



Minutes of the ICS Fistula Committee Meeting

1200-1400, 30th August 2011, Glasgow, Scotland

Attending: Sherif Mourad (Chair), Jacky Cahill, Suzy Elneil, Limin Liao, Chris Payne, Daa Rizk, Vasan Srin

In Attendance: Jacques Corcos, Elise De, Ervin Kocjancic, Sophie Fletcher, Ahmed Saafan, Dan Snowdon, Dominic Turner

Apologies: Gilles Karsenty, Mohamed Labib, Hassan Shaker

Approval of the minutes of the last meeting – 24 August 2010

1. The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Terms of Reference

2. No changes were necessary

Terms of office

3. The committee discussed evaluating the contributions of members each year and asking those who did not contribute to step down. SM would speak to Gilles Karsenty to check if he had capacity to continue on the committee. Mohamed Labib will be removed as committee member due to non-attendance at committee meetings.
4. CP suggested staggering committee terms so the majority of members do not step down at the same time.
5. The group looked at the list of Associate Members. There is likely to be some changes over the coming year.

Zonal Subcommittees

6. The allocation of zones was discussed as follows:
 - a. GK could cover Africa West
 - b. SE suggested splitting Africa between Anglo and Francophone, SM will consider and allocate responsibilities accordingly. SM confirmed post-meeting that the committee shall work in Africa through 2 main zones; one in the north east region and one in the

west. For the west of Africa, GK can cover the francophone countries, while SE will cover the Anglophone countries.

- c. EK and CP to work on the Americas Zone.
- d. Discussion over how the committee could reach Afghanistan.

Fund raising follow-up

- 7. SM felt that the committee needed a better strategic plan in order to leverage funding. Jacky agreed to provide SM with a draft plan.

Action: *J Cahill to receive details of planned budgets and activities for next year (up to two). J Cahill to then provide a draft funding strategy plan to Sherif.*

J Cahill leaves the meeting

Fistula centres

- 8. The committee discussed how to support fistula centres, and how this could make an impact. ED asked what the missions of each project were. SM reported that he had been in contact with AUA, SIU and EAU contacts regarding treatment centres in Africa. All three had asked for a well written proposal before investing.
- 9. SM presented a plan to create an international fistula centre in Uganda under supervision of ICS and with the collaboration and donations of other big organisations. CP suggested that the committee could offer teaching courses for the right centre. JC recommended that fistula centre approach the ICS to put their cases forward.

Fistula courses update

- 10. SM provided an update on courses held to date and planned for 2012. The summary from the slide is shown below:
 - a. ***The first ICS Fistula Workshop was held at Ain Shams University Hospital in Cairo,*** 16-17 January 2010, in collaboration with the Pan Arab Continence Society (PACS). The participants were urologists, gynaecologists, and urogynaecologists from Senegal, Benin, El Salvatore, Honduras, USA, United Kingdom, Indochina, Saudi Arabia and South Korea.
 - b. ***The second ICS Fistula Workshop in Kampala – Uganda;*** Following on from the success of the 2010 Fistula Workshop, the ICS offered 5 ICS members the chance to attend the 2011 Surgical Repair to Vagina Fistula Workshop in Uganda. The workshop took place between 28th-30th April in Kampala at the Kibuli Hospital. The trainees were ICS members from Burkina Faso, Jordan, Egypt, Canada and Mexico.
 - c. ***The ICS Fistula Surgical training course in Chengdu – China.*** Limin Liao the China subcommittee chair organized an ICS fistula course in collaboration with the Chinese Continence Society. Sherif Mourad was invited to perform live surgical training for fistula repair. Two live surgeries were performed and transmitted directly to the conference room where all the audience were.
 - d. ***The next or 3rd ICS Fistula Workshop will take place in Luxor – Egypt on March 15-17th, 2012.***

e. **A 4th may be held in Uganda in December 2012**

11. EK asked what happened after the course and was it known what training achieved? A post course evaluation measure should be developed. JC asked if the current method is the best option, or should the committee arrange for surgeons to be sent to existing centres. There is a need to work with locals but ICS should be the driving force behind this collaboration.
12. JC stressed that the course teaching staff must be changed, even though they are good teachers. This is to show inclusivity to ICS members. ICS e-news or the website could be used to enlist interested speakers. SM was happy to do this but said any speakers must be reliable and experienced. DT mentioned that the course speaker database already on the ICS website could be amended to include details for possibly fistula speakers.

Action: *Committee to enlist new teachers at forthcoming fistula courses.*

13. JC asked if nurses and physios will be involved. SM replied that this is planned and will speak with the committees.

Action: *Sherif to speak to Nursing and Physio Committee regarding trainers at forthcoming fistula courses.*

Suzy Elneil leaves the meeting

14. ED asked the Fistula Committee to link more closely with the Education Committee.

Fistula website

15. SM thanked Jane Meijlink for her hard work to date. Jane has now stepped down from the committee. Jacky Cahill was nominated as suitable replacement as website lead, should she be willing to accept.

Action: *Jacky Cahill to take over as Fistula website lead, in place of Jane. Pending Jacky's acceptance.*

Fistula Fact Sheet

16. This is now complete and will be added to the fact sheet booklet.

Research projects

17. Some are underway but more attention could be given to this area. CP presented an ongoing fistula project from his institution. The results will be shared with the committee. JC noted that the ICS can assist in centralising the data.

Meeting adjourned