

**NIHR Cancer and Nutrition Collaboration Executive Committee meeting**

**20<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**Attendees:** Kate Allen, Anjali Batish, Rebecca Beeken, Vicky Coyle, Fiona Davey, Lucy Eldridge, Mike Grocott, Alan Jackson, Raquel Revuelta Iniesta, Clare Shaw, Martin Wiseman, Steve Wootton

**Apologies:** Mark Brougham, Kate Holmes, Nicola Keat, Rachel Marklew, Elisa Mills, John Saxton

Item	Actions	Lead
Minutes of the last meeting	The minutes of the last meeting were approved.	
Prehabilitation strategy	<p>A cross work stream meeting took place where we discussed the new prehabilitation strategy.</p> <p>A matrix of prehabilitation activity was shared. There is a need to bring coherence to this space, align activities and show leadership. This matrix will help better understand all of the different activities that are taking place.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> SAW to add in ICONIC work to matrix</p> <p>A Prehabilitation Strategy group will be set up to coordinate activities. A small core working group will define the remit and membership and a wider group including different stakeholders will carry out the work and connect it with the global agenda. Possible stakeholders include the BDA Oncology Specialty Group (including prehabilitation and obesity sub-groups), UKONS, International Prehabilitation Society.</p> <p>The committee will need to define short term objectives with a national focus but keeping in mind long term goals in the LMIC context.</p> <p>The committee will seek clarity on what else is happening in prehabilitation within other parts of the NIHR infrastructure, and how we can organise our business so that we can present back to NIHR the key research priorities and capabilities needed for future research.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Volunteers for core or wider group to contact FD by 3<sup>rd</sup> July.</p> <p>UICC have invited us to engage with them through the virtual dialogue programme.</p> <p>Value of having a dedicated meeting with UICC for a strategic approach to be developed for them to carry responsibility for enabling and interacting across LMIC.</p>	<p>SAW</p> <p>All</p>
Advisory committee	The management committee presented a revised proposal for a strategic advisory committee. The aim is to convene a small group of senior people within the national and international policy and	

	<p>science communities to help us achieve our strategic objectives and advise on how we might progress. We will seek advice and guidance on wider considerations and how we can better align our activities with national and international ambitions which will be mutually beneficial for the Collaboration and ICONIC.</p> <p>Nutrition and cancer is a considerable global health problem and there is an overlap between national and international objectives. The committee will clarify how it is being considered in a structured way and how we can help move this forward in terms of policy, politics and developing a programme of work.</p> <p>A proposal was put forward for the future that a Lancet Commission on this topic could be sought through working with those with influence. This would have to go through the Editor of the Lancet. The funding for such activities comes from big international funders such as the Gates Foundation.</p> <p>There was a Lancet Commission in the last year on cancer in Africa but it didn't address nutrition at all.</p> <p>At the World Cancer Congress the UICC run 'big conversation' topics. These are often themes which run through the congress. This could be pitched to UICC, although further work needs to be done before we would be ready to pitch at this level.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> management committee to update at next meeting about feasibility</p> <p><b>Action:</b> AAJ to draft synopsis on vision of strategic oversight. KA and AAJ to discuss further.</p>	AAJ
Nutrition Society SIGs	<p><b>Cancer and Nutrition SIG</b></p> <p>Discussions with the Nutrition Society about how we might partner with them and draw upon their broader resources and structures led to the expression of interest in forming a Special Interest Group, which has now been approved. This will draw in membership in the context of bringing in nutritional science to the molecular mechanisms work. It will not duplication the Collaboration but to act as a focus through which we could bridge to our other activities.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Arrange for advert to go out in BDA newsletter and to the BAPEN clinical nutrition group</p> <p><b>Diet and health of ethnic minority groups SIG</b></p> <p>There have been a number of situations where dietary guidance has been offered and there is concern that it fails to capture diversity in society and the range of diets that populations eat. The Diet and Health of ethnic minorities groups may be able to provide expert advice in addressing these issues.</p> <p>CUP Global also has new inequalities dimension and AAJ will lead on connecting the SIG with the programme.</p>	SAW/FD

