ANNUAL REVIEW
April 2015 – March 2016

www.mtg.org.uk
It is a great privilege to chair the Medical Technology Group (MTG), the only UK coalition of industry groups and patient charities working together to improve patient access to medical technologies, and heartening to see the strides we are making in our campaigns to highlight how much of a benefit innovative medical technologies can make to patients’ day-to-day lives.

It is an exciting time for the MTG, as membership continues to grow along with the group’s profile and reach. It is fantastic to see such a growth in the number of patient charities and industry groups working together to shine a spotlight on the beneficial treatment options innovative medical technology provides for patients with a range of both acute and long-term conditions.

Medical Technology Awareness Week, which is held annually, is always a particular highlight of mine as well as for many of the group’s members. The Parliamentary Reception held during this week is the showcase event which celebrates the role that medical technology has played in supporting the NHS and patients and is a great opportunity for charities, patient groups and industry representatives to showcase a range of technologies and discuss with attendees the benefits and current barriers to wider patient access. It is a fantastic way of getting people to talk about medical technology and the great potential it has to make a difference for people.

In recent years the group’s focus has taken into consideration the financial pressures the NHS is under, particularly as the health service tries to meet substantial efficiency savings targets. In such a climate, it has therefore also been important for the group to highlight that not only can improved patient access to medical technology deliver improved patient outcomes, but that improved patient access can also deliver savings for the NHS as well as more widely.

The group has therefore taken significant steps to highlight medical technology’s potential to generate efficiency savings in the NHS at a time when it is most needed and of the most importance and will continue to do so going forward. That the UK is one of the slower developed countries to adopt new medical technologies means that many of the benefits of improved quality and patient outcomes are currently not being realised. It seems clear to the MTG that there is a lot of work still to do to ensure that patients maintain equitable access to innovative medical treatments, as recommended by NICE where clinically appropriate, wherever they live in the UK.

The upcoming year will see the group continue to campaign for technologies with a proven benefit to patients and NHS productivity to be spread throughout the NHS. I am very much looking forward to all the work the group has planned for the rest of 2016 and into 2017 and to celebrating the group’s continuing contribution to the delivery of life changing innovations that make a real difference to patients’ everyday lives.

The MTG is the only UK coalition of industry groups and patient charities working together to improve patient access to medical technologies. The MTG believes that patients and clinicians need better information about medical technologies so that they can make informed choices about their medical care, which in turn will benefit the NHS, improve patient outcomes and reduce costs.
Strategic Aims

MTG Campaign Pillars

1. **Equity of Access** – To establish equality of access for all patients in all CCG areas to medical technologies irrespective of where they live.

2. **Linking decision making to longer term value** – To change the perception that medical technology only adds cost to the system, by raising awareness of the evidence that investment leads to savings in the long run. We want to ensure that value rather than cost is used in making investment decisions in the NHS and to promote intelligent decision-making.

3. **Better Information & Education** – Clinicians and commissioners should be kept up-to-date with developments in medical devices to ensure that they refer patients appropriately. In addition, the NHS should be encouraged to do more to fully inform patients of the range of treatment options available.

2016 MTG Objectives

1. **Thought leadership and media impact** – for the MTG to become known as the organisation to come to for quotes and feedback on new issues, debates and reports and to be regularly releasing articles and being mentioned in the media.

2. **Engage and influence** – to engage and influence with key stakeholders both at parliament and in the NHS.
Highlights of the Year

April 2015
Jason Stamp addresses MTG members

Jason Stamp, Chair of the Patient and Public Voice Assurance Group (PPVAG) spoke to the MTG about the work of the PPVAG as a critical friend to NHS England and some of the challenges they face in engaging with specialised commissioning. After the event Jason Stamp wrote a short blog which you can read here: www.mtg.org.uk/press-releases/improving-specialised-commissioning.

July 2015
Dilip Chauhan’s presentation and Q&A to the MTG

Dilip Chauhan spoke to the group about the work of the Office of Life Sciences (OLS) before highlighting possible areas of partnership between the MTG and the OLS. In particular he highlighted the Accelerated Access Review (AAR), Med Tech Sector Council and the Carter Review.

July 2015
MTG Parliamentary Researchers Forum

A drink’s reception for parliamentary staff was held on June 27th in the Old Star in Westminster. Over 20 Parliamentary advisors, senior staff and researchers attended the event and met with patients and industry members. The reception was a great opportunity to build relationships with researchers, promote greater understanding of the medical device industry and ask how we may best pursue the MTG’s aims in Westminster.

November 2015
Unplanned Admissions Spotlight Campaign

The spotlight campaign on unplanned admissions was launched during Medical Technology Week in November 2015. The report shone a spotlight on rates of unplanned admissions focusing on three areas: urinary tract infections, heart failure and diabetes. Report findings show that there are major savings to be made (approximately £1billion) in reducing unplanned admissions. Follow up has since taken place around the report, which included meetings with parliamentarians, the Rt Hon Dr Liam Fox MP and the office of the Rt Hon Keith Vaz MP to discuss key areas identified within the report.
Medical Technology Week 2015

The Medical Technology Group’s 2015 parliamentary reception was hosted by John Pugh MP and was once again the showcase event of Medical Technology Awareness Week. Over 150 parliamentarians, patient users, patient groups, industry members, healthcare professionals, commissioners and representatives from the NHS and other Government departments came together to discuss issues surrounding medical technologies, current barriers to uptake and the benefits of medical technology in both reducing costs to the NHS and improving patient outcomes.

