



AGAR Executive Meeting Minutes – Friday 4th December

Zoom Teleconference 12:00 – 14:00 AEDT

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

Attendees:

Elected Members:

Geoff Coombs (GC) – Chair

Graeme Nimmo (GN) – Deputy Chair

Tom Gottlieb (TG)

Morgyn Warner (MW)

Peter Collignon (PC)

Jon Iredell (JI)

Louise Cooley (LC)

Scientific Officers:

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

Jan Bell (JB) – AGAR Scientific Advisor

Item Number	Item details	Action
	Agenda *	
1.	Apologies TG (attended second half of meeting).	
2.	Minutes - AGAR Executive Meeting, 9th July 2020, Zoom Teleconference Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted. Proposed: JI Seconded: JR	
3.	Business Arising Nil	
4. 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5	Correspondence AURA Transition to DoH -Lara Purdy* GC has been meeting with the DOH re the transition from the ACQSHC on 1 st January, 2021 AURA Data for Glass -Lara Purdy* JB has submitted data to GLASS. There will be a meeting in January 2021 to discuss who will supply data to GLASS in the future either the ACQSHC or the DOH. AGAR Executive 2020 to 2023* AGAR Executive Chair and Deputy Chair* GC re-elected Chair and TG elected Deputy Chair. Age-adjusted Mortality* John Ferguson from JHH has raised the issue of reporting age-adjusted mortality rates. Advice was sought from Catherine Bennett (Epidemiologist from Deakin University) and she advised it would not be appropriate to report age-adjusted rates for the AGAR data. GC will contact John Ferguson. Linda Douglass* Linda (from Nepean Hospital) has resigned from the AGAR committee. GC, DD and JB thanked her for her contribution to AGAR. Her replacement TBA.	GC
5.	AGAR Operating Procedures 2020* LC will join the 2020-2023 AGAR Program Committee – GNSOP	

	JR will join the 2020-2023 AGAR Program Committee – ASSOP	
6.	<p>AGAR 2020 Data Management Plan* This has been updated.</p> <p>GN will continue to chair the Data Governance committee</p>	
7. 7.1 7.2 7.3	<p>Financial Reports GC presented the following reports:</p> <p>7.1 June 2020 AGAR Quarterly Financial Report* 7.2 2019 2020 AGAR Financial Report* 7.3 September 2020 AGAR Quarterly Financial Report*</p> <p>These reports have been reviewed by the ASA committee and have been sent to the Auditor.</p>	
8. 8.1	<p>AGAR 2018 Program 8.1 GNSOP 2018 CDI*</p>	
9. 9.1 9.2 9.3 9.4 9.5 9.6 9.7 9.8	<p>AGAR 2019 Program 9.1 2019 AGAR Program Budget * ASSOP 2019 Report (ACSQHC)* AESOP 2019 Report (ACSQHC)* 9.2 GNSOP 2019 Report (ACSQHC)* 9.3 AGAR 2019 Amalgam Draft Report (ACSQHC)* 9.4 ASSOP 2019 CDI* 9.5 AESOP 2019 CDI* 9.6 GNSOP 2019 CDI* 9.7 9.8</p> <p>THE AESOP, ASSOP and GNSOP 2019 reports are available on the AGAR website. DD will send an email to the AGAR committee. The draft Amalgam report has been submitted to the Commission. Once finalised the Commission will email to GC for a final review by the AGAR Executive. All deliverables have been met and final payment from the Commission is expected soon.</p>	DD

