



AGAR Executive Meeting
Qantas Meeting Rooms, Melbourne Domestic Airport
Monday 14th December 2015
Minutes

	Attendees:	Geoff Coombs (GC) Chair	Graeme Nimmo (GN) Deputy Chair	Tom Gottlieb (TG) Secretary/Treasurer	Peter Collignon (PC)	Narelle George (NG)
		Despina Kotsanas (DK)	Jenny Robson (JR)			
		Denise Daley (DD) Minute Secretary AGAR Scientific Officer	Jan Bell (JB) AGAR Scientific Advisor			
		John Turnidge (JT) GNSOP Chair ACSQHC Representative	Ben Howden (BH) ASSOP Chair	Paul Johnson (PJ) AESOP Chair	Lindsay Grayson (LG) HHA Representative	
1.	Apologies:	George Kotsiou (GK)				
2.	Confirmation of the Previous Minutes	AGAR Executive Meeting, Sydney: 30 th July 2015 Accepted by GN, seconded NG				
					Action	When
3.	Matters Arising from Previous Meeting:					
		Nil				
4.	Correspondence					
	4.1.	Retirement Letter (Linda Joyce – SVH)* GC wrote to Linda and thanked her for her contribution to AGAR				
	4.2.	NASCAR Survey Request (John Turnidge)* To be distributed to 10 laboratories to test in the new year. Laboratory handbook almost completed and will be distributed all laboratories				

		Process: Laboratory X isolates organism, refers to reference lab for confirmation, Still not decided who will enter the confirmed result in the database – Laboratory X or reference laboratory. To be decided by each jurisdiction.		
	4.3.	Australian AMR Data Request for Global Resistance Map (Sumanth Gandra)* 2014 will not be sent until the data has been published in CDI DD to arrange for 2014 data to be referred to Sumanth Gandri post publication	DD	
	4.4.	AGAR Laboratories (Tony Korman)* Tony Korman suggested that all hospitals serviced by a laboratory could be included in the AGAR data. The Executive decided not to maintain one laboratory/ one hospital. DD to contact Tony Korman	DD	
	4.5.	Westmead AGAR Representation (Sharon Chen)* A letter was received from Sharon Chen requesting John Iredell replace David Mitchell (Medical Representative) and Andrew Ginn to replace Kristen Pedersen/Justin Ellem (Scientific Representative) Follow up GC will write a letter David Mitchell thanking him for his contributions to AGAR.	GC	
5.	Possible Future AGAR Laboratories			
	5.1.	St Vincent's Hospital, NSW		
	5.2.	Prince of Wales Hospital, NSW		
	5.3.	Liverpool Hospital, NSW		
	5.4.	Geelong Hospital, Vic (St John of God Pathology)		
	5.5.	Royal Melbourne Hospital, Vic		
	5.6.	Townsville Hospital, Qld		
	5.7.	Queen Elizabeth Hospital, SA		
	5.8.	Lyell McEwin Hospital, SA		
	5.9.	Bunbury Regional Hospital, WA		
	5.10.	Launceston General Hospital, Tas Possibly commence in 2016 DD to follow up	DD	
6.	AGAR Operating Procedures*			
	6.1.	Addition "When required, only elected members of the AGAR Executive are eligible to vote on AGAR issues"		
7.	Financial Reports			
	7.1.	June 2015 Quarterly Financial Report* Balance: \$113,000 excluding GST		
	7.2.	2014/2015 Financial Report* Finances submitted to the ASA auditor		

	7.3.	September 2015 Quarterly Financial Report* Balance: \$187,000 excluding GST		
8.	2012/2013 to 2014/2015 AGAR Funding			
		The Department of Health funding is based on a financial year while the programmes are performed on a calendar year This enables the AGAR Scientists to be funded to 30 June 2015 (six month post completion of the programmes)		
	8.1.	2012/2013 Budget (Final) – 2012 Programmes* Surplus: \$2,000		
	8.2.	2013/2014 Budget – 2013 Programmes* Outstanding Items: RPAH has not presented an invoice for ASSOP and AESOP Invoice required from SA Pathology for storage of EnSOP isolates GC to email SA Pathology requesting invoice	GC	
	8.3.	2014/2015 Budget – 2014 Programmes* RPAH has not presented an invoice for ASSOP and AESOP Invoice required from SA Pathology for storage of EnSOP isolates, Molecular Characterisation, JB salary GC to email SA Pathology requesting invoice	GC	
9.	2015/2016 AGAR Funding – 2015 Programmes			
	9.1	2015/2016 Proposed Budget* No contract or budget has yet to be received from ACSQHC Consequently characterisation of isolates have not yet commenced John Turnidge notified the meeting an email was sent to GC from Kathy Meleady at approximately during the previous evening (approximately midnight) Contract will be for 18 months \$643,655 for 12 months plus \$250,000 for the first six months of 2017 The Executive decided we would not be centrally storing all GNSOP isolates. DD will ask each laboratory to store their GNSOP isolates for at least three years GC to contact Kathy to discuss the contract	DD GC	
	9.2.	ACSQHC Funding Letter *		
10.	AGAR Website			
		Uploads since the last meeting Updates for the three sepsis programmes 2014 CDI manuscripts (Members Regions) DD will arrange for the 2014 CDI reports to be available in the public region	DD	
11.	AGAR Data Entry Programme			
	11.1.	Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance Application* GC introduced Norelle Sherry from AUH who presented an update on the AGAR web application.		

