ASSOCIATION OF HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGY PROVIDERS FOR IMAGING, RADIOTHERAPY & CARE

Meeting of the AXREM Executive Committee			
Held at:	**Rotherwick House, 3 Thomas More Street, London, E1W 1YZ**		
Date:	**Tuesday 19th March 2018**		
Time:	**10.30am – 14:00pm**		
Chairperson:	**Peter Harrison**		
Draft Minutes Issue Date:	**28th March 2018**		
Confirmed Minutes Issue Date:	**20th June 2018**	**Signature:**	

PRESENT:	
Name	**Company**
Peter Harrison - Chairman	Siemens
Grant Witheridge	Agfa
Steve Kennedy	Bracco
Mark Hitchman	Canon
Stuart Mills	Canon
Charles McCaffrey	Carestream
Jeevan Gunaratnam	FujiFilm
Ila Dobson	GE
Ian Graves	Philips
David Wilkins	Siemens
Rick Cumberbatch	Xograph
Alan Birks - Secretary	AXREM
Invited Guests	
David Sissling	NICE
Sheryl Warttig	NICE
Chris Robson	Akeso
Janak Gunatilleke	Akeso
Apologies were received from the following Executive Member Companies:	
Elekta	
Esaote	
Med Imaging	
Varian	

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0 Competition Law Guidance

Copies of the AXREM Guide to Competition Law were available for member's reference. This guide gives a do's and do not's and is designed to help members understand the legal obligations, related to European and UK Competition Law. More detailed information on the subject is available in two documents published by the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) and both are available to members on request or on www.oft.gov.uk.

1 Apologies were received from the following:

See details on front page of the minutes.

2 Minutes

The Minutes from the previous meeting held on 19th December 2017 were accepted as a true record. In line with the constitution these minutes will be made available to all AXREM members.

3 Actions from the previous Minutes

3.1 Code of Conduct

The Secretary advised that the recently amended AXREM Code of Conduct had been published on the AXREM Website.

However, the Secretary also advised that COCIR took the opportunity at their General Assembly on 14th March to launch their latest Code of Conduct, which has been prompted by the decision of COCIR company members to end direct sponsorship. This means that they will no longer cover the registration fees, travel or lodging costs for individual healthcare professionals attending conferences organised by third parties. All COCIR company members will adopt this change to the Code of Conduct by 1st January 2019.

The Secretary agreed to check out the wording of the revised COCIR CoC and put forward a proposed amendment to the AXREM version

Action: Secretary to draft amendment to AXREM CoC in line with COCIR **AB**

3.2 Department of Health

The Secretary advised that a list of questions based on the discussions with the guests from DH / Cabinet office had been drafted and delivered to DH for their website FAQ listing.

3.3 Past AXREM Chairmen

The Secretary confirmed that CM had forwarded a history list of AXREM Chairmen highlighting the sequence of Companies to hold this position in the past and this signposted that Agfa would be the obvious selection for the vacant Vice Chair position.

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A subsequent discussion with GW of Agfa confirmed that he would be willing to take up the post and the Executive Committee unanimously approved his selection.

4 Credentialing

The Secretary gave a short presentation announcing that the Professional Standards Association (PSA) has now accredited the LSI Credentialing Register.

See Appendix 1 for a copy of the presentation.

A number of registrants are now on the registry as a result of the pilot event and we are now entering the 'early adoption' phase for all Trade Association members. Some HR personnel of member company's had reported GDPR concerns regarding the completion of a mass upload spread-sheet which has been designed to simplify the registration process. Nevertheless, members of the Executive Committee agreed that this route should be pursued perhaps with a restriction on the level of detail required. The Secretary agreed to pick off AXREM member companies in order to assist in signposting their employees through the registration system in coordination with the Academy of Healthcare Science (AHCS).

Action: Secretary to contact members and coordinate LSI Credentialing registration process **AB**

All agreed on the need for an extensive communication roll out and the Secretary advised that this is planned beginning with a series of Press Release announcements. Members were particularly keen to see the development of a follow up letter from Professor Sue Hill announcing the availability of the LSI Credentialing Register.

Action: Secretary to push for development of Sue Hill credentialing letter to Trusts **AB**

5 Feedback Forums and Bodies AXREM participates in

5.1 NICE

The Secretary advised that there had been no recent NICE/Industry meetings to report upon although there have been a number of MedTechScan Project User Group meetings held this year. Details of the progress made on this project are covered in Item 6 below.

5.2 Medical Supplier Board

The Secretary reported that a Medical Supplier Board meeting was held on 15th March. There was a significant turnout from all sectors including the Trade Associations, NHS England, NHS Improvement, GIRFT Team, DH&SC, NHS SC and MedTechScan team.

