NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Centre for Health Technology Evaluation

# Medical Technologies Advisory Committee (MTAC) meeting minutes

**Minutes:** Confirmed

**Date and time: 123rd MTAC meeting - Friday 16th June 2023**

**Location:** Virtual meeting via Zoom

## Attendees

Committee members present

1. Jacob Brown (Chair) Present for all items
2. Kiran Bali Present for all items
3. Stacey Chang-Douglass Present for all items
4. Teik Goh Present for all items
5. Neil Hawkins Present for all items
6. Emily Lam Present for all items
7. Avril McCarthy Present for all items
8. Naomi McVey Present for all items
9. Abdullah Pandor Present for all items
10. Jai Patel Present for all items
11. Kazem Rahimi Present for all items
12. Roger Whittaker Present for all items
13. Alun Williams Present for all items

NICE staff present

Anastasia Chalkidou, Associate Director Present for all items

Lee Berry, Programme Manager Present for all items

Catherine Pank, Project Manager Present for all items

Izabela Syrek, Administrator Present for all items

Bernice Dillon, Health Technology Assessment Adviser Present for all items

Amy Crossley, Health Technology Assessment Adviser Present for all items

Dionne Bowie, Health Technology Assessment Analyst Present for all items

Oye Afolabi, Health Technology Assessment Analyst Present for all items

Evan Campbell, Health Technology Assessment Analyst Present for all items

Aamer Jawed, Health Technology Assessment Analyst Present for all items

Emma Gordon, Assistant Project Manager, Corporate Office team Present for items 1-4.1

Helen Crosbie, Public Involvement Adviser, Public Involvement

Programme Present for all items

Thomas Lawrence, Data scientist, Managed Access team Present for items 5-6

Edgar Masanga, Business Analyst, Resource Impact Assessment

Team Present for all items

Louisa Robinson, Health Technology Assessment Analyst,

Health Tech, Interventional Procedures team Present for all items

Gareth Hopkin, Scientific Adviser, Science, Policy and Research

Programme team Present for all items

Emma Knowles, Audience Insight Manager, Audience Insight

(Strategic Communications & Marketing) Present for all items

Sarah Bromley, Senior Medical Editor, Publishing team Present for all items

Abigail Kinch, Media Relations Team Apprentice, Media Relations

(External Communications) team Present for all items

Mary Edwards, Senior Research Consultant, Reviews &

Evidence Synthesis, York Health Economics Consortium (YHEC) Present for all items

Paul Miller, Information Specialist, York Health Economics

Consortium (YHEC) Present for all items

Anne Littlewood, Information Specialist, York Health Economics

Consortium (YHEC) Present for all items

Ahmed Abdelsabour, Graduate Research Assistant, University

of Exeter, Peninsula Technology Assessment Group (PenTAG) Present for all items

EAC representatives present

Caroline Farmer, University of Exeter, Peninsula Technology

Assessment Group (PenTAG) Present for items 1-4.1

Ed Wilson, University of Exeter, Peninsula Technology

Assessment Group (PenTAG) Present for items 1-4.1

Specialist committee members present

Robert Dudley, Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS

Foundation Trust Present for items 1-4.2

Elizabeth Murphy, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS

Foundation Trust Present for items 1-4.2

Eva Roberts, Lay Specialist Committee member Present for items 1-4.2

Thomas Kabir, Lay Specialist Committee member Present for items 1-4.2

## 1. Introduction to the meeting

* 1. The chair welcomed members of the committee and other attendees present to the meeting.
  2. The chair noted apologies from committee member: Katherine Boylan, Donna Cowan, Michael Kolovetsios, Karen McCutcheon, Huseyin Naci and Carl Roobottom.

## 2. News and announcements

* 1. n/a

## 3. Minutes from the last meeting

* 1. The committee approved the minutes of the committee meeting held on 17th February 2023.

## 4. Evaluation of Early Value Assessment (EVA) of GID-HTE10016 Virtual reality for treating agoraphobia and agoraphobic avoidance

* 1. Part 1 – Open session
     1. The chair welcomed the invited specialist committee members, lay specialist committee members, external group representatives, members of the public and company representatives from Oxford VR, Amelia Virtual Care and XR Therapeutics.
     2. The chair asked all committee members, specialist committee members, lay specialist committee members, external group representatives and NICE staff present to declare any relevant interests in relation to the item being considered.

* **Robert Dudley** has declared a financial interest as he works as a clinician in the NHS providing psychological therapies for people with psychosis. Hence he has an interest in seeing more access to helpful approaches being offered in the NHS.

He teaches for one day a year at Manchester on the CBT for Psychosis course. In this capacity he is paid for providing training in working with visual hallucinations.

He works at University of York as Professor of Mental Health two days a week and in that capacity teach on the topic of treatment of psychosis to undergraduate and masters students.

