



AGAR Executive Meeting Minutes – Thursday 19th August, 2021

Venue: Zoom Teleconference

***Attachments are available on the AGAR Website in the Executive Members Section.**

Attendees:

Elected Members:

Geoff Coombs (GC) – Chair

Tom Gottlieb (TG) - Deputy Chair

Morgyn Warner (MW)

Peter Collignon (PC)

Jon Iredell (JI)

Louise Cooley (LC)

(Vacant position)

Scientific Officers:

Denise Daley (DD) – Minutes Secretary/AGAR Scientific Officer

Jan Bell (JB) – AGAR Scientific Advisor

Invited:

Monica Lahra (ML) - GLASS

Christopher Blyth (CB) – Paediatric Group

Item Number	Item details	Action
	Agenda *	
1.	Apologies Nil	
2.	Minutes - AGAR Executive Meeting, Monday 17th May, 2021 Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted. Proposed: TG Seconded: JR	
3.	Business Arising JR has sent information about AGAR and the three programs to Townsville Hospital (part of the Mater organisation). No response yet.	
4. 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4	Correspondence Mary Jo Waters Resignation* Dr Amy Crowe has taken her place at SVH. Allen and Clarke Consultants AMR and AMU One Health Surveillance* GC is a member of this group. Gabrielle O’Kane Gosford* Gosford Hospital will be joining AGAR in 2022. AGAR and SNAP* The University of Melbourne is forming a contract for AGAR and SNAP. PC- we need to keep the structure of AGAR intact, AGAR can do the WGS without the need to send AGAR isolates. The isolates should only be sent if the UOM sign an agreement stating what will be done with them. The wording of the contract should be changed and include AGAR’s point of view. Do we need a lawyer to look at the contract on AGAR’s behalf? We should have a memorandum of understanding rather than a contract. JR – agreed with PC but noted that the AGAR isolates are only a subset GC – we should agree to help but there needs to be a defined project in place before any isolates are sent. Other groups already use AGAR isolates. ML- suggested we be cautious with sharing isolates and data as in her experience it is a “one-way” process and UOM do not	GC

<p>4.5</p> <p>4.6</p> <p>4.7</p> <p>4.8</p> <p>4.9</p> <p>4.10</p> <p>4.11</p> <p>4.12</p> <p>4.13</p>	<p>share their results. We need guidelines around data governance and data sharing. CB – warned that the labs may not be willing to participate if the isolates have to be sent to both AGAR and UOM. MW – there is no financial support for the labs to participate in SNAP. LC – we do not want to compromise the AGAR collection by sending isolates to the Doherty. TG – suggested we forward the proposal to the DOH for their lawyers to check.</p> <p>Denis Spelman Resignation* Dr Adam Jenney has taken his place at AH.</p> <p>Graeme Nimmo Resignation* GN has retired and has resigned from AGAR. His position on the Executive Committee is vacant.</p> <p>TAP Quick Guide and Toolbox*</p> <p>Additional Tasmania Labs* It was decided not to add any additional Tasmanian labs.</p> <p>National AMR Initiatives and Upcoming Consultation Opportunities*</p> <p>Letter – CMO*</p> <p>Victorian Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy Consultation*</p> <p>Victorian Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy Consultation Paper*</p> <p>Hemalatha Varadhan JHH* Hemalatha has taken over from Rod Givney at JHH</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>AGAR Operating Procedures 2021* No changes to this document.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>AGAR 2020 Data Governance Management* No changes to this document.</p>	
<p>7.</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>7.2</p>	<p>Financial Reports GC presented the following reports: June 2021 AGAR Quarterly Financial Report* 2020 2021 AGAR Financial Report* These reports have been reviewed by the ASA committee. There are some corrections to these reports and they will be submitted to the Auditor when complete. Due to the COVID pandemic the August face to face Committee meeting was cancelled and all QANTAS flights are in credit.</p>	<p>GC</p>

