

Chairman's Report

Welcome to Manchester and the 2015 Annual General Meeting of UKHCDO, I hope you enjoy it and find it a valuable use of your precious time.

This year, we have followed a recent format whereby relevant UKHCDO members may attend the CRG meeting and the Working Party meetings on the 5th of November at the same venue. We have also reintroduced a UKHCDO dinner on the evening of the 5th of November to allow more social interaction. It is often difficult to judge what format of meeting would most appeal to most attendees so please send your feedback and suggestions to Sarah Rooney to help plan future events.

This year UKHCDO has been closely involved in the discussions on the forthcoming National Contract for Therapeutic Products both directly and through representation on the Clinical Reference Group for Haemophilia. UKHCDO has also, through the Therapeutics Task Force led by Peter Collins, been considering the role of emerging 'Extended Half-Life' products for Haemophilia against the background of the currently licensed products. These initiatives are on-going and involve close cooperation with the Commercial Medicines Unit of the NHS.

2015 has seen the relaunch of two working parties, the multidisciplinary Musculo Skeletal Working Party and the Genetics Working Party. An outline of initial work and plans for these WPs are laid out in the reports for this meeting. The other Working Parties remain productive with the Paediatric WP presenting UK ITI experience at the ISTH in Toronto and publication of the UK switching study by the Inhibitor WP.

We are fortunate that several groups are interested in research in the area of Haemophilia in the UK and at this meeting, some of the key groups will have the opportunity to present and describe who they are, what they do and what their plans are. There will be an open discussion during which, it is hoped we may identify synergism and opportunities for collaboration.

A constant issue for the Haemophilia Community is how we assess the standard of care for bleeding disorders and how we ensure good quality care. The process of Audit was initiated by UKHCDO and through evolution, we have acquired the participation of key stakeholders including haemophilia nurses, patients and laboratory scientists. The process is not perfect but we have achieved a great deal to date. A major challenge is how we audit the non-comprehensive care centres and how we make the audit meaningful and relevant to the commissioning of services. This will be discussed today and your views are welcome.

It has been a privilege to have been Chairman of the organization for these past four years and I wish to thank you all for your support during this time. This is my final report as Chairman and I am delighted to be handing over to Ri Liesner who, with her many years on the Executive of UKHCDO and on the CRG for Haemophilia, is eminently qualified for the role. UKHCDO remains at the heart of the process of shaping and

monitoring haemophilia services in the UK and internationally and I urge you to continue to support Ri, the Executive and the organization in future years.

Finally, I wish to thank my colleagues on the Executive of UKHCDO, David Keeling, Ri Liesner and Mike Laffan. We have worked well together and their wisdom and advice has been invaluable.

Best Wishes
Dr Gerry Dolan
October 2015