Scottish Paediatric Endocrine Group Network Managed Clinical Network Education Strategy 2015 to 2017

Introduction

Ongoing education in paediatric endocrinology is an essential component of the work of the SPEG MCN. Education and training are core principles of any Managed Clinical Network, as stated in “Strengthening the role of Managed Clinical Networks”, NHS HDL (2007).

“Networks education and training potential should be used to the full, in particular through exchanges between those working in the community and primary care and those working in hospitals or specialist centres’.

The role of all networks is to ensure that professionals involved in the network are participating in appropriate systems which assess competence to carry out duties on behalf of the network and the participating clinicians are involved in a programme of continuous professional development”.

The SPEG Network endorses the principles of ongoing education and training.

The following principles underpin the education strategy:

- Ensure that education and training for all health professionals involved in caring for a child with an endocrine condition is provided to the highest standard.
- Ensure that education and training programmes are in place and are continually provided and developed by its members.
- Ensure that education and training programmes are delivered in a consistent approach across Scotland.

Education and training should be provided for both staff with interests in paediatric endocrinology as well as to primary care clinicians and general paediatricians who will have some role in managing children with paediatric endocrine conditions.

Education and training should therefore be aimed at these different levels of expertise.

In addition to the ongoing education provided through SPEG, it is recognised that there are also educational events arranged in the tertiary centres. It is important to ensure that health professionals have access to these educational events. This is now possible with telemedicine facilities being available in most centres across Scotland. Examples of this is the MEDLY programme in Yorkhill Glasgow.
Education Strategy

SPEG Web site
The SPEG website will host educational materials, presentations, and links to useful information for anyone involved in the care of children with endocrine conditions. The aim is that the web site will be the hub for all information relating to education provided by SPEG, and will also be a signpost to all clinicians interested in paediatric endocrinology, enabling them to find out what is available relating to paediatric endocrine education.

Education aimed at SPEG members and professionals with endocrine interest

SPEG Dunkeld
This is an annual meeting organised by Dr Louise Bath. Its aims are to deliver up to date education regarding paediatric endocrinology, recent advances and recent research. It also gives clinicians and paediatricians in training an opportunity to present audit projects and interesting cases.

SPEG Clinical and Academic Meeting
This meeting is held three times a year across the central belt of Scotland. It is organised by Dr Louise Bath. The meetings are more informal meetings aimed at health professionals with an interest in paediatric endocrinology. Discussions related to guideline development, research projects and updates in endocrine care are presented and discussed.

Nurse Education
SPEG wishes to further develop an education and training programme for endocrine nurses and nurses with an interest in endocrinology. Currently there is no specific education programme for nurses in endocrinology in Scotland.

Regional Clinical Meetings
SPEG would like to develop regional educational events for clinicians involved in delivering paediatric endocrine services. These events will be delivered in each region, and will be hosted by the district general hospital teams in turn. The events will be clinically based, and around case presentations and case discussions. The events will take place every six months in each peripheral centre on a rotational basis. It is envisaged that all centres within a region will attend the sessions. The concept is similar to that developed by the paediatric renal network, which has been very successful.
Education for non-endocrine specialists

National Endocrine Study Day
This meeting is held annually and organised by Dr John Schulga. The meeting is aimed at general paediatricians and paediatricians in training, as well as GP’s. The endocrine study days aim to cover paediatric endocrinology over 5 years.

Growth Workshops
The resources for delivering growth workshops have been recently developed, and have been distributed to all endocrine link clinicians across Scotland. The workshops are designed to deliver growth and maturation training to primary care health professionals as well as to general paediatricians and paediatricians in training. It is envisaged that these workshops are delivered annually in each health board area, coordinated by the local link paediatricians.
Summary

- SPEG will provide education and training to health professionals in Scotland relating to paediatric endocrinology so that health professionals involved in caring for children with endocrine conditions will be better equipped to manage them more appropriately.

- Through the SPEG website, the network will ensure that health professionals in Scotland will be informed regarding the availability of education and training resources available to them, whether that be online or through training courses and study days.

- SPEG will continue to evaluate the education it makes available and tailor the education to the needs of the health professions in Scotland.

Structure of Education:

**Primary Care (medical and nursing)**
- Growth workshops
- National Study day
- On line materials

**Secondary care (general paediatricians and paediatricians in training)**
- Growth workshops
- National Study day
- Nurse Study Days
- Regional Clinical Meetings
- Local teaching sessions (e.g. MEDLY)
- On line materials

**Tertiary care and paediatricians and nurses with an interest in paediatric endocrinology**
- SPEG Dunkeld
- SPEG CAM
- National Study day
- Nurse Study Days
- Regional Clinical Meetings
- Local teaching sessions (e.g. MEDLY)
- On line materials
National
- SPEG Dunkeld
- SPEG Clinical & Academic Meeting
- National Endocrine Study Day
- On-line materials

Regional
- Regional Clinical Meetings
- MEDLY

Local
- Growth Workshops
- Local teaching sessions