

East Midlands Brain and CNS Tumours Expert Clinical Advisory Group (ECAG)

ANNUAL REPORT

April 2016 – March 2017

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East Midlands Brain and CNS Tumours **Expert Clinical Advisory Group Annual Report**

1.0 Introduction

This annual report relates to the operational period April 2016 to March 2017.

Number of meetings held: 2 (28/09/16 & 06/03/17)

Attendance: Nottingham, Leicester, Lincoln, Derby & CYPICS representatives

2.0 Key Achievements

- Excellent engagement by group in key issues facing Brain and the CNS tumours
- Updated the Network Guidelines
- Participation in tumour audits
- Pathway maintained with avoidance of delays in patient care
- MDT infrastructure improved including technological components
- MGMT promoter methylation status testing. The local MDT requires the test for patient management decisions. The ECAG highlighted issue with Commissioners and a solution was put in place but currently involves expensive outsourcing to London and results are taking 3 weeks.
- Development of a SRS interest team at NUH
- Continued use of Five ALA
- IMRT in all centres
- New Ultrasound equipment (Arietta) continues to be used increasingly in tumour work
- Intra-operative MRI project group now active again

3.0 Challenges

- Early diagnosis, as this is a national priority for all cancers, but difficult in our tumour group
- Funding for CNS time across the region
- Service under pressure, as a centre for the whole of the region and increasing referral numbers
- Ensuring consistent and streamlined community support
- Equipment in the MDT still could be improved – occasional conferencing failure experienced & some issues with very large image datasets
- Ensuring GP satisfaction with 2WW pathway for brain imaging
- Problems with MRI imaging at DTHFT and DTHFT not joining EMRAD
- Arrangements to enable access to Derby imaging
- Role of OT in Outpatients
- Radiologist, Oncologist & CNS for Skull Base MDT

4.0 Group Priorities 2017/18

- Increasing capacity for Stereotactic Radiosurgery (SRS)
- Increase proportion of patients who are able to benefit from an early post MDT clinic
- Improving access to diagnostic scans at MDT
 - EMRAD now operational
 - Derby neuro-radiology as core members of MDT presenting imaging
- Find best solution for affordable and rapid MGMT results
- Liaison with Occupational Therapy/ Physiotherapy & Oncology
- Work with intraoperative MRI project group to support installation at NUH between 2018-2019