<p>8. 8.1</p>	<p>ACSQHC ACSQHC Factsheet MRSA Bacteraemia in Australia 2013 to 2018*</p>	
<p>9. 9.1 9.2 9.3 9.4 9.5 9.6 9.7 9.8 9.9 9.10</p>	<p>Department of Health Update AURA Program Face to Face Meeting Agenda* A face to face meeting was held in Canberra. GC, DD, JI and JB attended. AURA Program Face to Face Meeting Thank You* AGAR Additional Projects Proposal* These projects have been started. AGAR Additional Projects Plan* AGAR Additional Projects Contract* AGAR Additional Projects COI* AGAR Additional Projects Letter of Offer* AGAR Additional Projects Progress Report* AGAR 2021 2024 Approach to Market* GC has submitted the ATM. We still have not received the three year funding but the DOH is confident it is forthcoming soon. Restructure and Changes to the AMR Team* New contact – Claire Jones. There was a \$7,644 surplus from the 2020 budget. We do not have to return this but will use the funds for the next face to face meeting.</p>	
<p>10. 10.1 10.2 10.3</p>	<p>AGAR 2020 Program 2020 AGAR Program Budget* 2020 Annual Statement of Financial Compliance and Annual Statement of Income and Expenditure ASSOP 2020 Final Report and Update* (DD) The final report has been submitted to the DOH and the CDI reports are almost completed. Some QLD labs (RBWH, TPCH, PAH and QCH) Q3 and Q4 data were not received in time for the DOH final reports but will be included in the CDI reports and the report posted on the AGAR website. 2,734 episodes down from 3,157 in 2019 17.6% MRSA ranging from 5.5% in Tasmania to 48.8% in the NT. 76.9% of MRSA and 80.3% of MSSA were community-onset.</p>	

<p>10.4</p>	<p>Overall mortality was 13.5%, 14.2% in MRSA, 13.3% in MSSA. There were 5 HA-MRSA clones; ST22-IV (n=59) still most common, ST239-III (n=8) one each of ST5-II, ST8=II and ST36-II. There were 48 CA-MRSA clones, eight with ≥10 isolates; ST93-IV, ST5-IV, ST45-V, ST1-IV, ST30-IV, ST8-IV, ST97-IV, ST78-IV.</p> <p>We are planning to write a paediatric ASSOP report for CDI.</p> <p>AESOP 2020 Final Report and Update* (DD) The Final report has been submitted to the DOH and the CDI reports are almost completed. 1,230 episodes down from 1,361 in 2019 54.2% <i>E. faecalis</i> and 39.7% <i>E. faecium</i> 71.4% of <i>E. faecalis</i> and 33.2% of <i>E. faecium</i> were community-onset. <i>E. faecium</i> - 32.6% vancomycin resistant, 13% teicoplanin resistant Mortality – 18.1% overall, 17.3% in <i>E. faecalis</i> , 19.6% in <i>E. faecium</i> 13.7% of <i>E. faecium</i> harboured <i>vanA</i>, 21.3% <i>vanB</i>. There was one <i>vanA E. faecalis</i> ST6 (RPH-device related) There were 71 different STs, eight with ≥10 isolates; ST17, ST1424, ST80, ST796, ST78, ST1421, ST555, ST117.</p>	<p>GC, DD, CB</p>
<p>10.5</p>	<p>GNSOP 2020 Final Report and Update* (JB) The Final report has been submitted to the DOH. Numbers were consistent with 2019.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>AGAR 2021 Program</p>	
<p>11.1</p>	<p>2021 AGAR Laboratories*</p>	
<p>11.2</p>	<p>2021 AGAR Program Budget*</p>	
<p>11.3</p>	<p>AESOP 2021 Update (DD) We have just started receiving Qtr 2 data and isolates. To date 443 episodes from 34 of the 40 participating labs – Nothing yet from LH, RPAH, Woll, FMC, RDH, QCH. 173 <i>E. faecium</i> reported, we have sequenced 81/84 received.</p>	
<p>11.4</p>	<p>ASSOP 2021 Update (DD) To date 1,039 episodes from 34 labs- Nothing yet from LH, RPAH, Woll, FMC, RDH, QCH. So far 162 MRSA reported and we have sequenced 94/96 received.</p>	

11.5	GNSOP 2021 Update (JB and JI) JB will start requesting isolates to be sent to Westmead for sequencing.	JB
12.	AGAR Website All 2020 reports have been uploaded.	
13.	AGAR Data Entry Program No changes since the last meeting.	
14.	Australian Scientific Technical Advisory Group – Antimicrobial Resistance Not discussed.	
15.	Isolate and Data Requests	
15.1	Ross Balch*	
15.2	Frances Sheehan*	
15.3	Trisha Peel*	
15.4	Trisha Peel List of Organisms*	
16.	New Business	
16.1	Geoffrey Coombs Microbiology Working Group*	
16.2	Gmail – GNSOP pubs*	
16.3	GLASS 2020 AGAR Data ML – GLASS 2020 data has been submitted to Geneva for inclusion in the database. AGSP (NNN), APAS and AGAR submitted data. JI asked if phage testing was considered core business for AGAR. GC replied that it should be a separate MOU with an international partnership.	
	Next Meeting TBA	