

Annual Report

Clinical Engineering North & South Best Value Groups 2019



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www.npag.org.uk



Mission Statement

Striving for Excellence in Medical Equipment Management and Promoting the Profession.

Introduction

The Clinical Engineering Best Value Groups North and South have been aligned for over four years, thus now use common agenda for meetings. Both group meetings are held within a week of each other. First meeting of the new year starts on March 3rd (meeting No 1 - South) and ends likewise on December 1st as (meeting No 4 - North). A joint 2020 Conference is to be held on September 15th at the Doubletree by Hilton Coventry as a shared' meeting (No 3) Last year around twenty-five (28) Medical Equipment Manufacturers/Suppliers booked exhibition stands and places were quickly taken up. Thus, the other meeting No 2 will be in June.

For the next Conference a theme will have been determined by March. Last year it was "Training, Advancements and Experiences". Evaluation shown that 96% would recommend the event to others. The Conference will yet again will also be open to non-members at a fee.

Membership for 2019 was thirty-four (34) Trusts contributing with over 40 members on the circulation lists. Non-member Trusts are always welcome to try a one off 'sampler' meeting. The days have CPD points awarded.

The group's focus has continued to look at providing quality services in a competitive market and considered strategies to ensure that services continue to be enhanced by the introduction of new technologies giving best value outcomes.

Chair's View

North Group as Peter Owen, Trust Medical Engineering Manager, Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust

"It is my belief that membership of the NPAG Best Value Groups offers a very effective means of ensuring that healthcare providers are able to meet the challenges we face in a consistent and effective way. I would strongly recommend that anyone with responsibility in any of the specialisms covered joins the most relevant group for them and, just as importantly, attends the meetings."

Member as Jonathan Applebee, Head of Clinical Engineering, University Hospitals Plymouth

"As a member of NPAG Clinical Engineering South BVG for the last 5 years I have appreciated the regular opportunity to network with others in the same line of work. The quarterly meetings in London have focused on an educational theme and there is always something new to learn from the visiting manufacturers or the other members. Each year at the conference there has been the chance to meet the North Group and a wide variety of medical device suppliers and support companies at the comprehensive exhibition. However, the most useful aspect of membership has been the shared benchmarking data. I have been able to use this to support business cases for improving our local service and as a calibration source for our local KPI's."

Meeting Venues

The North meetings are usually located at Wigan West Premier Inn, Orrell Road, Orrell, Wigan, WN5 8HQ which has excellent parking and very quick motorway access.

The South meetings are always held in London currently close to Euston mainline station and during all of 2019 they were held at The Imperial Hotel 61-66 Russell Square WC1B 5BB.

Dissemination of Clinical Engineering Information

The NPAG Staff maintains a library and register of documents/papers for distribution upon request. Along with the previous minutes of meetings minutes, as well as any presentations linked to them.

These are also made available to members of other NPAG Best Value Groups, with the agreement of the originator – for example IT and Connectivity Network. Follow up reviews on the subjects and responses are now a fixed agenda item at each subsequent meeting. An archive is now being stored on a shared OneDrive. Members are encouraged to keep this service active thus to help a web based '[Enquiry Form](#)' has been established. Around 35 questions were registered during this year. This has significantly risen from the 14 that were recorded in year 2015, showing the value of the system set up.

All presentation slides, notes and tabled documents are made freely available to Group members and when permission is granted, loaded onto the member's web page. [See Members web page](#) - which is password protected for the year's membership.

Networking

Meetings continued to prove a focal point for members to build an affinity with each other, resulting in contact and chance to visit between their respective organisations to view new equipment, offer reciprocal training and share mutual information on working practices and policies. During meetings relevant discussions are encouraged and as all are NHS Staff there is an Open Forum for members present to share experiences and solutions to specific issues encountered.

