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BSGAR Annual General Meeting

Thursday 3rd February 2010, Bristol

The Chairman, Dr Clive Kay, welcomed members to the meeting. 51 members were present.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held in Harrogate on 5th February 2009 were accepted as a true record.

2. Chairman's Report

Dr Kay reported on the Society activity over the previous year, including reports from committee members with specific responsibilities. Dr Kay thanked the committee members for their hard work during the year.

The current committee was:-

- Chair – Clive Kay
- Chair Elect – Simon Jackson
- Secretary – Ashley Guthrie
- Treasurer – Ashley Roberts
- Liaison Officer – Hans-Ulrich Laasch
- Standards Officer – David Burling
- Education Officer – Andrea Philips
- Research Officer – Stuart Taylor
- Audit Officer – Andy Lowe

(i) General activities

BSGAR had a keen and vibrant membership, with membership numbers holding well. There were still some problems with subscription payments, and those members identified as non-payers would be removed from the members list.

The BSGAR website was well used, particularly the members forum, and Dr Andrea Phillips was adding extra information to the site.

BSGAR was being recognised increasingly by RCR and other external agencies e.g. NICE, UKDF, as the appropriate authority for consultation on GI radiology, and for participation in multi-centre research studies. BSGAR was also making an important contribution to new British Congress of Radiology by providing suggestions for the conference programme.

(ii) *Annual conference*

The BSGAR 2009 meeting in Harrogate had been very successful. The accompanying ESGAR CTC workshop had also been well supported. Since then changes had been made to support development of annual meeting programme :

- For 2010 the re-introduction of Thursday pm ‘pseudo-political session
- New arrangements for sponsorship level
- Increased sponsorship support from Bayer for the conference dinner
- Meeting brochure had been produced again
- Speakers had been asked to provide learning points from their presentations
- The Wednesday evening Welcome Reception had been retained for 2010
- Coffee and lunch breaks had been made longer for the benefit of exhibitors.

(iii) *Research*

Dr Stuart Taylor was the Research Officer

- Profile of BSGAR increasing nationally.
- BSGAR provides support to national trials:
 - FOxTROT and CReST.
- BSGAR maintains permanent representation on NCRI Colorectal Surgical Committee.
- Members have been encouraged to use BSGAR and its associated infrastructure in research collaborations whenever possible to further develop profile of the society.

Current research projects were:

CREST

- 26 UK sites now open to recruitment – 31 BSGAR Radiologists involved.
- 2010 – A further 35 further centres to be set up and CReST aims to expand to Sweden and South Africa.
- Currently 18 patients recruited – on target for year 1.

Reduced cost stents were now being supplied by a fourth supplier

FOxTROT

- 58 UK centres open to recruitment – 43 BSGAR Radiologists/sites involved.
- Pilot phase nearing completion, trial to move into the full Ph III study.
- Radiological staging has proved very reliable.
- An audit has been performed over this past year: target is 200 non-trial patients – 140 currently entered.
- Paper is being written regarding radiological staging to be published in name of all collaborators.

New Research Studies

- FIAT trial – Radiological lead is D Tolan
- ISAAC trial – S Taylor sits on trial management committee

BSGAR member led Trials

- **Duodenal stenting** (randomised trial and clinician choice study of duodenal stenting vs Laparoscopic surgery in malignant duodenal obstruction – Kay, Taylor and Breen are

acting as co-applicants to the bid. If successful BSGAR members will form the bulk of recruiting centres.

- **Improving the prediction of metastatic disease in primary colorectal cancer:** Prospective multicentre evaluation of a prognostic model of conventional predictive variables and novel variables derived from perfusion CT - Vicky Goh, Stuart Taylor and Steve Halligan are co-applicants on a bid for a multicentre trial of perfusion CT in colorectal cancer shortlisted by the HTA

(iv) Standards development

Dr David Burling was the Standards Officer.

