



## Chair's Bulletin May 2016

Cold and damp sums up the weather in Leicester as I write this report. My last cricket match was abandoned as the rain came down, leaving us with no alternative but to watch the FA Cup Final in the pavilion. Louis van Gaal's bitter sweet moment is an excuse for me to remind members that there will be an election of ABCD officers before our next spring meeting, so if anyone sees themselves as the Jose Mourinho of diabetes they should dust off their cv in readiness. Before then there will be a committee election, so look out for the call for nominations.

## Referendum Day

**Please register to attend the ABCD Clinical & Commissioning Live hub and spoke event on 23 June for free.** While there is still space at each of the four venues, the organisers do need to know how many sandwiches to order. I would particularly encourage members to register at Wolverhampton and at Kegworth, where your local commissioners will be pleased to meet you to discuss plans for diabetes in your areas. Download a copy of the flier [HERE](#) which includes information on how to register

You will still have time to vote when you get home!

## Type 1 Diabetes

I am grateful to Patrick Sharp and Anne Kilvert and colleagues for their perseverance that has led to the ABCD Position Statement 'Standards of Care for Management of Adults with Type 1 Diabetes' now on the website - see [HERE](#). Our position is that all people with type 1 diabetes should have access to specialist care, irrespective of where that care is delivered. The position statement will, in conjunction with the recent updated NICE guidance, help ensure that specialist teams provide care that meets the required standards.

ABCD has been engaging with other stakeholders, most notably Diabetes UK, to focus on care for people with type 1 diabetes. Some have described it as 'The Lost Tribe campaign – Part Two'. It does seem to be the right time to do this, and we are making as much constructive noise about aspects of type 1 diabetes as we can. I welcome the appointment of Partha Kar as Associate National Clinical Director for Diabetes at NHS England, who has type 1 diabetes in his portfolio. A priority is to produce a national service specification for type 1 diabetes. The ABCD document will obviously feed into this, and its authors will be involved in the meetings, as will Emma Wilmot for IPN-UK. Of course this is not just an English priority, and ABCD is

using the experience and energy from the devolved nations to address type 1 diabetes across the UK.

## **Type 2 diabetes**

Members would probably agree that the updated NICE guideline for the management of adults with type 2 diabetes was not perfect. We identified some controversial areas, and knew that new data would soon become available that might alter the recommendations. NICE has responded by establishing a standing committee to review new evidence as it becomes available and to update guidance between scheduled full updates. Meanwhile ABCD will be producing some position statements on controversies in type 2 diabetes. Alison Gallagher is leading on this and the first paper on pioglitazone and the risk of bladder cancer is on the website now.

## **Meetings**

Thanks to all who contributed to and attended the very successful meetings in Manchester last month. The inaugural meeting of the **ABCD IPN-UK** was very well-received and was significantly oversubscribed. Thank you to the IPN-UK committee and to the corporate supporters. It was followed by a popular ABCD and IPN-UK symposium sponsored by Roche.

Dr Rowan Hillson presented the Insulin Safety Award named in her honour to Dr Gerry Rayman, who accepted it on behalf of the Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust team. The runners-up, the team from Truro, didn't quite make the ceremony, but received their certificate at the conference dinner instead. Apparently when asked when the plane would be taking off from Newquay the pilot replied 'dreckly'!

Although our Meetings Secretary Russell Drummond was sadly unable to see his plans for the ABCD conference come to fruition, it was another enjoyable and instructive event.

After welcoming delegates to the IPN-UK conference I withdrew from the event in order to attend the Diabetes Care Trust board meeting and AGM. The activities of the non-officer trustees go largely unnoticed, but their role in good governance is absolutely crucial. We rely on their knowledge and experience to guide us through the minefield of charity and corporate law, as well on investment and underwriting our educational and research projects. I am pleased that trustees regularly attend ABCD conferences and that the Chair, Huw Alban Davies, attends ABCD committee meetings as an observer. This means that DCT is in touch with the activities of the association.

