



# Independent Scientific Advisory Committee

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9 April 2018 at 11:00am in R-T-410 4th Floor, 151 Buckingham Palace Road, Victoria, SW1W 9SZ**

<b>Members attending</b>	
<b>Member</b>	<b>Role</b>
Prof Deborah Saltman AM	Chair
Prof Sinead Brophy	Scientific member
Dr Iain Carey	Scientific member
Ms Rosie Cornish	Scientific member
Dr Duncan Edwards	Scientific member
Prof David Fishwick	Scientific member
Dr Evangelos Kontopantelis	Scientific member
Ms Sally Malin	Lay member
Prof Keith Neal	Scientific member
Dr Grace Okoli	Scientific member
Ms Marcia Saunders	Lay member
Prof Sara Thomas	Scientific member
Dr Hester Ward	Scientific member
Dr Paul Welsh	Scientific member
Dr Stephen Weng	Scientific member
Prof Ian Wong	Scientific member

<b>Apologies</b>	
<b>Member</b>	<b>Role</b>
Dr Kate Fleming	Scientific member
Prof Ann John	Scientific member
Dr Wendy Knibb	Scientific member
Prof Andrew Morris	Scientific member
Dr Jennifer Quint	Scientific member
Prof Sonia Saxena	Scientific member
Prof Richard Stevens	Deputy Chair and Scientific member
Prof Martin Tobin	Scientific member

<b>On leave</b>	
<b>Member</b>	<b>Role</b>
Dr Emily McFadden	Scientific member

<b>In attendance</b>	
<b>Attendee</b>	<b>Role/Post</b>
Dr Janet Valentine	CPRD Director
Dr Puja Myles	CPRD Head of Observational Research
Ms Tarita Murray-Thomas	CPRD Senior Researcher
Mr R. [Name]	CPRD Research [Role]
Mr O. [Name]	CPRD Research Applications [Role]

## **1. Welcome and apologies**

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed those members in attendance.

The Chair acknowledged that Dr Angelyn Bethel had resigned from the Committee and thanked her for her service in absentia.

## **2. Minutes of the last meeting**

The full and summary versions of the minutes from the January 2018 meeting were approved by the Committee as circulated in the meeting papers.

## **3. Matters Arising**

The actions list from the previous meeting was presented by the Chair.

## **4. ISAC Chair's Report**

There had been a large number of protocols submitted to the Committee since the last meeting and the Chair thanked Committee members for their work in reviewing these protocols.

## **5. CPRD Director's Report**

Dr Janet Valentine presented the CPRD Director's Report.

### **5.1 GP Practice Recruitment**

A record number of over 1000 GP practices had now agreed to contribute data to CPRD. Due to the scale of data being onboarded from EMIS GP practices, the data was being rolled-out in phases into CPRD Aurum. As of April 2018, there were 400 contributing practices in CPRD Aurum database data.

### **5.2 CPRD User Group**

Committee members were invited to the CPRD User Group meeting in May 2018, which would include a celebration of CPRD's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

### **5.3 National Data Guardian Opt-Out Campaign**

The National Data Guardian Opt-Out campaign was to begin in May 2018 with a public campaign explaining to patients in England of their right to opt-out of contributing their data for research. CPRD had contributed case studies to the Department of Health and Social Care and to the Understanding Patient Data initiative to assist in communicating the benefits of sharing patient data, to support this campaign.

### **5.4 General Data Protection Regulation**

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) would be introduced in May 2018 and CPRD had been preparing for GDPR to ensure that the services and operations were GDPR-compliant. It was expected that the Committee and researchers using CPRD would experience no changes to the operational service provided as a result of GDPR.

### **5.5 MHRA office move**

MHRA was to move to new offices at 10 South Colonnade, Canary Wharf, E14 4PU in June 2018. The next ISAC meeting would be at the new office location.

### **5.6 Royal College of General Practitioners Quality Improvement Project**

CPRD has an ongoing quality improvement collaboration with the Royal College of General Practitioners to benefit the clinical care of patients.

## **6. ISAC Secretariat Report**

Daniel Brett presented a report on ISAC protocols received from 1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018. There had been 302 protocols submitted for review and 294 protocols approved by ISAC during the 2017/18 financial year. This represented an increase of over 50 approved protocols when compared to the year before.

## **7. Reviewer comments on statistical methods**

Evangelos Kontopantelis presented a paper on the issue of how much feedback on statistical methods should be provided by reviewers.

## **8. Multiple protocol applications addressing similar research questions**

Stephen Weng and Keith Neal presented a paper on the issue of different protocol applications addressing similar research questions. Applicants to CPRD had the opportunity to review previously approved protocol summaries on the CPRD website in the ISAC transparencies section, to ensure that similar research questions could be avoided. Applicants also had the opportunity to contact CPRD to enquire about projects that were not yet published online, to ensure that applications asking similar questions could be avoided.

## **9. Reviewer comments weighting in resubmissions and approvals with comments**

Sara Thomas presented a paper on the topic of high and low priority comments in ISAC reviews, including a comprehensive list of what constitutes a high priority comment. The Committee reiterated that high priority comments would necessitate a resubmission of a protocol.

## **10. Protocols for discussion**

The Committee discussed two protocols that had been highlighted as being of interest over the last three months.

## **11. AOB**

The following dates had been secured for Committee meetings:

- 31 July 2018
- 23 October 2018
- 22 January 2019
- 23 April 2019
- 23 July 2019
- 22 October 2019

Future meetings were to be held at the new address for MHRA: 10 South Colonnade, Canary Wharf, E14 4PU.