Standards for CT Colonography

- development, consultation, completion and submission of the CTC standards document.
- BSGAR has played a central role with key representation by the Chair of BSGAR and the Standards Officer.
- These have been submitted to Clinical Radiology

Clinical Imaging Procedures Management Group

- first meeting in November 2009
- The group approved a submission on behalf of BSGAR to adopt a new code for CT enterography
- Traditionally the Standards Officer has been seconded to this committee – Dr Burling would provide feedback to the BSGAR committee in February
Create a list of GI procedures and advise members of how they should be reimbursed in the era of local commissioning/payments

(ix) Audit

Dr Andy Lowe was Audit Officer. The following project had been active during the year

National RIG Audit – summary of findings

- Nine months since began data collection
12 centres with 330 completed datasets to date
Differences in current practice across the UK
Commonest finding is pain
Continued support essential

(vii) Education

Dr Andrea Phillips was Education Officer. The main activities for the year were

(a) Updating the BSGAR website

- The new ‘Junior Forum’ and ‘Education’ sections of the BSGAR website are now complete
- book and journal sections
- courses of interest to Abdominal Radiologists are listed and regularly updated
- SpRs interested in Abdominal Radiology are encouraged to use the Junior Forum section which has a comprehensive list of Abdominal Imaging and Interventional Fellowships worldwide and details on careers and Consultant posts in Abdominal Radiology.
- Patient information sheets for Abdominal Imaging and Interventional Radiology available on BSGAR website under Education section
- New patient information leaflets currently being developed for some of the newer Abdominal Imaging techniques

(b) *Review of the Structured Training Curriculum for Clinical Radiology*

- over past year Structured Training Curriculum for Clinical Radiology has undergone a major revision by the Specialty Training Board of the RCR to comply with requirements of PMETB
- BSGAR have had considerable input into GI/Interventional Sections of the Curriculum with most of the recommendations of the BSGAR Committee being adopted

(c) *MBUR7*

- BSGAR Education Secretary has led a panel of 35 GI experts from membership in the current review of MBUR guidelines
- Process commenced March 2009 and is scheduled for completion Sept 2010
- The GI expert panel has gained a reputation for very fast turnaround times and, despite having one of the largest sections of guidelines to review, is on course for early completion with the last batch of guidelines soon to be reviewed

(v) *Liaison with other groups*

Dr Hans-Ulrich Laasch was elected as Liaison Officer. Links have been maintained with the following groups

ACPGBI

- Radiology representative: James Hampton (Northern General Hospital, Sheffield)
- The colo-rectal stent registry is populating slowly

BSG

- Current chair of the radiology subgroup: Steve Lee (Manchester Royal Infirmary)
- Members: Julian Elford, Luke Williams (Hope Hospital, Manchester), Sathi Sukumar (University Hospital of South Manchester)

NPSA is performing an audit into acute GI-bleeding services with a view to a national model. Julian Elford representing BSGAR

National Oesophago-Gastric Cancer Audit

- The 2nd annual report has been published, available on-line

UKDF

- UKDF planned for 2012 in London, BSGAR has offered participation in terms of scientific content, but indicated that our Annual Meeting would go ahead as planned.
- Many logistic and political problems identified. BSGAR will only to take a peripheral role

4. Secretary's report

Ashley Guthrie presented his report

(i) *Committee elections*

Ashley Roberts was re-elected as Treasurer

Hans-Ulrich Laasch was elected as Liaison Officer.

The existing post holders for the positions of Audit, Standards and Education Officers all stood for re-election and were unopposed.

The secretary urged all members to take a greater interest in elections, since the numbers voting last time had been disappointingly small.

(ii) Amendment to BSGAR constitution

Dr Guthrie proposed to add a new clause to the BSGAR constitution, under the membership section – this would be clause 3.1.11 to read:-

“Full members of two or more years of good standing can apply to BSGAR for support in their application for higher clinical excellence awards”.

The amendment was accepted by the meeting.

Dr Guthrie indicated that other amendments to the constitution relating to governance and finance would be considered and brought to the AGM in 2011.