The members also maintain an email group, supported by the facilitator where questions and requests for advice or sample policy documentation are shared with all NPAG Clinical Engineering members. The 'OneDrive' allows real time updating of benchmark data spreadsheets and several other folders to support sharing of important mutual information and issues viz:

- Device Information
- Device Issues
- Job Descriptions
- Policies for Medical Devices
- Risk Assessment Tools
- Training (Apprenticeships)
- Useful Documents
- Useful URLs

Clinical Engineering North & South BVG 2019

So far 20 Device policies have been collated.

An entry dated 'Index' has been set up so that members can periodically check and thus quickly access new documentation that has been added since the last meeting.

Both groups benefit from having a common Facilitator with over 36 years of NHS service with the last 26 (now retired) as a Head of a Medical Engineering Dept experience. The first 10 years being in Clinical Measurement. Good positive feedback has been received.

Influencing Policy

The membership, as a group voice, is able to influence national policy and practices. Relevant information of findings will be passed on. Links with a [NHS England Patient Safety](#) representative has been established with personal visits to both group meetings. Some members are currently on the national monthly web-based safety (MDSO) panel discussion group. The CQC presented at Conference in 2015 and the MHRA – NHS England in 2017.

Meeting 1

Presentation by:

History of Drager Ventilators

Madeline Johnson, Account Manager, [Draeger Medical](#)

Meeting 2

Presentations by:

Innovations in Clinical Practice to Reduce Infection Rates

Bladder Scanners, David Newton, Nurse Manager, [CR Bard Medical](#)

How SonoSite's 4 pillars can help lower total cost of ownership and standardise ultrasound kit for NHS Trusts

Gemma Clarkson and Lisa Trotman, Sales Managers, [Sonosite](#)

Meeting 3

The following presentations were delivered:

Chairman's Welcome and Introductions

Richard Steventon, Clinical Engineer, NPAG North & South CE Facilitator

Advancing Access to Medical Technology

Andrew Davies, Market Access Director, Association of British Healthcare

Medical Device Training; then, now and going Forward into the Future

Paul Lee, Medical Devices Training Manager, ABM University Health Board

Use and Usability in the Development of Medical Devices

Dr Tom Clutton-Brock, Director, ERDF Medical Devices Testing and Evaluation

The Role of the MHRA in the Safety of Medical Devices

Rebecca Flint, Devices Patient Safety Manager, MHRA

Decontamination - Where are We Now?

Professor David Perrett Professor Emeritus of Bioanalytical Science, Barts & London

Urodynamic Investigations, Equipment and the Working Environment

Roger Lewis, Retired as Owner of Lewis Medical

How Well Connected are We in Healthcare?

Kate Woodhead, Director, KMW (Healthcare Consultants) Ltd

Reminiscing and Experiences as a 'retired' Clinical Engineer

Richard Steventon – Associate Consultant, NPAG

Meeting 4

Presentations by:

BPR Ultraflow Analgesic Demand valve

Ian Buckle, Business Development Manager, Homecare, [BPR](#)

Cubescan BioCon bladder scanner range - Datrend Range of Analysers and Simulators

Anita Bennett, Business Development Executive, [de Smitt](#)

Martyn White, Sales and Marketing Manager

Benchmarking

An important aspect of the group's meetings is sharing data to benchmark performance and data. To facilitate this, the group has developed six KPIs, which can be subject to change or future additions. These KPIs enable members to monitor their department's individual performance and provide a means to monitor continuous performance. Data is continually updated and is stored on the OneDrive for real time information. The latest spreadsheet is to be for fiscal year 2018-19. Currently thirty-four (34) Trusts are represented on the same sheet. Each Chair has been given the "autonomous" task to rationalise the different KPIs into a common list between the two with a current maximum of six.

In March 2020 meetings it is hope to have pioneered a reference standard to achieve on all the designated KPIs developed as a benchmark standard.

The members also maintain a central database of each trust's clinical engineering staffing, budgetary, equipment and other useful supporting data to facilitate networking and provide additional supporting information for benchmarking. This year data around month 12 spare parts stock holding has been added.