10.	AGAR 2020 Program	
10.1	AGAR 2020 Project Plan* (ACSQHC)	
10.2	Contract 01 July 2020 to 31 December 2020 (ACSQHC)*	
10.3	Contract Jan Bell (ACSQHC)*	
	For tabling only	
10.4	2020 AGAR Program Budget*	
	Funding for 2020 will remain the same as 2019 but will be divided into two parts. Fifty percent from the Commission July -Dec 2020 and 50% from the DoH Jan – July 2021.	
	There will be a surplus of approximately \$6,000 due to no face to face November 2020 Executive Committee meeting.	
	We hope to have a face to face meeting of the Executive in early 2021.	
10.5	AGAR 2020 ATM (DoH)*	
	As of 1 st Jan 2021 the DoH has taken over the funding of AGAR.	
	GC has been involved in a number of teleconferences with the DoH.	
	The DoH asked why we do not include GST in the budget. As ASA is a tax exempt charity all GST is refunded. GC was notified that the lawyers for the DoH recommend that we include GST.	
	Originally a tender was to go out in September for the AURA programs but has been delayed	
	GC has had several teleconferences with the AURA partners. It has been decided that the Commission will still produce the AURA report due in 2021.	
	GC reported that the DoH is confident that we will have a three year contract. It is envisaged that the budget will be increased and additional funds for administration of AGAR be sought.	
	PC commented that we should seek funding for a part time epidemiologist. Suggestions need for a suitable contender.	
	Additional AGAR institutions were discussed. DD to email Enzo Binotto to ask if Cairns were re-joining in 2021. GC will contact Deb Williamson at RMH, JHH and WH for larger regional NSW hospitals and ACL for Geelong. JR will contact the Mater Hospital in Townsville.	All DD, GC JR
10.6	ASSOP 2020 Update (DD)	
	1,815 episodes submitted to date.	
	Most labs are up to date however LH and RDH are still to send 2020 data. SCGH have only submitted Q1 data but have sent their isolates. AUH, FMC and WOLL are still to submit Q3 data.	
	Of the 314 MRSA submitted to date, 249 have been sent for WGS.	
10.7	AESOP 2020 Update (DD)	

10.8	<p>795 episodes submitted to date. Most labs are up to date however LH and RDH are still to send 2020 data. SCGH have only submitted Q1 data but have sent their isolates. FMC and WOLL are still to submit Q3 data. Of the 307 <i>E. faecium</i> submitted to date, 269 have been sent for WGS.</p> <p>GNSOP 2020 Update (JB and JI) 5,621 episodes submitted to date. Most labs are up to date however LH, RDH and FMC are still to send 2020 data. SCGH have only submitted Q1 data. Ten labs are still to submit Q3 data. 873 isolates have been selected for referral to WH, 725 have been requested and 517 have been received by WH.</p> <p>The extra confirmatory work performed by DD for the ASSOP and AESOP programs was discussed. It was decided not to continue performing mupirocin disc testing on isolates without mupirocin results. Only the low level mupirocin resistant isolates will be checked for high level resistance. Other confirmatory tests such as β-lactamase, sxt disc confirmation and etests will continue.</p>	DD
11.	<p>AGAR Website No changes.</p>	
12	<p>AGAR Data Entry Program A few enhancements have been made in relation to date validations. Suggestions are welcome for any further enhancements</p>	All
13. 13.1	<p>ACSQHC MRSA Bacteraemia in Australia 2013 to 2018* Produced by Kathryn Daveson on behalf of AGAR, the report is an update on the previous report by John Turnidge. GC will edit the report to submit it to a peer reviewed journal</p>	GC
14.	<p>Australian Scientific Technical Advisory Group – Antimicrobial Resistance Nothing to report</p>	
15. 15.1	<p>Isolate and Data Requests AGAR Data in Children – Penelope Bryant* Last communication was in October, nothing formal requested yet.</p>	

<p>16. 16.1 16.2 16.3</p>	<p>New Business GLASS WGS Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance* Animal Industries Antimicrobial Stewardship* Outbreak – MRFF* All for tabling only</p> <p>PC commented that it would be interesting to compare AMR pre and post COVID. He theorised that resistance rates would reduce due to lack of international travel. TG commented that the CPE rates would show a true reflection of travel restrictions. JR noted that the new infection control policies in aged care should have an impact on AMR. Urines would be the most useful specimen for surveillance.</p>	
	<p>Next Meeting TBA</p>	