5. Treasurer’s report

Dr Roberts presented the Treasurer’s Report. He reported on the issues that had been identified at the last AGM for attention during 2009.

- Unpaid subscriptions and possible withdrawal of membership rights – this issue was being addressed
- Two volunteers for internal audit of accounts – Roger Frost and Phil Shorvon had carried out the internal audit of the BSGAR accounts for 2009.
- Active use of some of the accrued funds not required as a cushion e.g. travelling bursary for SpR – this issue still remained for discussion and decision

- Bank account balances at January 1st 2010 (2009)
 - Current Account £11,194.96 (£10,570.93)
 - Reserve Account £25,934.63 (£20,000)total assets of £37,129.59

The income and expenditure accounts showed income of £14,249.17 ((£18,606.52) and expenditure of £8,478.77 (£6395.99). The income from the 2009 annual conference was less than 2008, and bank interest was reduced due to the low interest rates. Expenses for committee meetings were increased over 2008, due in part to better attendance at committee meetings.

Issues to be addressed for 2010 were

- To consider formal audit of accounts with associated costs
- Active use of some of the accrued funds not required as a cushion eg travelling bursary for SpR

In a general discussion the following points were made from the floor:

- the society still needed the reserve funds to provide collateral against a failed conference
- when asked about insurance cover for the conference, Dr Roberts said this would cost around £2000, which would be non-recoverable and it was not possible to cover against commercial failure.
- Dr Shorvon said that the accounts were now in good order, and that he agreed with the principle of building up the society funds for the present.

6. Format for future BSGAR annual meetings

Dr Kay reported that the committee had considered the future format of the annual conference following comments from members, that study leave funding was becoming difficult, and the number of CME points for the conference was not enough.

Dr Jackson had sent out a web site forum email to members to invite their views, but only 5 replies had been received. On that basis Dr Kay said he had assumed that members were happy with the current format. However since half of the delegates that attended the annual meeting were not BSGAR members, he had also sought the views of some non members. They had been in favour of changing to a full two day event to increase the CME points available. Dr Kay invited the meeting to put forward their suggestions for the annual meeting.

Amongst the proposals were

- start the conference on Wednesday afternoon
- run the meeting as two full days Wednesday and Thursday
- change the days to Monday/Tuesday
- start Thursday pm and finish Friday pm, only one night needed

Prof Martin felt that the same number of people would attend despite any changes, and that it was the quality of the programme that was a more important factor in determining attendance. Before any changes were considered it would be necessary to look at the costs involved in the various options that had been discussed. Dr Richardson confirmed that CME points were awarded on the basis of one point per hour of education.

At the end of the discussion the meeting voted in favour of keeping the current format for the annual meeting in 2011.

7. Future BSGAR annual meetings

BSGAR 2011

The 2011 conference would be held at the Radisson Edwardian Hotel in Manchester on 2-4 February, and the Local Organiser will be Hans-Ulrich Laasch

(NB The venue was subsequently changed to the Lowry Hotel in Manchester)

BSGAR 2012

The BSGAR Conference in 2012 will be held in Cardiff, and Ashley Roberts will be the Local organiser.

8. ESGAR 2012

This will be held in Edinburgh on 10-13 June 2012 at the EICC, and Prof Steve Halligan was the Conference President. As such Prof Halligan was responsible for organising the Post-graduate course at the conference, and the theme for this had been chosen as “Interventional oncology”. He would be asking BSGAR for assistance with compiling the course programme. This would provide a good opportunity for BSGAR to demonstrate its increasing influence and importance, and also to invite members outside the committee to contribute and become involved.

9. Committee chairman

There being no other business, Dr Kay thanked the members for attending and he then invited Dr Simon Jackson to take over as the chairman of the BSGAR Committee.

Dr Jackson thanked Dr Kay for his hard work and commitment both as chairman of the committee and also as a long standing member of the committee in other roles, and said that he was looking forward to working with the other committee members to build on the firm foundations that had been established..