The aim of this annual awareness week is to get people talking about medical technology and the great potential it has to make a difference to patients’ everyday lives. This year, this week also aimed to highlight medical technology’s potential to generate efficiency savings in the NHS at a time when it is most needed and of the most importance. The UK is one of the slower developed countries to adopt new medical technologies, which means that many of the benefits of improved quality and patient outcomes are currently not being realised.

The focus of this year’s reception was on how far medical technology has progressed in the past 50 years and its future potential and value. The themed showcase had both medical technology devices from the past and the latest technology in use today on display, which highlighted some of the huge advancements made and the potential for medical technology to innovate further and be of even greater value to patients and health services.

The showcase included displays of medical technology throughout the body from head to toe. Technology on display included thoracic stents, heart valves, ICDs, pacemakers, insulin pumps, hip and knee replacement technology, vascular stents and balloons, woundcare products, and InVivo diagnostics.

Attendees learnt about each of the technologies from charities, patient groups and industry representatives, who were at each stall to give further information and to discuss with attendees the benefits and current barriers to wider patient access. Over 20 parliamentarians attended the reception and signed our parliamentary pledge calling for better patient access to medical technology across the UK.

Professor Briggs confirmed his support of innovative medical technology that can make a real difference to patient outcomes and reduce bed days, but stressed the need for the durability and efficacy of technologies to be proven before being rolled out across the NHS. He emphasised that the NHS is under considerable financial pressures and therefore new procedures and technologies need to demonstrate they are cost effective and better value than procedures that are already available. After the event Professor Briggs wrote a short blog which you can read here: http://www.mtg.org.uk/girft
Achievements of the Year

Twitter: More than 550 followers
(including MPs and policy makers, clinicians, medical technology industry, patient groups, and media)
Potential Twitter reach since October 2013: 600,000+

4 New Members in 2015:

MTG in the Media
15 articles in specialist media in 2015
Over 300 items of media coverage in national, regional, specialist, and online media since November 2013

Medical Technology Group Wikipedia page:
2000+ views

Influencing the Accelerated Access Review
The MTG responded to the consultation on the Accelerated Access Review and the MTG is now a registered stakeholder for this work moving forwards.

Other Consultation Responses
The MTG responded to the NHS England and Monitor consultation on Tariff Proposals for 2016/17. The MTG also responded to the Clinical Reference Groups consultation, and the National Tariff consultation, the most recent PROMS consultation and a consultation on specialised commissioning.
Looking Forwards

Medical Technology Week 2016

It has been confirmed that Medical Technology Week 2016 will take place from 5th-9th December this year. The Parliamentary Reception will be held on Tuesday 6th December 2016 in the Terrace Pavillion, House of Commons, with Jo Churchill MP hosting the event. Ms Churchill is the Chair of the new All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Personalised Medicine, which aims to help the NHS and patients make best use of the increasing availability of cutting-edge technologies to provide more personalised health and care. She hosted the lunch that formed part of Medical Technology Week last year.

The reception always attracts a strong attendance with many parliamentarians stopping by, several MTG members showcasing technology and a wide range of attendees. The reception is a good example of attendees and MTG members coming together at Parliament to raise issues around medical technology.

Further details for Medical Technology Week 2016 will be communicated shortly. For further information please email mtg@pbpoliticalconsulting.com.

Parliamentary Breakfast Meeting on Commissioning through Evaluation

The next all members meeting will be held on 13th July and will focus on NHS England’s Commissioning through Evaluation programme. Derek Thomas, MP for St Ives and member of the Science and Technology Select Committee, will be hosting the event in Parliament. NHS England representative and clinicians will be invited to discuss how different centres have found the Commissioning through Evaluation process and what is needed moving forwards, followed by an open discussion.

Spotlight campaign

The current spotlight campaign, focusing on innovation in the NHS including previous failings and recommendations moving forwards, will be launched later this year. Improving the way the NHS uses innovation has become the holy grail of NHS efficiency, however many would argue that, despite a series of initiatives and reports promoting better use of innovation, the NHS remains a ‘late and slow adopter of innovation’, as Dereck Wanless described the NHS in 2004 in his review, ‘Securing Good Health for the Whole Population’. 1

With the imminent publication of the Accelerated Access Review in mind, which will put forward a range of new measures aimed at addressing an old problem, the MTG has looked at what can be learnt from previous initiatives and suggest ways the Accelerated Access Review (AAR) can have most impact.

The measures the MTG think are necessary to secure a lasting impact on the NHS’ use of innovative technology and the areas the group believes the AAR should focus on include; learning from previous innovation reports; committing to a long term programme; applying the available evidence; breaking down budgetary barriers and incentivising innovation; and focusing on implementation.