		<p>Workshops Twelve labs and DD attended a workshop in August 2015 Six labs, JB and DD in November 2015</p> <p>The manual entry option has been debugged, data validation is live as data is entered. The Vitek upload has been sorted The participation level for each lab has been added. Labs can now upload demographics, and a sample csv file is shown so labs can match fields in their own datasheets. Labs will only be able to see their own data.</p> <p>Next steps Define user profiles, Lab and hospital relationships (administrators will be JB, DD and Norelle) Nexus6 are working on the Phoenix uploads It would be preferable for the data to be transposed (same format as the Vitek) before uploading. There are currently two Phoenix users – Westmead and Royal Adelaide. JB is working with Becton Dickonson to obtain data about the phoenix cards but it is difficult to get information.</p> <p>There was discussion whether to use a generic password for each lab, or name specific users say 5 per site. It was decided that name and urm would not be included even though it would be encrypted but the function would remain if needed in the future. LG to investigate state wide ethics</p> <p>The third and final workshop will be held the day before the ASA annual scientific meeting (Wednesday 24 Feb 2016)</p> <p>The estimated go live date is early March 2016 A user guide will be produced prior to this date.</p> <p>GC has requested an MOU between HHA and AGAR LG to arrange for the MOU</p> <p>LG to arrange for an invoice to be raised for the work so far performed by HHA for AGAR</p> <p>DD to send emails to the 10 laboratories who have not attended a workshop DD to arrange an adhoc AGAR Committee meeting during ASA LG – investigate an e-learning package about website</p>	<p>LG</p> <p>LG</p> <p>LG</p> <p>DD DD LG</p>	
	11.2.	Due Diligence – Web Data capture for AGAR		
12		AGAR Working Groups		
	12.1	Financial Report*		

		GC –asked the 3 chairs discuss all the current AGAR data fields Paul Johnson will arrange the discussion and will feedback to GC JB will send a copy of the data headings in the 2015 spreadsheet	PJ JB	
	12.2	ASSOP (BH) There have been a few informal discussions re using the data collection eg ST93 mainly about further typing, not focussing on clinical data yet until more data received. GN commented that Steven Tong was also presenting an ST93 paper at ASA 2016		
	12.3	AESOP (PJ) No formal meetings held. There has been an interesting in the emergence of van A in Australia wide, Query the value of the clinical data collected by AGAR		
	12.4.	GNSOP (JT) Some strains have been sent to John Iredell and Norelle Sherry. Due to time commitments JT will step down as Chair ASA will advertise for a new Chair and the Executive will make a decision The term of the programme Chairs will be reduced from five years to three years – in alignment with the AGAR Executive term	GC/JT	
13.	AESOP 2014			
	13.1.	CDI Manuscript – submitted		
	13.2.	Website Report – available		
	13.3.	Peer reviewed journal publication		
14.	ASSOP 2014			
	14.1.	CDI Manuscript – submitted		
	14.2.	Website Report – available		
	14.3.	Peer reviewed journal publication		
15.	EnSOP 2014			
	15.1.	CDI Manuscript – submitted		
	15.2.	Website Report – available		
	15.3.	Peer reviewed journal publication		
16.	2015 Programmes			
	16.1	AESOP 2015 First three quarters: 693 isolates, 388 <i>E. faecalis</i> and 276 <i>E. faecium</i> of which 117 vancomycin resistant		
	16.2	ASSOP 2015 First three quarters: 1,579 isolates, 268 MRSA		
	16.3.	GNSOP 2015		
	16.4.	<i>S. pneumoniae</i> 2015		

17.	2016 Programmes		
	17.1	AESOP 2016	
	17.2	ASSOP 2016	
	17.3	GNSOP 2016	
	17.4.	<i>S. pneumoniae</i> 2015	
18.	Isolate Requests		
	18.1	Darren Trott: ST1193 and ST131 Genomics Study – 2014 EnSOP isolates	
	18.2.	Ben Howden: Population structure of invasive <i>E.coli</i> and <i>Kp</i> in Australia – 2013 and 2014 EnSOP isolates	
	18.3.	Jon Iredell: <i>E. coli</i> and <i>Kp</i> CTX MIC >1 and GEN >8 mg/L – 2014 EnSOP isolates	
19	CLSI/EUCAST (JT)		
		Nil	
20.	Australian Scientific Technical Advisory Group - AMR		
	20.1	Open forum one month ago ASA may approach Richard De Natali in six months if nothing comes out of the open forum	
21.	National Antimicrobial Resistance Genomic Initiative*		
	21.1	BH invited AGAR to join. Coordinate efforts around data analysis- could dovetail into NASCAR eventually. VLSCI has bioinformatics tools that can analyse data locally on virtual machines Similar to genetracker for food borne pathogens in USA	
22.	New Business:		
	22.1	Relocation of ACCESS Typing and Research to School of Veterinary and Life Sciences, Murdoch University	
	22.2	Relocation of Gram Negative AMR Laboratory to University of Adelaide - in process	
	22.3	Antimicrobials 2016 – Funding for Denise Daley and Jan Bell to attend Antimicrobials 2016 to present the 2014 AGAR data Endorsed by Executive	
	22.4	New bioMerieux Vitek card – use DKs suggestions as starting point, JT – takes 3-4yrs to change - we should wait for big card GC to send DKs comments around	GC
	22.5	Centre of excellence research grant for investigating CREs. LG willing to submit on behalf of AGAR - Defining clinical impact of resistance in Australia	LG
9.	Next meeting – Sydney, July 2016 (Executive and Committee Meetings)		

*Attachments located on AGAR website