

## National Metabolic Biochemistry (Biochemical Genetics) Network

### Update on Current Activities for UKGTN February 2006

#### 1. Education and Training Strategy

Recent developments include:-

- Training syllabus and logbooks for Specialist HST posts now available
- Case presentations now on web site

#### 2. Workshops

Workshops being organised for 2006 are:-

Oxalate and inborn errors of dopamine and serotonin metabolism.	23 <sup>rd</sup> February, 2006
Purines and porphyrins	Late spring/early summer 2006
Intermediary metabolism	October/November 2006
Vitamins, including B <sub>12</sub> and folate	Early 2007

#### 3. Web Site - [www.metbio.net](http://www.metbio.net)

The metabolic assay directory's (MAD) disorder search facility is under development - [www.metbio.net/directory](http://www.metbio.net/directory)

We are working with Eurogentest to link with a European-wide directory of specialist metabolic biochemical genetic tests.

#### 4. Guidelines

New guideline on the web site

- Neonatal Jaundice
- 8 other guidelines under development

#### 5. Quality

The annual Quality Day took place on 18th October 2005 - report to be finalised and put on web site.

2006 meeting planned for October (Belfast)

#### 6. Audit

Audit initiatives under way:-

- a re-audit of ammonia measurement to be presented in 2006
- SUDI protocol

#### 7. Service Needs

Network links to:-

- [Newborn Screening](#)

The Network is working with the UKNSLN on joint initiatives

- **Blood Spot Advisory Group (BSAG)**  
The Lead Scientist is now as member of the new BSAG

#### **8. Workforce Planning**

Workforce data collection for all laboratory scientists across the UK has been completed for 2005 and will be repeated annually.

#### **8. Publications/Communications**

The Network presented a poster at the Society for the Study of Inborn Errors of Metabolism annual meeting, 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> September 2005, in Paris. A guest lecture is to be delivered to the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) Spring 2006 meeting.

The Network has produced a 'flyer', copy attached, which has been circulated to the RCPCH membership.

Professor Anne Green  
Lead Scientist  
National Metabolic Biochemistry Network  
February 2006

# National Metabolic Biochemistry Network ([www.metbio.net](http://www.metbio.net))

Are you a health professional who needs to investigate patients for possible inborn errors of metabolism? - check out this web site!

## What is this Network?

The Metabolic Biochemistry Network is a network of NHS diagnostic laboratories in the UK providing services for the investigation, diagnosis and management of patients with **inherited metabolic disorders**, including prenatal diagnosis. There are currently 17 laboratories as Network stakeholders and other associated specialist laboratories.

## What does the network provide?

- Details of all the UK laboratories with **contacts for help and advice** and test repertoire
- **A searchable assay directory** to source specialist biochemical tests for inborn errors of metabolism ([www.metbio.net/directory](http://www.metbio.net/directory))
- **Best Practice Guidelines** on how to investigate for metabolic disorders: these includes seizures, hypoglycaemia More to follow. ([www.metbio.net/guidelines](http://www.metbio.net/guidelines))
- **Training and Education materials** ([www.metbio.net/education](http://www.metbio.net/education)) for health professionals

If you have any comments about the network including suggestions for further developments e.g. best practice guidelines please contact us  
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