## **SAVE THE DATE**

The autumn meeting has been confirmed for **Brighton**, starting with a joint BES-ABCD day on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November, followed by the ABCD meeting on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November. Please make a note of these dates. The meeting will finish on Thursday evening, and will include a sponsored symposium that has attracted considerable interest. There will be no sessions on Friday. I think this new format will satisfy the demand for good quality endocrinology and diabetes updates without having to travel to different places. Discounted rates for ABCD members attending the Wednesday BES programme will be available, but you will get an even better rate if you are an SfE member.

The autumn timetable has forced a change to the usual pattern of ABCD committee meetings, and we will be meeting on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September, foregoing our usual Time Out session, followed by meeting our corporate supporters.

## **National Diabetes Audit**

I represented ABCD at the recent NDA Partnership Board meeting. Participation in the core NDA in England and Wales has fallen for various reasons that are being addressed. CCGs will be assessed using data from the NDA, and yet participation is not mandatory. So how will that work? It seems that a 'no return' for year one will automatically see the CCG placed in the 'needs improvement' category for diabetes. Those on the naughty step will have to produce an improvement plan. The NDA contract is being renewed and is the subject of an EU tender, so there will be no changes until after the contract has been awarded. ABCD appreciates the adoption of more specialist audits by NDA— pregnancy, foot care and pumps – and hopes they will continue.

## **All Party Parliamentary Group for Diabetes**

The last meeting of this influential group looked at the availability and adoption of new technologies to support the management of type 1 diabetes. We heard very powerful presentations from patients about their struggles to get sensor-augmented insulin pumps and CGM funded on the NHS. It is clear that Individual Funding Requests are not the way forward. If patients meet the NICE requirements then they should have a funded trial of the technology. It cannot be right that referral for islet transplantation is the easier option. A whole day APPG conference on this subject will be held in Manchester on 27<sup>th</sup> October. If you wish to attend the details will be on the APPG for Diabetes website.

## **British Journal of Diabetes**

Stand-by for 2016 issue number two. I am very grateful to Parth Narendran for agreeing to be Acting Editor while our Editor-in Chief, Paul Grant is unavailable. Paul has done everything possible to ensure the baton was not dropped during the handover.

## **ABCD Clinical Research**

With the approval of our Treasurer and the committee I have asked Hugh Jones to explore options for ABCD to support clinical diabetes research, building on our experience of the Revise Diabetes Study. We may explore clinical research fellowships on a jointly funded basis, perhaps with an NHS Trust, but if anyone has other suggestions Hugh would be pleased to hear from you.

## **BMJ Awards Diabetes Team of the Year 2016**

I had the pleasure of presenting this ABCD-sponsored award to the team from the Royal Devon and Exeter Foundation Trust for 'Better Monogenic Diabetes Care'. The judges were struck by the 'rapid translation of world-leading research into clinical practice that has transformed the lives of so many people across the country and around the world by ensuring that people with monogenic diabetes can be correctly diagnosed and managed.' Such is the dedication of the team that no sooner had they posed for the photographs than they were jumping into the minibus to return to Exeter in time for morning clinic, reflecting no doubt on their dominant performance!

## **JSC Endocrinology and Diabetes**

The officers of this important RCP committee have completed their term. I would like to thank John Newell-Price for his service as Chair, and ABCD's Peter Winocour as Secretary. The tradition is that it is the turn of ABCD to nominate the new Chair, and SfE the Secretary. Look out for more information about this very soon.

## **Managing complex multi-morbidity**

We are interested in innovative models of caring for people with complex multi-morbidity. There is scepticism about how realistic it is to expect general physicians to provide high quality specialist care for all the needs of such patients. We have the opportunity to propose innovative solutions that have to be effective and cost-effective and minimise inconvenience to patients.

## **Training in Community Diabetes**

Asif Ali, Chair of the SAC, is grappling with updating the specialty training curriculum, and is keen to hear from those of you who are providing good quality training in community diabetes. I will be approaching some of you directly for your assistance on behalf of Asif, but we would welcome direct approaches from those providing or receiving such training.

## **Another ABCD Nationwide Audit**

Bob Ryder's team has designed a new audit to capture real world data regarding insulin degludec/liraglutide (Xultophy). I would encourage members to contribute to this and to the other active audits on the website. See [HERE](#) for more information

Rob Gregory, Chair ABCD Committee  
Leicester