Topics

A typical agenda is shown as:

- Review of morning session then formal meeting start
- Minutes of last meeting (Action Review and Matters Arising)
- Matters Arising and Routine Reviews:
 - ⇒ NPAGNetwork Review of Questions asked of members
 - ⇒ Information Sharing Updates + OneDrive updates
 - ⇒ Conference Updating
- Apprenticeship Updating -Modernising Scientific Careers - RCT Updates
- Development - Updates and Progress of Benchmarking - KPI exercises: - OneDrive.
- Medical Device Training
- Open Forum of Cost Savings and other Initiatives - Areas of good practice/problems
- Procedures - Risk Assessment sharing and Peer Review – Devices Policies
- Dates for next meetings and future presentation suggestions
- Any Other Business

Benchmarking

Clinical Engineering South Best Value Group

Head of Clinical Engineering	Barking Havering Redbridge University Hospitals
Service Manager & Medical Technical Officer	Barts Health NHS Trust
Head of MEMS	Basildon & Thurrock University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Head of EBME	Burton Hospitals
Head of Department	Croydon Health Services NHS Trust
Head of Clinical Engineering & Head of EBME – Technical services	East Kent Hospitals University Foundation Trust
Manager & Medical Devices Manager	Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS FT
Medical Devices Manager	Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust
Facilities Manager	Hillingdon Hospital
Deputy Head of CTS MDSO	Imperial College Healthcare
Head of EBME – Technical services	Kingston Hospital
Clinical Engineering Manager & Biomedical Engineering Manager	Northampton General Hospital
Head of Clinical Engineering	Norfolk and Norwich Hospitals
Medical Devices Operational Manager & Clinical Technologist	Norfolk Community and Healthcare Trust
Head of Clinical Technology	Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust
Head of Clinical Engineering	Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Deputy Head – Clinical Engineering	Royal Berkshire Foundation Trust
Clinical Engineering Manager	Royal Derby Hospital
Clinical Engineering Manager & Technical Services Manager	Royal Marsden Foundation Trust
General Manager MEMS	Southend University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Medical Electronics Manager	Taunton and Somerset NHS Trust
Lead for Medical Devices Support Services	Torbay and S. Devon Foundation Trust
Lead Clinical Technologist	University Hospitals of Leicester
Head of Clinical Engineering	University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust
EBME Manager	West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust
Chief Technician	Whittington NHS Trust
Head of Clinical Engineering	Yeovil District Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Clinical Engineering North & South BVG 2019

Clinical Engineering North Best Value Group

Job Title	Trust / Organisation
Trust Medical Engineering Manager & Heartlands Medical Engineering Manager	University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust
Chief Medical Engineer & Deputy Chief Medical Engineer	Blackpool Teaching Hospital
Trust Medical Engineering Manager	University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust
Medical Engineer	BWC Management Services Ltd
Medical Engineering Manager	Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Medical Equipment Service Manager & Team Leader	Nottingham University Hospital NHS Trust
Operational Head of Clinical Technology	Royal Stoke University Hospital NHS Trust
MES Manager & EBME Manager	Shrewsbury & Telford NHS Trust
EBME Manager & Decom/Medical Devices Lead	Stockport NHS Trust
Head of Medical Physics	The Mid Yorkshire Hospital NHS Trust
Head of Clinical Engineering	The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

NPAG Developments

CPD Certification

The NPAG is a member of the CPD Certification Service. The Clinical Engineering North & South BVGs have received CPD approval for 2020.

CPD Certification is a formal recognition of the contribution that membership of the Clinical Engineering North & South BVG makes to members' continued professional/personal development.

At the end of the annual round of meetings, members will receive certificates of attendance for all meetings attended during the year to evidence the contribution made as part of lifelong learning.

NPAGNetwork

The NPAGNetwork provides the facility for members to ask questions of any individuals, group or groups within the overall NPAG membership. Questions can be sent to the NPAGNetwork Coordinator who disseminates them across the NPAG membership. Responses are collated and returned to the originator and others who declare an interest in the question asked.