Both the Secretary and ID attended the meeting in which there was considerable discussion on the Forward Operating Model and continued concerns raised from a number of the other Trade Associations regarding what will be the process for selecting products for procurement. Many remain sceptical that cost, rather than value, will be the driver.

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Considerable opportunity was given for questions on the FOM and it appeared that the Chairman, Chris Holmes, had been instructed to do this in order to allay any fears on the new model.

In the absence of any minutes from the meeting at this stage a copy of the pre read documentation is available in Appendix 2.

5.3 MHRA / MDILG

The Secretary advised that there had not been an MHRA meeting since the last Executive Committee meeting although a new Terms of Reference document had been produced in order to consolidate the subjects discussed at future meetings. Future meetings will now cover the following:

1. Corporate strategy (including discussion of the Corporate Plan and Digital Transformation)

2. Regulatory and policy developments (including Brexit)

3. Operations (including discussions around current and new legislation)

The Secretary also reported that there had been no further discussion related to MHRA fees.

5.4 The UK MedTech Forum

The last UK MedTech Forum meeting was held on 20th February 2018 and focussed mainly on the progress of the LSI Credentialing Register, changes to Codes of Business Practice, MDR/IVD implementation, Brexit and NHS Procurement.

The issues of Brexit and the implementation of the Medical Device and IVD regulations were discussed in respect to the given timelines, which were regarded as unrealistic. It was noted, in particular, that the strain on Notified Body (NB) capacity was an exacerbating factor. However, it was agreed that associations could only continue to advise their members of the officially published timelines whilst campaigning for a pragmatic approach with the relevant UK and EU bodies.

A copy of the minutes of the UK MedTech Forum is available in Appendix 3.

A number of the other items discussed at the Forum are subjects of these minutes.

5.5 Department of Health

This item is covered in Item 7

5.6 NHS Improvement

The provision of minutes and information from the National Imaging Optimisation Board is embargoed but the Chairman did report that the group had undertaken a NHS wide data collection exercise from Radiology departments and not surprisingly there had been some push back in respect to the amount of work required in order to complete

the submissions. The NHS doesn't have a current and comprehensive national asset register and this was seen as an important part of the data collection.

However, once the data collection exercise is complete, it is hoped it would provide the most complete inventory of NHS equipment ever held. The next step would be to look at future procurement. The likely outcome would be that a list of options would be produced.

6 NICE

6.1 MedTechScan Project

Joining the meeting for this item were David Sissling, the MedTechScan Project Leader at NICE and Sheryl Warttig who is the Senior Technical Adviser for the Centre for Health Technology Evaluation at NICE.

The Secretary reminded members that NICE are progressing with the MedTechScan project which aims to create a digital system that captures information about medical devices, diagnostic and digital healthcare products as they move from conception, through product development and appraisal cycles onto adoption by the NHS.

David and Sheryl provided a further update and ran through a system demonstration using a presentation, which is available in Appendix 4.

The next step in the MedTechScan project is for members to get involved in the Company testing programme, which is aimed at enhancing the route through the triage questions in order to provide for improved feedback and the capturing of good data for the MedTechScan system.

Members provided feedback that the users entering information into the MedTechScan system would expect **personal** feedback and for this to be provided in a timely manner so that users did not get disillusioned with the process. The need for **pace** in the provision of feedback was seen as an important factor in this regard.

There was a positive reaction to the project although concerns were expressed regarding **confidentiality** of the new product details, which were not yet ready for launch. DS advised that this was recognised and User Agreements were being developed to cover this concern. The same concern had been expressed when the PharmaScan project was launched some 10 years ago and the confidentiality agreements have worked well in this sector. At the same time it was recognised that once products had gone through the MedTechScan system and entered the launch phase, the information contained in the MedTechScan database would be invaluable for potential users and procurement teams to **pull** the product into the market.

DS thanked the members of the Executive Committee for their feedback and summarised is takeaways as 3P's and a C representing Pull, Personalisation, Pace and Confidentiality.

Action: Members to contact DS/SW at NICE to get involved in company testing of MedTechScan system **Members**

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7 Department of Health

7.1 Procurement Transformation Programme

Joining the meeting at this time were Chris Robson and Janak Gunatilleke from Akeso Ltd who have recently been award the Category Tower 8 which contains some AXREM member products including Defibrillator devices and accessories, Angiography ECG, Bladder Scanners, the direct frameworks for ECG equipment and the Maintenance for all Category Tower 8 products.

