

Notes of an informal meeting held between Ceri Davies, Steve Gaze, Louise Scheuer and Susan Standring. Room 1.39 Henriette Raphael Building, Guy's campus, King's College London, May 6th 2008.

Present:

Ceri Davies (CD) Anatomy representative on the HTA
Steve Gaze (SG) President, Institute of Anatomical Sciences (IAS)
Susan Standring (SS) President, Anatomical Society of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI),
Louise Scheuer (LS) President, British Association of Clinical Anatomists (BACA)

Purpose of meeting: To explore ways in which the anatomical sector might work effectively with the HTA.

It was agreed:

1. A Professional Guidelines and Practices (Anatomy) Committee should be established;
2. Membership would be the Presidents of the ASGBI, BACA and the IAS; the Anatomy representative on the HTA; the Head of Regulation (Anatomy) of the HTA; two other nominated officers each from ASGBI, BACA and IAS (one of whom would also be the designated nominee for each Society in the absence of their President);
3. The remit of this Committee would be to prepare Guidelines which would be shared with HTA for comments. Agreed Guidelines would be co-badged with the HTA, would appear on each Society's website and would be referred to in the Codes of Practice;
4. In response to a specific question to SS from HTA about a review of HTA forms (at a meeting on 24th April 2008): HTA(A) forms and the online database, *as currently set out*, should be removed and an annual returns link should be created similar to the annual return form used for animal licences. It was felt that this would provide information about donations received during each year in terms of name, age, sex and gender, and that this was the only useful information which should be retained by HTA and/or DoH for the purposes of monitoring trends in donation.
5. In response to a specific question to SS from HTA about a possible EU Directive related to the use of formalin (at a meeting on 24th April 2008): There was no immediate problem concerning the use of formalin as a fixative.
6. SS, LS and SG would consult their respective officers and would nominate two additional members to represent their Society (one nominee would be the designated deputy).

The following areas were discussed for future consideration by the Committee:

1. What constitutes "reasonable belief"?
2. What constitutes a "part"?

3. How should parts be disposed of (e.g., separate bagging and incineration; segregation of ashes, etc etc);
4. Need to establish a national network for DIs to audit other licenced establishments to facilitate compliance with HTA standards for internal audits;
5. What sort of images may be obtained in the DR?
6. Who, other than medical, dental and science students and their teachers and DR staff, uses a DR? Guidance on accessibility;
7. How should prosected material be handled when transporting parts around DRs for classes and how should this material be stored?
8. Model consent form – advice should not be included on the form;
9. Issues associated with the use of fresh frozen material (e.g. transport, return, disposal);
10. Use of animal and human tissue in close proximity
11. Wording of forms so that medical research/training are not precluded.

The next meeting will be held on at 2.00pm on 25th June 2008 on the Guy's campus. Venue TBA. It was decided that a representative from HTA would not be invited to this meeting.