He was a co-applicant on the NIHR i4i funded trial on gameChange, which used virtual reality for people with psychosis. This paid for his one day a week for around three years to run the trial, and he is a named co-author on the outcome paper, and a number of related publications (as evidenced on my CV). He has no stocks or shares or intellectual property or patent rights to the gameChange package.

Rob is working with Oxford VR as part of an ongoing service evaluation of the use of VR in a real world setting and in this context they have provided one VR headset (approx. cost £400), and access to the gameChange software for them to use in their evaluation. He has no role with Oxford VR, hold no stock or shares, and has no paid consultancy or other role with them. He attended one meeting with them and lunch and tea and coffee was provided. (approx. £20). No payment for attendance, travel or accommodation was made.

He is a co-applicant on a grant with Professor Freeman who is one of the developers of Oxford VR and gameChange, and this is an NIHR funded trial of a treatment called Feeling Safer which uses web based platform to increase treatment for paranoia. This pays for 5% of his time and starts in April 2023. He is acting in a research/site lead capacity and have no stock or share options etc.

Rob is a site lead on a trial called SLOWMO 2, Chief investigator is Dr. Amy Hardy at the Institute of Psychiatry, this starts next year and uses an app and related digital program to provide digital therapy to people with psychosis. He is costed for 10% of his time, and will recruit people into the study. He has no patent, or IP or stocks or shares related to this process. It is funded by Wellcome.

He is on the Trial Steering Committee for a study called AVATAR which investigates a new digitally delivered treatment for distressing hallucinations. He is not involved in the study beyond this monitoring role, and have no stocks, shares, IP or patents associated with this. The trial is funded by Wellcome. He receives no payment for this role. Meetings are virtual and no travel or accommodation costs have been incurred.

Rob received funding from the NIHR to be chief investigator on a study called MUSE FEP which investigated a new digitally delivered treatment for hallucinations for people with first episode psychosis. This funding paid for 15% of his time and finished last year. He holds no stock or share options or IP or patents related to this treatment.

Rob also is a co-applicant on a study called MUSE ARMS also funded by NIHR that uses the MUSE package described above with people at risk of transition to psychosis. This pays for his time 2.5%. As above there is no IP, patent, or stocks or shares associated with this research.

Mr Dudley has also declared a non-financial interest as he is in discussion with XR therapeutics about applying for grant funding for a research project. This is early stage conversations, no bid has been submitted, and no award made. There is no financial involvement or shares, or IP etc, at this stage, so it is a declaration of discussions about future collaborations.

It was agreed that his declaration would not prevent Mr Dudley from providing expert advice to the committee.

* **Elizabeth Murphy** has declared non-financial professional and personal interest as one of her current roles involves supervising the implementation of gameChange Virtual Reality therapy in her employing NHS Trust (0.2 FTE) funded internally by the Research & Innovation department of my employing NHS Trust.
* She was the trial coordinator of the Manchester site of the NIHR funded clinical trial to evaluate gameChange Virtual Reality therapy and she is a co-author on the trial publication (Freeman et al., 2023; The Lancet Psychiatry).
* Elizabeth has also published a clear opinion about the value of gameChange Virtual Reality therapy for treating agoraphobic avoidance, specifically in psychosis. her opinion has been published in local media (Manchester radio and Manchester TV news) and internal communications in my employing NHS Trust.

It was agreed that her declaration would not prevent Ms Murphy from providing expert advice to the committee.

* **Eva Roberts** has declared a financial interest as she is a Project support officer – research and development.

Eva has also declared a non-financial professional and personal interests as she has a Bipolar UK membership.

It was agreed that her declaration would not prevent Ms Roberts from providing expert advice to the committee.

* **Thomas Kabir** has declared non-financial professional and personal interests as he Co-applicant on the NIHR gameChange grant.

Mr Kabir has declared indirect interest as he is an active researcher in a PPI capacity on some research studies from the O-CAP research group at the University of Oxford. He also has a visiting honorary appointment with the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Oxford.

Mr Kabir has declared a non-direct financial interest as his employer is due a IP payment from Oxford VR in relation to the gameChange VR therapy. This will go to his employer, the McPin Foundation rather than him personally.

Mr Kabir has also declared a financial interest as he is due to take up a new post with Prof Daniel Freeman at Oxford University in late August 2023.

* It was agreed that his declaration would not prevent Mr Kabir from providing expert advice to the committee.

No other conflicts of interests were declared for this item.

* + 1. The Chair led a discussion of the evidence presented to the committee. This information was presented to the committee by Roger Whittaker and Robert Dudley.
  1. Part 2a – Closed session (company representatives and members of the public were asked to leave the meeting)
  2. Part 2b - Closed session (external group representatives were asked to leave the meeting)
     1. The committee then agreed on the content of the draft Early Value Assessment. The committee decision was reached by consensus.
     2. The committee asked the NICE technical team to prepare the draft Early Value Assessment in line with their decisions.

## 6. Date of the next meeting

The next virtual meeting of the Medical Technologies Advisory Committee (MTAC) will be held on 14th July 2023 and will start promptly at 09:00am.