April 24, 2002.

Minutes of the Annual meeting – Canadian HIV/AIDS Pharmacists Network

Present: Deborah Yoong, Christine Hughes, Jinell MahMing, Charmaine Turner, Linda Sulz, Deborah Kelly, Lizanne Béïque, Marie Courchesne, Rolf vanHeeswijk, Laura Park-Wyllie, Alfred Gin, Anita Richard, Nancy Sheehan, Linda Akagi, Pierre Giguère, Alice Tseng.

Regrets: Kathy Slayter, Glenda Meneilly, Rachel Therrien, Michelle Foisy, Ann Beardsell.

Welcome.

1) Structure & funding: Last February, Merck Frost notified the CHAP/ACRV executive that they will no longer be able to support financially the activity of our group. The chair and secretary thanked Merck for their active support since the creation of the network five years ago.

John Paul Holtz from Abbott Laboratories accepted to take over & offer us funding for the operation of the CHAP network with a yearly $20 000 grant. This grant will be managed by the executive of the CHAP network and Alice and Laura are the authorized individuals to manage the operation of the account. They have kindly accepted to continue to play that role for the coming year.

2) Additional working group members: On behalf of the CHAP members, Alice was pleased to introduce the new members present to the meeting. Rolf vanHeeswijk & Lizanne Béïque from Ottawa and Charmaine Turner from Victoria.

Also, there are still 2 open positions in the working group after all the changes made last year. In addition, Marie announced us that Colette sold her pharmacy and is no more involved in HIV care. Marie will contact the new owner (Martin Duquette) to ask if he is interested in joining the CHAP network. People interested to nominate new candidates must contact the Chair to start off the nomination process.
3) Election of the new chair and secretary: Pierre accepted to chair for the coming year. The secretary position will be held by Marie Courchesne.

Clinical sharing session:

Pierre will be sending to all members a copy on CD of all presentations presented during the sharing session. We will need authors’ authorization to distribute widely the content of the presentation. The ppt format will be preferred although pdf may be used for liability reasons.

Project work:

1) Update on ongoing projects:

a) Website, e-mail list: All the members were extremely satisfied by the quality of the website hosted in the TTH website. We plan to continue the same for now and to thank Alice who accepted to maintain & update the website.

b) Antiretroviral therapy & Pregnancy project:
The final report was presented to the members by Laura. There were a lot of concerns expressed on the power and validity of the project. Because of the low response rate, it was discussed if we should pursue further for publication of that report or keep it as an internal document. The research subgroup will decide later the sort of the project.

c) Barcelona abstract: Alice is proud to announce that the submitted paper entitled: Development of a National HIV/AIDS Pharmacists Network in Canada has been accepted at the International AIDS conference held in Barcelona this July. However, due to space constraints, it will not be posted in place but only included in the abstract book and CD-Rom.

d) Website review: Debbie presented and explained the methodology and tool for the evaluation of the websites. Debbie and Alice did a great job in designing this study and validating the tool. We ask the members of the group to assess the list of websites provided as soon as possible to avoid delaying the publication of the data. Members will be notified later for the expected
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deadline for questionnaire submission. Alice, Debbie, Christine and Lianne volunteered to work on the manuscript and Laura & Nancy will participate on the statistical analysis.

2. New Projects

A) Position paper on TDM:

Rolf elaborated on TDM and its potential role in the treatment of HIV. Rolf indicated that TDM is still at a research stage and is not yet considered standard practice. It was proposed that CHAP network express his opinion and write a position paper on TDM and HIV treatment. Rolf is going to be the leader in this project.

B) ddI EC project

Pierre is interested to design a study to look after the safety and the efficacy of switching regular ddI to its enteric formulation. After a quick roundtable, it was noted that only BC and Edmonton has a program in place to cover the EC formulation. Pierre asked all members interested to participate in a future multicenter study to keep a record of the patients switched to EC. He will contact the members once a draft of the study design will be in place.

Feature Presentation

Title: New clinical trials data on Kaletra
Speaker: Marjorie Robinson, Pharm D

Copy of the presentation will be in the CD-ROM.

Adjournment