NPAG Library

The NPAG Library holds presentations from NPAG best value groups and conferences, together with policy and other documents sent in by members. Access to these items is via the NPAGNetwork Coordinator.

NPAG Website

The NPAG website includes a private members Area for each of the NPAG BVGs. Through these sites, BVG members can access and download meeting agendas, minutes, presentations and survey forms. The areas are password protected.

Discounts and Offers

Members Referral Fee – Introduce a friend and get 1 meeting for free.

A member referral resulting in another Trust / Organisation registering for full membership of the same group will result in the referring member qualifying for a one meeting discount.

The discount applies to the full membership fee only (not applicable to the 2nd member rate). The discount will be applied once, at the start of the current meeting round. Mid round membership referral discounts will be processed at the start of the following year's membership round.

Multiple referrals will result in multiple discounts up to four referrals per meeting round.

Second Club Membership - A 20% discount will be applied when an existing NPAG member joins an additional Group. This does not apply to the £295 second member rate.

Introducing our **Try Before You Buy** option. Simply attend the first meeting of a group's new round, see what it's all about and if you decide it's not for you walk away commitment free*.

**Try before you buy option is available to new members only. New members must inform NPAG in writing that they wish to 'try before they buy' prior to first meeting attendance. If the new member continues membership beyond the first meeting then the full group membership fee applies.*

NPAG Best Value Groups

The NPAG organises and facilitates a national network of Best Value Groups that enables members to share experience, identify good practice; innovation and information to assist individual managers develop their own service improvement action plans.

Arts, Heritage and Design in Hospitals	National District Nurses Network
Clinical Engineering (North) BVG	NHS Car Parking and Travel Planning Network
Clinical Engineering (South) BVG	NHS Sustainability Leads Network
Decontamination BVG	Nursing and Temporary Staffing BVG
Estates Services BVG	Operating Theatres BM Group
Facilities (North) BVG	Resilience Development Network
Facilities (South) BVG	Security Network
Health Visiting and School Health Services DN	Telecoms
IT and Connectivity Network	Waste Management BVG

For further information on the NPAG and our future activities, please contact Marie Cherry, Gemma Aitchison or Victoria Combes by telephone on 01245 544 600, or by e-mail on:

marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

gemma.aitchison@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

victoria.combes@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

Some Group Testimonials...

“Attendance at the NPAG Waste Management Best Value Group has been invaluable. The opportunity to meet managers from a wide variety of Trusts, share ideas, discuss issues and hear presentations from industry and high level officers from the EA and NHSi gives even a novice NHS Waste Manager the confidence to take their Trust forward, safe in the knowledge that they are following first rate guidance from ‘those who know’.

I can quantify savings made by following advice received both at the quarterly meetings and via email and the amounts would fund attendance at NPAG for years to come. Everybody benefits from being NPAG members and when I meet NHS waste colleagues who haven’t joined, I strongly suggest that they do.

The fact that this group is now informing Government policy via the EA and NHSi illustrates it’s standing within the waste industry – I cannot praise the organisation highly enough.” Waste and Linen Services Manager, The Queen Elizabeth Hospital King’s Lynn NHS Foundation Trust, Member of the Waste Management BVG 2019

“I have been a member of the group now for a couple of years and have always come away from a meeting with a new piece of information or knowledge, this information / knowledge would inform of how to deal with issues that may arise in my organisation. Speakers are always useful, giving knowledge of relevant topics, and informing of current legislation etc.” Portering / Security Manager, The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT, Member of Security Network 2018-19

“I have been a member of NPAG Resilience Development for nearly 3 years now, I have always come away with useful information that I can utilise within my Service. I have found this forum valuable in sharing good practice, in particular listening to some of the excellent guest speakers, who are also equally passionate about Security and raising awareness around the ever growing and changing risks of the industry.” Local Security Management Specialist (LSMS) and Information Governance, Serco UK&E Local Regional Government, Member of the Resilience Development Network 2018-19

NPAG Network

Available to all members of NPAG Benchmarking and Best Value Groups, and individual subscribers, the **NPAG Network** provides the facility for members to ask questions of any individuals, group or groups within the overall NPAG membership.

