

Clinical Reference Group (CRG) Meeting 4/2016

Tuesday 13 September 2016

6:30 – 8:00pm

Minutes

1. Welcome & Apologies

Attendees: Joseph Tam (Chair), Fred Edwards, Ryan Hoy (VC), Jo McCubbin (VC), David Monash (VC)

Observers: Matthew Carroll (Investigator), Jill Blackman (Senior Project Manager), Susan Denny (Recruitment and Engagement Coordinator), Shona Anderson (Administrative Assistant)

Apologies: Michael Abramson (Principal Investigator), Paul Lee, Angela Scully, Andrew Tonkin, Judi Walker (Principal co-Investigator Gippsland), Alistair Wright.

Welcome to new participants: The committee Dr David Monash from Sale to his first CRG meeting.

2. Notes from meeting held 9 June 2016

The notes of the meeting held 9 June 2016 were endorsed by the group and confirmed as a true and accurate summary. CRG meeting notes are available on the HHS website.

Action: Meeting notes for the June CRG meeting to be uploaded to the website.

3. Guidelines for the dissemination of findings to the community

Study team members thanked CRG members for their detailed feedback on the previous version of the guidelines with the final version having been revised in line with feedback from the CRG and the Community Advisory Committee (CAC). Members were satisfied with the final version of the guidelines.

3.1. Ambulance attendance data dissemination plan

The study team outlined the actions taken to disseminate the findings from the analysis of ambulance data, noting that the process was rushed and the members were only provided with minimal time to comment.

Members were very supportive of the release of preliminary data, noting the balance needed between releasing information to the community in a timely fashion and ensuring that the information which is released is robust. The need to maintain trust with the community and ensure that they are provided with results as they become available was reinforced.

3.2. Significance of the findings

Members made a number of comments re the interpretation of the data and the need for further analyses, including the outcome of the ambulance call out (no treatment required, treatment required but patient not transported to hospital, patient transported to hospital). Members were also very supportive of the plan to analyse hospital data to determine the outcomes from ambulance transfers as well as other presentations to hospital during that time and the plan to repeat these analysis over time. Other suggestions included specifically comparing Morwell and Sale given the latter has been designated as the comparison community. It was also suggested that the team see if Nurse on Call data is accessible as community members may have sought advice during the smoke event.

It was agreed that there was no need to brief GPs and other professionals on these preliminary findings – but that this will be required once the ambulance and hospital data analysis is completed.

3.3. Evaluation of the process

Notwithstanding the short time timelines, members were satisfied with materials that were provided and were pleased to have the opportunity to respond and to have their feedback incorporated.

Jill Blackman noted that the study team had learnt a lot from this first public release and that dedicated templates would be developed to speed the production of dissemination plans and fact sheets.

3.4. Annual community briefings

It was noted that the study will be holding an annual briefing before the end of the year. The timing has not been determined and CRG members will be consulted to maximise their availability to participate and to ensure there are no conflicts with other activities.

3.5. Timetable 2016/2017

The timetable for further release of study data was discussed with the study team noting that there were a number of study streams likely to release data in the coming months. This includes:

- The Hazelinks stream will be revising the ambulance data analysis once the CSIRO smoke modelling is completed. In addition, further analysis will take place looking at hospital emergency and admissions data to better understand the outcomes of ambulance call outs as well as other presentations to hospital during the mine fire event.
- The Community Wellbeing stream is preparing to release information on the analysis of media, including social media, during the smoke event.
- The Older People Policy Review is nearing completion.
- The Schools Study analysis of the first year of data collection is nearing completion.

Dissemination plans will developed for each release of study data, with those with higher clinical or community significance requiring a more nuanced plan, engaging CAC, CRG and other key stakeholders in the release of the data.

Members queried whether the CRG will be notified prior to the release of the above findings and the study team confirmed that this would take place. It was also noted that study findings would be progressively loaded up on the website.

4. Deloitte Review recommendations

The recommendations of the Deloitte Review were discussed, focusing on the proposed changes to the study governance structure including the establishment of a Hazelwood Health Study Board and the merging of the CAC and CRG.

Members focused particularly on the proposal to merge the CAC and the CRG. While it was agreed that there is overlap between the two groups (as the CAC involves some health stakeholders and the CRG clinicians are primarily local residents so invested in the communities they live in), it was felt that the two groups were distinct in terms of the aims outlined in their terms of reference. As the roll out of results increase, the CRG will be required to provide advice on the clinical implications of the findings and how to respond to them, whereas the CAC is focussed on ensuring the study addresses the concerns of the community and supports community engagement with the project. In addition, it was noted that merging the two groups would result in a large group which could be challenging to manage and reduce opportunity for individual members to engage in the discussion.

It was suggested that one or two CRG members should be invited to participate in the CAC and vice versa in order to ensure coordination and communication between the two groups.

Action: The position of CRG members to be summarised and sent round the group for clarification and refinement prior to be submitted to government to be incorporated into the deliberation regarding the Deloitte recommendations.

5. Adult Survey: progress & issues arising to date – for advice

Jill Blackman gave an overview of Adult Survey recruitment progress, noting that approximately 30% of Morwell residents approached to date have completed the survey (40% for those with a listed phone number but considerably less for those where no phone number is available). As expected, takeup in Sale is lower because the invitations have been out in the field for less time and the community has less of a connection to the mine fire event with around 11% completing the survey to date.

Jill noted that the team are now looking at alternative strategies to engaging with the community and making it easier to complete the survey. This includes a very successful session at the Morwell Mid Valley shopping centre on the previous weekend and an upcoming session at a Morwell play centre. The team is also looking at leaving invitation packs with paper surveys at major organisations including major employers like police, council, Federation University etc as well as community connect locations like leisure centres etc.

CAC members were strongly supportive of using GP clinics to distribute the invitation packs and many adults attend the clinic. Clear information including a detailed map and eligibility requirements would need to be provided in an accessible way.

6. Other business

Jo McCubbin noted that she is involved in discussions regarding the placement of new air quality monitors and she would welcome any suggestions.

Action: Members to email Jo McCubbin with suggestions re air quality monitor placement

7. Next Meeting

The CRG meets on an as needs basis so there is no confirmed date. It was noted that the expected data releases in coming months could see the need for more input from the CRG than has been required to date.

Meeting closed at 7.30 pm

Hazelwood Health Study Clinical Reference Group Action items

Date Raised	Action Number	Description	Person responsible	Status
12 Nov 2015	5	Members to send suggestions re Sale GPs to invite to join the group	All	Completed
12 Nov 2015	6	Martine Dennekamp to contact GP members to investigate the possibility of access GP data.	MD	Completed
12 Nov 2015	7	Judi Walker to talk with Alistair Wright re alternative research funding sources	JW	Completed
12 Nov 2015	8	Members to forward feedback on the study website to Jill and Matthew	All	Ongoing
12 Nov 2015	9	Jill and Susan to discuss mechanisms for keeping CRG members up to date	JB/SD	Completed
9 June 2016	10	Susan Denny to follow up regarding increased connections with the PHN and further promotion of the study in GP practices.	SD	Deferred
13 Sept 2016	11	The position of CRG members to be summarised and submitted to government as part of the deliberation regarding the Deloitte recommendations.	All	
13 Sept 2016	12	Members to email Jo McCubbin with suggestions re air quality monitor placement	All	