

Equipment Approval group
26th May 2009 14.00 – 15.30
Pocock Street Meeting Room

Present:

Daniel Adams, Ian Lee, Bill Leaning, Alison Mckee, Gordon Ballard

Apologies:

Karen Walling, Jeff Kerr, John Winnister, Ian Scott, Pat Osliff, Bernie Germain,

1. Matters arising:
 - a). Replacement for the microvent.

A number of alternative pieces of equipment have been introduced to the LAS such as the Oxyliter and the Pheu Pac. Clinical had already had a look at the Oxyliter and had some concerns with its performance. AM stated that due to the amount of spend this would need to go to tender and therefore any ad-hoc trials should cease. **Action: DA to raise at the next VEWG that a tender should be established. Update: this was raised at the VEWG and was agreed that it should go to tender.**
 - b). An alternative to EMMA (Emergency Capnometer) to be sourced.

The group suggested that the clinical need of the equipment should be established as it had at no point passed through the VEWG or the EAG. **Action: DA to liaise with clinical regarding requirement.**
 - c). Plastic Scoop Stretchers.

The group knew of no known problems with the plastic scoop stretcher and as a result it was decided to take it off the agenda.
 - d). Disposable Stretcher covers. IL stated that it he saw it as a basic requirement and was surprised that it wasn't an infection control guideline. It was established that disposable stretcher covers were sought some time ago but it was decided that they were too cost prohibitive. However, the group agreed that new alternatives should be presented to the VEWG. **Action: AM to source samples of a number of options. Update: this was raised at the VEWG and the group gave permission to source suitable covers for consideration.**
 - e). Vacuum Splints. No issues were noted with vacuumed splints. **Action: DA to raise at the next VEWG to establish the need to look at vacuumed splints. Update: this was raised at the VEWG and it was established that the issue was with the traction splint and that Clinical wanted to see the trial of the Kendrick (LAS currently use the SAGA splint) back on track.**
 - f). Tables for Trolley beds. The group understood that there was a table available for the Stryker trolley bed but was unsure as to the options for the Ferno trolley beds. **Action: AM to identify options or Ferno trolley bed table.**
 - g). Trolley Bed Straps – Biosafe straps are not easy to loosen or tighten. The group agreed that narrower straps would solve the problem. It was also stated the same problem occurred with scoop stretcher straps. **Action: AM to source narrower bio-safe straps for both trolley bed and scoop stretcher.**

h). New replacement FRU response bag.

DA stated that funding had not yet been secured but Andy Young in Logistics had done some preliminary work on devising the requirements for a new Response bag. GB also showed an example bag on wheels.

AM expressed her concern that work had already progressed despite no funding being approved and without the involvement of the purchasing department.

It was decided that no further work should be done on the replacement bags until funding was secure and a more robust directive came from the VEWG.

2. AOB

GB stated that he had anecdotal evidence from crew staff that the new Yellow Baxi board is inferior to the old Ferno Millennium spinal board. Other members of the group were not aware of such issues.

AM and IL sought clarification on the process for new equipment entering the service, AM expressing concern that various people were having contact with suppliers directly. It was stated at the meeting that all contact with suppliers should go through the purchasing department. **Action: AM and DA to establish process.**
Update: Geoff Davidson (Logistics Department) has already started work on revamping the trials and acquisitions policy, this should tie into the above action.

The group suggested that training and CRU/MRU should be represented on the group.

Date of Next Meeting: tbc