Chris and Janak explained more about Akeso using the presentation shown in Appendix 5. They explained that they are keen to work with suppliers in order to introduce standardisation and whilst there is no mandate for trusts to use the Supply Chain they recognise the need to create a path of least resistance. Members expressed concern re the novation of existing contracts and how maintenance will be handled and whilst Chris and Janak accepted that this may be problematic, they are however keen to work with our members and other Category Towers in order to ensure a smooth implementation.

The Secretary advised that Paul Webster from DH&SC had suggested a joint meeting of DH&SC, AXREM, DHL and Akeso as soon as possible in order to discuss some of the potential issues and Chris and Janak agreed upon this course of action. A number of AXREM Executive Committee members will be meeting with Jason Lavery on 5th April during which this idea will be tabled. If agreed by JL the Secretary will set up the joint meeting as soon as mutually convenient.

Action: Secretary to set up joint DH&SC / AXREM / DHL / AKESO meeting **AB**

8 GS1/PEPPOL

The Secretary confirmed that following interest from members a follow up working party meeting on GS1/PEPPOL was held on 28th February 2018. Frankie Wallace the Supplier Engagement Lead for eProcurement (Scan4Safety) attended the meeting and she ran through a presentation, which is available in Appendix 6.

The notes covering the meeting are available in Appendix 7, in which the Secretary was tasked with asking the Executive Committee members if they thought there was any appetite in focussing on the implementation of GS1/PEPPOL for Imaging Equipment in order to speed up some return on the investment that members are making for implementing the programme. However, with so few Trusts engaged in the programme the Executive Committee members did not feel inclined to push the progress at this stage.

9 Statistics

The Secretary announced that the radiology and ultrasound stats are up to date. The radiology market forecast results went out on 19th March.

The Compensation and Benefits survey will be run later in the year so as not to clash with financial year end period as agreed by the group last year.

10 Specialist Focus Groups

10.1 Service Managers SFG

Whilst the last Service Managers SFG meeting was held in October 2017 an article writing group from the SFG had drafted an article on 'Non-Compliant and Counterfeit Medical Devices' for which the Secretary was requesting approval. The Executive Committee approved the article, which will now be circulated to our press contacts for publication.

A copy of the article is available in Appendix 8.

10.2 PACS/RIS SFG

Nothing to report.

12.3 Marketing SFG

Nothing to report but the team is available to assist the Secretary as required.

10.4 Radiotherapy SFG

Nothing to report.

10.5 Ultrasound SFG

Nothing to report

11 UKRC 2018

Plans for 2018 including the AXREM Dinner are well advanced and nothing further to report

12 Any Matters Arising

The Secretary acknowledged that he had received an invitation to attend the Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed) Parliamentary Round Table Radiotherapy meeting, which is a follow up to the Parliamentary reception held in November 2017. A number of other AXREM members involved in Radiotherapy will also be included.

The Secretary sought guidance on the request from Mrs Chris Woodgate, Imaging Services Accreditation Scheme Officer at The College of Radiographers / The Royal College of Radiologists, who would like to explore what support imaging manufacturers could give to increasing quality assurance and quality improvement to those imaging services looking at accreditation or who are within the accreditation pathway.

The Executive Committee members advised that it would be appropriate to involve the PACS RIS SFG in this matter.

Action: Secretary to invite Chris Woodgate to PACS RIS SFG in July **AB**

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13 Date and Location of Future Meetings

The Secretary advised that the meeting to be held at Rotherwick House on 20th June 2018.

Summary of Actions

Action: Secretary to draft amendment to AXREM CoC in line with COCIR **AB**

Action: Secretary to contact members and coordinate LSI Credentialing registration process **AB**

Action: Secretary to push for development of Sue Hill credentialing letter to Trusts **AB**

Action: Members to contact DS/SW at NICE to get involved in company testing of MedTechScan system **Members**

Action: Secretary to set up joint DH&SC / AXREM / DHL / AKESO meeting **AB**

Action: Secretary to invite Chris Woodgate to PACS RIS SFG in July **AB**

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Appendices

Appendix 1 - Presentation announcing that the Professional Standards Association (PSA) has now accredited the LSI Credentialing Register

Appendix 2 - NHS Supplier Board Pre Read documents

Appendix 3 - Minutes of the UK MedTech Forum

Appendix 4 - MedTechScan system demonstration presentation

Appendix 5 - Akeso presentation

Appendix 6 - Frankie Wallace Scan4Safety Presentation

Appendix 7 - GS1/PEPPOL meeting notes

Appendix 8 - Article on Non-Compliant and Counterfeit Medical Devices

Copies of all the Appendices detailed above can be found using the following Dropbox link.

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/siz1bnes65kus6m/AADYku4XL_7uu9KV4lm_Abrla?dl=0

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