

Independent High Risk AGP Panel

First Meeting on 27 July 2020

14:00-16:00

Skype Teleconference

Welcome and Introductions

1. Professor Jacqui Reilly welcomed attendees to the first meeting of the Independent High Risk Aerosol-Generating Procedure (AGP) Panel.
2. The attendees were as follows: Jacqui Reilly (Chair), Jennie Wilson (Deputy Chair), Gail Carson, Mel Burden, David Farren, Shaun Fitzgerald, David Jenkins, Nick Murch, Martin Llewelyn, Viviana Finistrella (Secretariat), Jordan Charlesworth (Secretariat), Kerry Broom (Secretariat).
3. Lisa Ritchie and Ben Killingley were in attendance as presenters.
4. Apologies were noted from Cariad Evans and Alistair Leanord.

Membership ground rules and Declarations of interest

5. The Chair provided an overview of expectations of panel members. It was highlighted that members of the high risk independent AGP panel are invited by the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) as experts in their own right and not as representative of an organisation or professional society.
6. It was agreed that the possibility of inviting co-opted experts based on expertise in specialist areas for particular procedures would be suggested to the CMO for inclusion in the terms of reference (ToR). These experts would be solely responsible for providing evidence and would not partake in the decision-making process.
7. It was confirmed that all members have completed their declarations of interest.

Mandate from CMOs and how the group will operate

8. The Chair highlighted that the panel will review the evidence for complex and unclear cases and recommend the appropriate classification. It was noted that Public Health England (PHE) will provide independent secretariat.
9. The Chair proposed that all AGP requests will be received by the COVID-19 UK IPC cell. The IPC cell will respond directly to requests for cases that are not complex or where the evidence is clear. Where there is complexity/ disagreement, these requests will be sent to the AGP panel.

Terms of Reference for agreement

10. The panel provided feedback on a draft ToR for the secretariat to action.

Summary of the current issues raised by PHE/NHSE and other organisations, consideration of NHS NSS SBAR

11. The Chair presented a summary of requests received by the secretariat during the setting up of the panel. It was agreed that the Chair and a subset of panel members, would systematically consider these requests and decide which are for panel consideration.

Background – A history of AGP guidance in the UK

12. Lisa Ritchie and Ben Killingley were invited to present on the history of AGP guidance and evidence over recent years.

13. It was agreed that two further papers would be produced:

- a. An evidence review of what is considered to be below the threshold for an AGP (i.e. coughing, singing, etc.)
- b. a review of the international differences in AGP lists and guidance.