Terms of Reference

Genomics Clinical Reference Group (CRG)

1. Introduction and background

The Genomics Programme co-ordinates and oversees genomics across the NHS in England. The NHS Long Term Plan (LTP) sets out a clear commitment for the NHS to invest in genomics to transform patient care and provide access to cutting-edge genomic technology for patient benefit.

The NHS Genomic Medicine Service (GMS) was launched in October 2018 to provide consistent and equitable care for the country's 55 million population. The NHS GMS is working towards full implementation of:

- A national genomic laboratory network;
- A National Genomic Test Directory to direct the national laboratory network;
- National whole genome sequencing provision and supporting informatics infrastructure; and
- An integrated clinical genomic medicine service built from existing clinical genetics services and evolved NHS Genomic Medicine Centre infrastructure.

Fundamental to delivering the genomics LTP commitments and the future vision for the NHS GMS is to embed genomics across care pathways and within clinical specialities.

2. Purpose

The Genomics Clinical Reference Group (CRG) has been convened to support implementation of the NHS GMS. Through its professional, patient and public representation, the Genomics CRG carries out the following functions:

- Advise on clinical policy and strategy for genomics, including implementation of NHS Long Term Plan commitments and future development of the NHS GMS;
- Oversee a clear and transparent process for annual review of the National Genomic Test Directory (supported by three test evaluation working groups covering rare and inherited disease, cancer and pharmacogenomics); and
- Support activities to raise awareness and embedding of genomics across all clinical specialties.

3. Duties and Responsibilities

The Genomics CRG will provide impartial, evidence-based clinical and scientific advice and leadership to inform ongoing development of the NHS GMS. Members of the Genomics CRG will have the following key responsibilities:

- To work closely with the national team and clinicians across the NHS GMS to drive implementation of genomic medicine, identify potential barriers and solutions to address them;
- Work with the genomic test evaluation working groups to develop recommendations for NHS England and NHS Improvement regarding test evaluations and amendments to the National Genomic Test Directory;

- Demonstrate an ethical, evidence-based and impartial approach to the work of the Genomics CRG;
- To advise on review and development of clinical commissioning policies and guidance;
- To advise on review and development of service specifications;
- Consider workforce implications and approaches to address them;
- Monitor current relevant research and comment on potential research priority areas on an annual basis;
- Work with professional societies and other groups to disseminate messages and embed good practice; and
- Actively contribute to the development of strong and effective working relationships between CRG members and the national team.

4. Membership

The Genomics CRG will be made up of the following key representatives and clinical specialties:

- Chair;
- Clinical genetics;
- Genetic counselling;
- Cancer, covering solid tumour, haematological malignancies and paediatric cancer;
- Primary care;
- Rare and inherited disease;
- Mainstream clinical specialties such as cardiology, reproductive medicine, neurology, ophthalmology and renal disease;
- Clinical scientists;
- Nursing;
- Public health; and
- Patient and public voice representatives (three representatives).

A list of the current CRG membership is provided at Annex 1.

5. Meetings

The Genomics CRG will meet in person three times per year. The Chair of the meeting may convene additional meetings (in person or via teleconference), as necessary.

A minimum of 50% of members must be present for the meeting to be deemed quorate.

The Chair may invite additional experts to attend meetings and participate in discussion where this is relevant to specific agenda items.

