians. KH discussed option of influencing NICE guideline committee to highlight a research question as a research recommendation which should help future research bids. LP will circulate call for prioritisation after next research committee. Option of process similar to James Lind Alliance for prioritisation discussed through the wider MM CSG membership and/ or at MOMS through their membership. Concerns over lack of access to BMFMS membership through circulation of questionnaires. Need BMFMS representative on CSG panel.

*Actions:*

*LP to write to HTA panel about timeline of prioritisation process*

*LK to write to Mark Kilby asking for BMFMS representative*

*JM to arrange for MM CSG to join James Lind Alliance as affiliate*

1. EME call for pre-eclampsia screening

No competing interests were provided.

LK summarised recent EME call for pre-eclampsia screening. JM presented her likely bid for submission for outline application and received comments from the CSG on design. The CSG acknowledged discussion of the proposal and approved JM and colleagues going forward with submission.

1. New proposals

LP discussed an outline bid to the BHF for a study commencing from pre-pregnancy to postnatal to look at pre-eclampsia screening with clinical and biomarker parameters.

LP presented a proposed project being worked up for H2020 relating to the use of M-health (mobile technologies) for healthy pregnancies.

No other proposals had been submitted to the MM CSG.

1. H2020

LK updated that the health document for Horizon 2020 has been released. The deadline for first stage proposals is imminent. LK suggested that MM CSG could register for the portal that puts interested parties together and discuss further at next meeting.

1. Joint meeting with other CSGs and Neonatal groups at PERINATAL 2014.

LK reported that Mark Turner (Neonatal CSG) had suggested a joint meeting with all the maternal and perinatal CSGs at the PERINATAL/ BMFMS meeting in June. Items for the agenda will include core outcome measures and availability of a neonatologist for maternal medicine trials and an obstetrician for neonatal trials, and representation of other specialties on other CSGs.

*Action:*

*LK to confirm date and time of joint meeting and ask for confirmation of attendance*

1. Obs med representation: Invitation to Lucy Mackillop

BMFMS representative: LK to ask Mark Kilby from BMFMS

PPI representation: Invitation for representative from Tommy’s charity

*Action:*

*LCC to invite Lucy Mackillop and representative from Tommy’s charity*

*LK to ask Mark Kilby for BMFMS representative*

1. Treasurer’s report

JM presented a report of expenses. There was an opening budget of £2000.00, expenses of £937.36 and a balance of £1062.64. JM will circulate expenses form to the executive, collate forms and return to Elly Hibbert.

1. AOB
   1. KH asked that we produce an annual report for MOMS (and BMFMS) before the annual meeting.
   2. Minutes will be circulated to Marie Smith and Melissa Whitworth
   3. Guillemina Girardi has suggested Dr James Boardman (Edinburgh) as a neonatologist who might be interested in becoming the neonatal representative.
2. Future meetings

MOMS (Nottingham) – Fri 25 April 2014

BMFMS (Harrogate) – for interested executive members to join joint CSGs’ meeting

RCOG – Fri 26th Sept