



## Clinical Leaders of Thrombosis Newsletter

*Spring 2004*

**Dear Member**

### ***In this Issue...***

- ***CLOT Updates***
- ***Report on Meetings***
- ***Report on Anticoagulation Courses***
- ***Last CLOT Meeting***
- ***National and International meetings***

If you have any items to include in the newsletter, send all details to **Lesley Dolan** by:

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## ***Happy New Year to all CLOT members***

*Apologies for the length of time  
between the distribution of the last  
newsletter and this current issue.*

*As you will see the newsletter is now up  
and running again so if any members  
have any requests, queries or questions  
they would like placing in the newsletter  
please forward them on. Details of where  
to send the information are opposite.*

*I hope you enjoy this and subsequent  
issues!*

*Ms S Dolan*

*Newsletter Editor*

## CLOT Updates

Once again thanks go to Leo Pharmaceuticals for their continued support of CLOT for this coming year and a very warm welcome to Roche Diagnostics for agreeing to be Gold sponsors to CLOT. Roche will now publish the newsletter for us and the CLOT slot will continue in Thrombus.

Members of CLOT will have welcomed two new committee members at the meeting in Milton Keynes last November.

Margaret Munro has been a CLOT member for several years and has been appointed secretary of the group and is the first pharmacist to join the committee.

Julie Braine is also new to the committee; she is an anticoagulant nurse for the Fenland region and the first committee member to represent a PCT. Julie is taking over the post as membership secretary as Vicki Warburton has resigned from this position due to other commitments. As many of you (old ones!!!) are aware Vicki has been involved with the group since its formation in 1996, during her time on the committee Vicki developed the first CLOT website and then took over the role of membership secretary. On behalf of the CLOT committee and its members I would like to thank Vicki very much for her hard work and contribution to the group and wish her well in the future.

## Report on Meetings

**The British Society for Haematology 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting – Glasgow 7-9 April 2003.**

**Attended by Caroline Baglin, Janet Davies, Lilian Webb and Annie Davenport as CLOT representatives.**

Prior to the 2002 BSH meeting a Nursing Proposal was put to the BSH Committee for the integration of a nursing component at the BSH. This followed a questionnaire that was sent to nurses working in all area of haematology. The Committee supported this idea and Sian Burley, Liaison Sister in the BMT Unit at the Christie Hospital, Manchester, formed a committee to prepare for the 2003 meeting.

All areas of haematology nursing were represented on this committee, their aim was to put together a nursing session at the BSH.

The committee then put their proposals to the BSH Committee and we were offered one symposium for a nursing component at the Glasgow meeting.

The Nursing Symposium covered many aspects of haematology nursing:

- bench marking in transfusion practice within the UK
- a competency framework for haemophilia nurses
- more generalised talks about communication difficulties
- the advanced haematology nursing structure.
- Shared guidelines used by the Welsh nursing group
- Setting up a new haemoglobinopathy unit
- How the brain influences blood, by an aromatherapist.

We were informed by the BSH Committee that the Nursing Symposium was the most well attended session that morning with over 100 delegates attending. A special resolution was passed following this by the BSH Committee at the Glasgow AGM, which extends legibility for membership to other professional now to include specialist nurses. We look forward to the continuation of a nursing forum at this annual event.

## Report on Anticoagulation Courses

**Report from Joyce McCreadie (Edinburgh) attending the Hertfordshire University course**

I was fortunate enough to have travel expenses paid by Clot, which allowed me the opportunity to attend the second anticoagulation course in the University of Hertfordshire in Hatfield.

Travelling on a daily basis from Edinburgh made this a very early start to the day- 04.00 and returning home at 22.00. On arrival at Hatfield for my first day I wondered what I had let myself in for, as compared to Edinburgh, well there is just no comparison. Should I have stayed in bed and not bothered were my initial thoughts?

As the day got started I again realised that it was wrong to judge a book by its cover. The organisers, Carol and Rebecca made me feel very welcome and they went on to give a resume of the days ahead. By the end of day one I knew it was worth the effort. Their joint facilitation and commitment to the Course was highly commendable. However, I can admit that although Hatfield does not come anywhere near to matching the beauty of Edinburgh, I have to say that St. Albans compensated slightly.

The Course consisted of 6 one-day episodes of approximately one month apart. Each day covered a variety of issues related to anticoagulation nursing and wider aspects such as 'clinical negligence' and the 'expert patient'. Meeting specialist nurses from 'down South' also provided a valuable opportunity to network and this alone highlighted common challenges as well as differing local practices and perspectives.

On reflection, it has raised my awareness of the importance of developing a service for the needs of the patients, and the need for nurses

to enter the political arena to put forward their views on these important issues. With Clinical Governance being high on everyone's agenda, the penultimate session commenced with presentations from the group on various aspects of anticoagulation. Although I dreaded the thought of logistics and how it was going to work, it proved to be one of the high spots for me as it made me realise how well nurses work as a team, despite the geographical distances and that we were already doing 'Clinical Governance'. It also confirmed that networking and using information technological skills were not beyond nurses.