PPIE	<p>The Collaboration still faces issues with the PPIE programme as whilst it is possible to recover PPIE funding within a grant, it is not possible to generate funding before a grant is submitted. NIHR provides guides on appropriate rates to pay contributors but does not provide the funding to support this.</p> <p>SAW will be having a discussion about PPIE funding at the NIHR Training Camp and will feed back next time.</p>	SAW
WCRF partnership	<p><b>London global cancer week</b></p> <p>WCRF put forward a joint session for London Global Cancer Week. A suggestion was made to repurpose the live webinar from the NCRI virtual conference, and including a new live introduction and q&amp;a panel. KA is speaking to the LGCW team about the suitability and will report back.</p>	KA
Succession planning	<p>It was previously announced that MJW will step down at the end of the year from the management committee chair role.</p> <p>WCRF has agreed to provide an honoraria to support the successor of the post.</p> <p>No applications have been received yet. One suggestion was that the deputy chair could take up the management committee chair within the role.</p> <p>New members from the SIG and UKONS might help provide potential leads and the prehabilitation agenda might bring in further interest.</p> <p>Succession planning is a key issue across work stream leadership as well. For example, it has been difficult to find a co-chair for the LWBC group.</p>	
Finance	<p>The Collaboration had previously tried to develop a membership model but permission withdrew from DHSC.</p> <p>The purpose of this was to identify our members and was not purely with fundraising intentions.</p> <p>If we pursue a membership plan further clarity is required about what members get from it, and whether those that have paid and those that are not able to are treated the same way.</p> <p><b>Individuals</b></p> <p>The former ideas of ‘friends’ who do not make any financial contributions might bring further confusion.</p> <p>The committee agreed that a simpler model would be preferred. It will need to differentiate where our community and members or friends play different roles.</p> <p>For organisations we need to be clear about the intended collaborators and ensure that our goals and vision are aligned without conflicts.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Further consideration required on how we formalise our working relationships with partners.</p>	Management committee
Updates	<b>LWBC</b>	

	<p>A revised work stream strategy was presented to the committee. The work stream has recently reviewed its membership as there many members who do not attend meetings on a regular basis (group size 40+). The decision was taken not to restrict membership if members cannot attend frequently to maintain an inclusive and welcoming environment.</p> <p>As the strategy is implemented it will be useful to review whether it works and how it is used. We need to ensure that the strategies influence the way we function in meetings.</p> <p>CS shared that in a European dietetics group the strategy is used to define the work programme for the year and priorities for each meeting are pulled from it and they check how they are meeting their objectives.</p> <p>The strategy can be used as a model for other work streams.</p> <p><b>Population Health</b></p> <p>RB and JS are new work stream leads and have taken over from AA. They are focusing on the submission of the NIHR PDG FORALL study, and will be looking to develop a subsequent PG on preliminary testing of culturally relevant strategies in supportive weight management for women living with and beyond breast cancer who are also affected by overweight and obesity.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Draft a new strategy for the work stream following the FORALL study</p> <p><b>Molecular mechanisms</b></p> <p>The group is thinking through how their separate reductive activities fit into the prehabilitation ambitions. They also have an ambition of using the Nutrition Society SIG to bring in a larger community of nutrition scientists, to encourage them to have a better structured and more focused thought process of how the science fits into the bigger models.</p> <p><b>CTYA</b></p> <p>RR left the meeting and will provide a written update after the meeting.</p> <p><b>Professionals</b></p> <p>The work stream will have WCRF representatives join the group to link up with the medical education project.</p> <p>In July a webinar will be held in collaboration with WCRF for UKONS and the BDA to promote the FAQs resource.</p> <p>When the group reconvenes, it will review its terms of reference and strategy.</p> <p><b>Toolkit</b></p> <p>The work stream is developing their approach for creating guidance for screening patients for nutritional risk. A review of the evidence base for screening tools for use in patients living with obesity and cancer is being led by Dr Shelly Coe.</p>	
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	SAW is working with LM on editing the survey manuscript.	
ICONIC	<p>Progress is being made on its two major activities. Capacity building for the development and capability for grant applications in nutritional epidemiology – managed through the African Nutrition Society.</p> <p>Developing quality assurance framework with support from WCRF. These have both been challenging areas in terms of setting quality standards, and the enthusiasm for digital health in countries meaning clearly defined standards are essential for the successful development of these platforms.</p> <p>The group has started to work with francophone countries as well as anglophone countries. There has been a challenge in getting materials into francophone countries previously. In the coming years the team wish to be in a position to undertake major studies.</p> <p>Within IUNS the future of the task forces has not been confirmed yet. Contingency plans have been made in case they are not carried forward.</p>	
AOB	<p><b>I-Prehab</b></p> <p>The i-Prehab study ‘Inclusive prehab (I-Prehab) to address inequity in cancer outcomes: mixed-methods evaluation research to enhance access, acceptance and adherence’ has been funded by the NIHR HS&amp;DR programme, led by Professor Jane Hopkinson.</p> <p>£14400 allocated to the collaboration to offer support in oversight and dissemination.</p> <p>SAW is working with UHS to produce a schedule of works to meet the governance requirements.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> circulate grant outline to committee for information</p> <p><b>Equality, Diversity and Inclusion</b></p> <p>The Management Committee will draft a position statement about the Collaboration’s responsibilities in addressing EDI matters within its work.</p>	FD