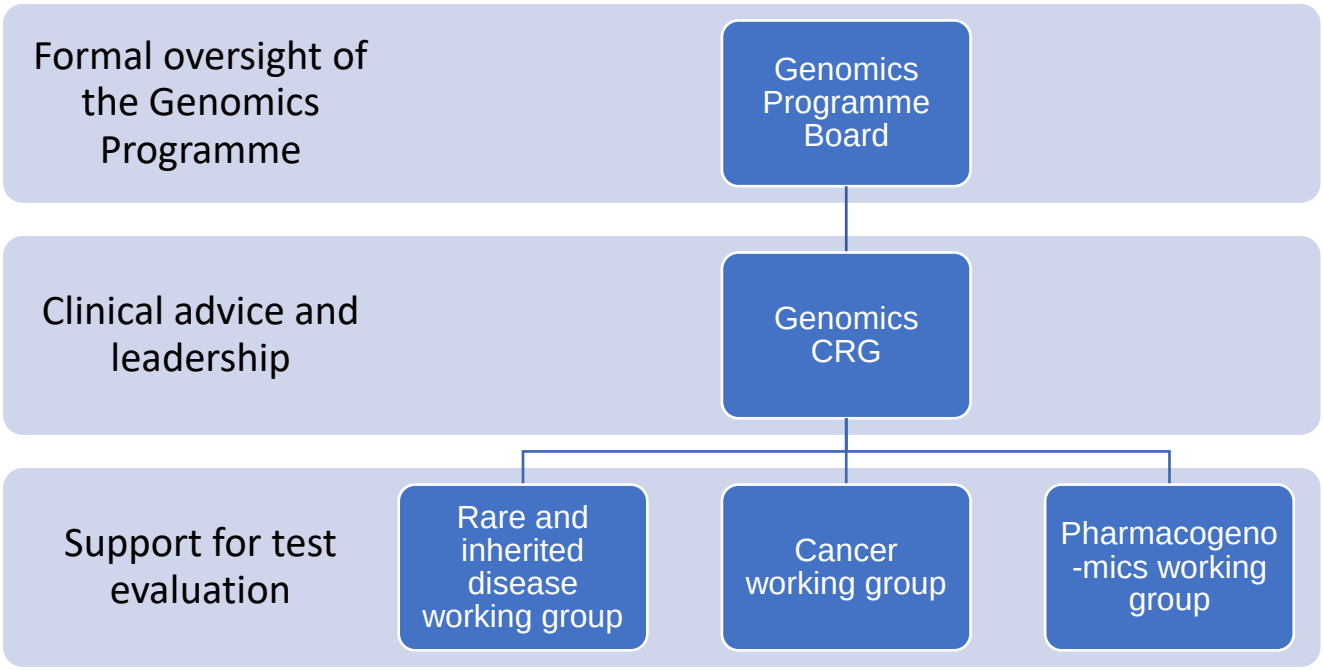
6. Conflicts of interest

All members are required to declare conflicts of interest and the receipt of gifts, hospitality and/or sponsorship, in line with the national guidance to the NHS. Conflicts of interest should be declared in writing to the secretariat and specific conflicts should be raised at the start of any agenda item or discussion for which that conflict arises. A conflict of interest and a hospitality register will be maintained by the secretariat.

7. Reporting and governance

The Genomics CRG will report into the Genomics Programme Board and the Genomics CRG Chair will sit on the Genomics Programme Board.

The Genomics CRG will have oversight of three genomic test evaluation working groups for rare and inherited disease, cancer and pharmacogenomics. These groups will support annual review of the National Genomic Test Directory (see Genomic test evaluation working group Terms of Reference).



8. Secretariat

Secretariat will be provided by the Genomics Unit within NHS England and NHS Improvement.

Minutes and actions from each meeting will be written up and agreed with the Genomics CRG Chair prior to circulation.

The secretariat can be contacted on: England.Genomics@NHS.net

Annex 1

Genomics CRG membership 2020/21

Name	Speciality
Professor Bill Newman - CHAIR	Clinical genetics
Dr Fiona Lalloo	Clinical genetics – cancer
Professor Carlo Palmieri	Medical Oncology
Dr Michael Wright	Clinical genetics – rare disease
Dr Jude Hayward	General practice
Dr Catherine Cargo	Haemato-oncology
Dr Isabelle Delon	Clinical science
Professor Sarah Smithson	Clinical genetics – rare disease
Professor Andrew Mumford	Haematology
Mr John McGrath	Urology
Dr Angela George	Clinical genetics – cancer
Dr Reecha Sofat	Clinical pharmacology
Dr Kevin Monahan	Gastroenterology
Dr Laura Boyes	Genetic counsellor
Dr Larissa Kerecuk	Co-chair, Test Evaluation Working Group (Rare Disease)
Professor Robert Taylor	Co-chair, Test Evaluation Working Group (Rare Disease)
Professor Rachel Butler	Co-chair, Test Evaluation Working Group (Cancer)
Dr Angela Hamblin	Co-chair, Test Evaluation Working Group (Cancer)
Dr Merial McEntagart	Clinical genetics
Dr Vishakha Tripathi	Genetic Counsellor
Kevin Capel	PPV
Rebecca Harmston	PPV
Professor Eamonn Sheridan	BSGM
Dr Nicky Taverner	AGNC
Dr Simon Ramsden	ACGS
Professor Elijah Behr	Cardiology (AICC)
Professor Nicholas Wood	Neurology
Dr Helen Grote	Neurology
Dr Jacqueline Lindo	Public Health
Lord Willis of Knaresborough	Nursing and Midwifery