As I regard myself as a 'generalist' and not a 'specialist' it was extremely beneficial to have this opportunity and, as there are still many 'generalists' out there grappling with anticoagulation, I hope others will be fortunate to have an opportunity in the future.

Overall, a must for any nurse who has an interest in anticoagulation nursing from the 'novice to the expert'.

Once again, many thanks to CLOT.

## Anticoagulation Nursing Course Details

### University of Hertfordshire, Anticoagulation Course

#### Next Course date:

- May 2004
- May 10/11
- June 7/8
- July 5/6

For further information contact:  
Tel: 01707 285 810/11

### University of Birmingham- Oral Anticoagulation management courses

#### Near Patient Testing 3-day Course

- March 2/3/4
- June 14/15/16
- Sept 14/15/16
- Dec 6/7/8

### Patient Self Testing and Management 1-day course

- May 10
- Sept 6
- Nov 8

For further information contact:  
E.T.Murray@bham.ac.uk  
Tel: 0121 415 8017.

### Paisley University

A new Course has started at Paisley University, nr Glasgow, the course runs over 7 days- 1 day every two weeks. Students are awarded 15 points at level 3 on completion of module.

For further information contact:  
Aileen Mathie by email only  
[mail@mathie32.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:mail@mathie32.freeserve.co.uk)

## CLOT Meeting Milton Keynes 2003

At the last CLOT meeting, held in Milton Keynes, the general consensus from the evaluation forms was that the Marriott Courtyard hotel was a good central location.

Therefore, the Autumn meeting 2004 will be held there. There was very positive feedback regarding the workshops and future topics were suggested by the CLOT members.

One of the workshops concentrated on inpatient dosing and after a brief presentation by Caroline Baglin, a group of 17 health care

professionals discussed their practice of inpatient dosing.

Vicky Stearn, anticoagulant nurse, Bury St. Edmunds, has been part of an anticoagulant team where inpatient dosing is part of their service. Vicky explained that they had completed a retrospective audit that did show that anticoagulant care improved when dosed by an anticoagulant team rather than by the doctors for patients in hospital. They then devised protocols which were implemented and the service was developed.

Michelle Taylor from Swindon is also part of an inpatient dosing team and she explained how their service is successful but different to Vicki's service. This demonstrated to the group that there a variety of ways of implementing and running an inpatient dosing service.

Other nurses were able to offer inpatient dosing at the weekend from their home as they have computers linked to the hospital information system.

The lab benefits from an inpatient dosing service as it cuts down on the number of INR's requested. However, with the introduction of direct oral thrombin inhibitors looming, the issue of setting up an inpatient dosing service was questioned, is it only a short term benefit?

Other members in the workshop discussed the difficulties they were encountering in trying to set up an inpatient service and there was great input on how they could deal with some of the issues, not only by audit, using their drugs and therapeutic committee etc.

The workshop concluded that nurses are in an ideal position to set up and run inpatient dosing services and some of the group were keen to take the ideas back to their workplace.

### International and National Meetings

- XXXV11 Nordic Coagulation meeting Stockholm, Sweden May 20-22, 2004  
[www.nordcoag2004.com](http://www.nordcoag2004.com)
- International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis. Giorgio Island - Venice. June 17-19, 2004  
[www.sscvenice.it](http://www.sscvenice.it)

- 18<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Thrombosis Ljubljana, Slovenia. June 20-24, 2004  
[www.thrombosis2004.org](http://www.thrombosis2004.org)
- XXXth World Congress of the International Society of Haematology Istanbul, Turkey September 24-28, 2005  
[www.ish2004istanbul.org](http://www.ish2004istanbul.org)
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Asian Pacific Congress in Thrombosis and Haemostasis Bangkok, Thailand October 14-16, 2004  
[www.thaihemato.org](http://www.thaihemato.org)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Clinical Leaders of Thrombosis Meeting Bury, Lancashire March 28-29, 2004  
[www.clotuk.com](http://www.clotuk.com)
- 24<sup>th</sup> Clinical Leaders of Thrombosis Meeting Milton Keynes, October 3-4, 2004  
[www.clotuk.com](http://www.clotuk.com)
- Sponsorship is available through the CLOT Travel/Education Scholarship. Look on the website for further details.  
[www.clotuk.com](http://www.clotuk.com)

**See you at the next CLOT meeting in  
28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> March.**

#### Advertisement

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The concept of self-testing is supported by the Children's Heart Federation (CHF) and Anticoagulation Europe (ACE).

1. Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) report: MDA 01026. Available free of charge to NHS employees: log onto [www.medical-devices.gov.uk](http://www.medical-devices.gov.uk). 2. Preliminary data held by the MHRA.



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