



ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP
ON CANCER

All Party Parliamentary Group on Cancer Meeting minutes

Wednesday 2 November 2016, 9.30am-10.30am, Room O, Palace of Westminster

Present:

Jo Churchill MP
Baroness Masham
David Tredinnick MP
Nic Dakin MP

Secretariat:

Rebecca Leech, Macmillan Cancer Support
Ayesha Ahmed, Macmillan Cancer Support

Other:

Ben Yates, Parliamentary Researcher
Jenny Steele, Breast Cancer Now
Sarah Osbourne, Breast Cancer Now
Isabel Wilkinson, Teenage Cancer Trust

1. Welcome and apologies

Nic Dakin MP welcomed all attendees and introduced the speakers; Marcelle Bernstein (patient representative and advocate for TARGET IORT treatment for breast cancer), Professor Jayant, Professor Michael Baum, Professor Nathan Coombes and Professor Jeffrey Tobias.

2. Speakers:

Marcelle gave a short presentation on her journey with breast cancer and the target intra-operative radiotherapy (TARGET IORT) treatment she had received for this.

She then passed on to Professor Jayant, Michael, Nathan and Jeffery who spoke on several different topics relating to TARGET IORT. It was noted that there has been a great impact of TARGET on neighbouring countries in Europe and across the world. This treatment targets where the tumour was, after it has been surgically removed.

Professor Jayant, Simon and Jeffery stated that the machines used for TARGET are being unused in 6 trusts across the country and the treatment is available in 300 centres. NICE had given provisional agreement of TARGET in July 2015 stating that the treatment should be rolled out with funding from local authorities. However, NICE have not given any formal approval and discussions have been pushed back to early 2017. As NHS funding is centrally commissioned, this has meant that funding for treatments such as TARGET cannot be rolled out until this final approval is given.

This particular treatment also has cost savings as put forward by Professor Simon. The individual cost for traditional radiotherapy is approx. £3000 on the NHS, whereas TARGET would cost £2200.

Mr Tredinnick asked what the strategy going forward should be to ensure people are more aware of TARGET IORT and the cost saving benefit of this type of treatment. He reinforced the role of the APPGC and their members who could table questions to Government and write a letter to NICE on behalf of the APPGC to voice these concerns.

Actions: three individual letters to be drafted to NICE, NHS England and the Government by the speakers. The Secretariat will then coordinate to send this from John on behalf of the APPGC.

3. Other updates:

Jo Churchill MP mentioned the backbench business debate that will be taking place at some point this year, which is yet to be confirmed.

4. AOB

- N/A

6. Close