



QRESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

**University of Nottingham, London Office
41-42 Berners Street, London, W1T 3NB**

(a few minutes' walk from Gode Street and Oxford Street tube stations)

**Thursday 18 March 2009
at 1300 for lunch followed by the meeting at 1330**

AGENDA

1. Present: John Fox, Jon Ford, Dai Evans, Julia Hippisley-Cox
2. **Apologies:** Peter Holden (Jon Ford will feedback), Jonathan Meadows, Azeem Majeed, Richard Logan.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** - these were accepted.
4. **Strategic focus & funding:** The scope of QResearch is now more focused and only include QSurveillance and the academic research data service. Other services are either no longer required or will be undertaken on a commercial basis by EMIS.
5. **QResearch - research projects:** There are an increasing number of research projects being undertaken using QResearch data. There are in excess of 100 publications arising from research from a wide range of academic (see www.qresearch.org). JHC has also been successful in obtaining research council and EU funding for undertaking programme of research in collaboration with various combinations of universities which is helping maximise the research outputs of the database. The researcher data service still requires some infrastructure funding however. Trent MREC have recently confirmed that QResearch continues to meet the ethical requirements following submission of its annual report.
6. **QWeb - research utilities:** JHC did a demonstration of the research utilities which are designed to help researches specify definitions for research projects to be run using QResearch.

7. **QRisk** – The Dept of Health has included QRisk in its standard operating procedures for PCTs. ClinRisk Ltd (of which JHC is a director) has developed software to implement QRisk which has been integrated into EMIS to make QRisk available for all of its practices free of charge. There is a widely used free web calculator (www.qrisk.org). EMIS is also distributing QRisk software to third parties – this is at cost of postage/package for academics and on a commercial basis who those who intend to use it in a commercial setting with revenues coming back to support further research and software development. A new diabetes score has just been published in the BMJ which is also being made available for use (www.qdscore.org). Other risk prediction utilities are also in development.
8. **QSurveillance** – the collaborative project between the HPA and QResearch is continuing to go well. The bulletin is now being distributed each week to EMIS practices as well as being made widely available.
9. **Practice feedback system**: the prototype has been developed and we plan to discuss its integration into EMIS web later this year.
10. **National initiatives** There was a general discussion and advice around national initiatives regarding data extraction from primary care.
11. Overall the board is happy that the governance requirements of QResearch are met and are supportive of the stronger focus in QResearch on academic research.
12. **Date of next meeting**; planned for Late 2009.