The response to questions raised has been excellent. The **NPAG Network** provides a managed forum for colleagues to share information - saving time and money in not re-inventing the wheel!

Questions raised in the past month have included the following topics:

- ◆ Job descriptions and banding
- ◆ Staff parking charges
- ◆ Electric Vehicle (EV) charging
- ◆ Disposal of ionisation smoke heads
- ◆ HFSS food removal
- ◆ Reporting pressure ulcers
- ◆ DaVinci Robot use
- ◆ Pathology waste policy
- ◆ Pool cars
- ◆ Decontamination of portable medical equipment
- ◆ Use of latex gloves

For full details of how to use the **NPAG Network**, please contact the NPAG team on 01245 544600 or email: npagnetwork@npag.east.amb.nhs.uk

Forthcoming NPAG Events

Please visit www.npag.org.uk for all our current course, workshops, training & BVG meetings.

Phone: 01245 544600 / email gemma.aitchison@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk or marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

5th March 2020 – Theatres and Decontamination Conference

Spring 2020 - Occupational Health Nursing Training Workshops

Across 2020—Putting the Patient First Onsite Training Workshops

15th September 2020—Clinical Engineering Conference

Contact Us

Phone: 01245 544600

Email: npagnews@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

Join Us 

Follow Us 

East of England Ambulance Service
NHS Trust
Chelmsford Office, Hospital Approach
Broomfield, Essex
CM1 7WS

REGISTRATION FORM

National Performance Advisory Group

Clinical Engineering North Best Value Group 2020

Organisation	
Address	

Are you a member of another NPAG Networking Group? (Please tick) Y N

Member 1 for a £510 Fee (4 meetings) **Member 2 for a £295 Fee (4 meetings)**

Name		
Job Title		
Email		
Special Requirements (Dietary / Access)		
Phone No.		
PA Details		

Registrations

Please send your completed registration form to:

National Performance Advisory Group
East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust
Hospital Approach
Broomfield, Chelmsford, Essex
CM1 7WS
 Tel: 01245 544600
 Email: marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk
 Web: www.npag.org.uk

Invoicing

If the invoice address is different from that above please enter below:

REGISTRATION CONDITIONS:

A VAT invoice will be issued. VAT Registration No. 654 9195 01. VAT applies to any NHS organisation outside England and to any non-NHS organisation.

Payment is due on receipt of invoice. DO NOT send payment in advance of receipt of invoice. When invoice is received, payment should be made to 'East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust.'

ALL cancellations must be in writing. Cancellations received within 14 days of receipt of the registration form will receive a full refund. After this date refunds cannot be made. A substitute is acceptable. NPAG cannot be held responsible for any travel expenses or accommodation costs in the event of a cancellation or postponement of a meeting, workshop or an event.

A 20% discount will be applied when an existing NPAG member joins an additional Group. This does not apply to the £295 second member rate.

I confirm that I have read and accept the above REGISTRATION CONDITIONS and would like to register as a member of the 'Clinical Engineering North BVG 2020'. Please invoice me for payment .

Authorisation Signature Purchase Order Number.....

REGISTRATION FORM

National Performance Advisory Group

Clinical Engineering South Best Value Group 2020

Organisation	
Address	

Are you a member of another NPAG Networking Group? (Please tick) Y N

Member 1 for a £550 Fee (4 meetings) **Member 2 for a £295 Fee (4 meetings)**

Name		
Job Title		
Email		
Special Requirements (Dietary / Access)		
Phone No.		
PA Details		

Registrations

Please send your completed registration form to:

National Performance Advisory Group
East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust
Hospital Approach
Broomfield, Chelmsford, Essex
CM1 7WS

Tel: 01245 544600

Email: gemma.aitchison@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

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Authorisation Signature Purchase Order Number.....