

Questionnaire UK COVID-19 Inquiry: Module 2B - Rule 9 Request to Dr Martin Rolles- Reference: M2B/MR/01

Please provide the following information:

1. A brief overview of your qualifications, career history, professional expertise and major publications.

Qualifications

BSc (Hons) Zoology, MB BCH, MRCP, FRCR

Medical Career

SHO Medicine, Leicester Royal Infirmary & Glenfield Hospital, Leicester

1996-1999

Registrar, Palliative Medicine, Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute, Melbourne, Australia

August 99-January 2000

Locum Appointment for Training then Specialist Registrar Clinical Oncology, Wessex Scheme

November 2000-June 2005

Fellow in Radiation Oncology, BC Cancer Agency, Vancouver, Canada

July 2005-July 2006

Consultant Clinical Oncologist with special interest in Head and Neck Cancer, and Breast Cancer, Southwest Wales Cancer Centre, Swansea

Commenced August 2006

Committees, etc.

Chair, Welsh Scientific Advisory Committee (WSAC)

Chair, Wales Cancer Network Clinical Reference Group

Cancer Lead, Swansea Bay University Health Board

Selected publications

M Evans *et al* Human Papillomavirus-associated oropharyngeal cancer: an observational study of diagnosis, prevalence and prognosis in a UK population *BMC Cancer* **13**, Article number: 220 (2013)

S Holt *et al* A decision impact, decision conflict and economic assessment of routine Oncotype DX testing of 146 women with node-negative or pN1mi, ER-positive breast cancer in the UK *British Journal of Cancer* **108**, pages 2250–2258 (2013)

H Mehanna *et al* Radiotherapy plus cisplatin or cetuximab in low-risk human papillomavirus-positive oropharyngeal cancer (De-ESCALaTE HPV): an open-label randomised controlled phase 3 trial *The Lancet* **393** (10166) 5-11 Jan 2019 51-60

Greene *et al* Impact of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic on female breast, colorectal and non-small cell lung cancer incidence, stage and healthcare pathway to diagnosis during 2020 in Wales, UK, using a national cancer clinical record system *British Journal of Cancer* **127**, 558–568 (2022)

Hollinghurst *et al* SARS-CoV-2 infection risk among 77,587 healthcare workers: a national observational longitudinal cohort study in Wales, United Kingdom, April to November 2020 *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*; 2022, Vol. 115(12) 467–478

Han, Rolles *et al* Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on community analgesic prescription for cancer patients in Wales, UK *Submitted*

2. A list of the groups (i.e. TAG and/or any of its subgroups) in which you have been a participant, and the relevant time periods. Please also confirm if you are or have been a participant in SAGE or other relevant groups.

TAG only.

Not a SAGE participant.

3. An overview of your involvement with those groups between January 2020 and May 2022, including: a. When and how you came to be a participant; b. The number of meetings you attended, and your contributions to those meetings; and c. Your role in providing research, information and advice.

a. Invited to join TAG in Autumn 2020. At that stage I was vice chair of the Welsh Scientific Advisory Committee and chair of its Clinical Oncology Subcommittee (COSC.) These are statutory independent expert advisory bodies on health sciences and the health scientist professions to the Welsh Government. COSC had taken a lead on contingency planning for Welsh Cancer services from the outset of the UK pandemic. I had worked closely with the Chief Scientific Advisor (Medicine) on a number of projects pre-pandemic.

b. I attended most of the TAG meetings after I joined. Not a core participant in terms of live discussion and presentation, but contributed to sidebar discussion, and disseminated relevant information to other national groups, as well as offline discussions with TAG members.

c. Cancer services related advice as necessary. Member of DATA-CAN, and DATA-CAN CCC part of the data-linkage research group based at SAIL, Swansea University.

4. A summary of any documents to which you contributed for the purpose of advising TAG and/or its related subgroups on the Covid-19 pandemic. Please include links to those documents where publicly available.

Impact of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic on female breast, colorectal and non-small cell lung cancer incidence, stage and healthcare pathway to diagnosis during 2020 in Wales, UK, using a national cancer clinical record system

Presented at TAG by Prof Dyfed Huws, PHW<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41416-022-01830-6>

4. A summary of any articles you have written, interviews and/or evidence you have given regarding the work of the above-mentioned groups and/or the Welsh Government's response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Please include links to those documents where publicly available.

Nil.

5. Your views as to whether the work of the above-mentioned groups in responding to the Covid-19 pandemic (or Wales's response more generally) succeeded in its aims. This may

include, but is not limited to, your views on: a. The composition of the groups and/or their diversity of expertise; b. The way in which the groups were commissioned to work on the relevant issues; c. The resources and support that were available; d. The advice given and/or recommendations that were made; e. The extent to which the groups worked effectively together; and 3 f. The extent to which applicable structures and policies were utilised and/or complied with and their effectiveness.

- a) Composition and diversity was appropriate.
  - b) Commissioning appeared to be appropriate. In the early days of the pandemic the situation was fluid, with multiple unknowns. TAG had very good chairing, and a focussed core membership which significantly made much of its own agenda in response to the dynamic situation and emerging knowledge. With hindsight this worked well.
  - c) Superb information and analysis.
  - d) Recommendations were evidence-based, and appeared pragmatic and timely.
  - e) I can only comment on TAG itself, which worked well.
  - f) Welsh Government appeared to listen to advice from TAG.
6. Your views as to any lessons that can be learned from the Welsh Government's response to the Covid-19 pandemic, in particular relating to the work of the above-mentioned groups. Please describe any changes that have already been made, and set out any recommendations for further changes that you think the Inquiry should consider making.

No further comments.

7. A brief description of documentation relating to these matters that you hold (including soft copy material held electronically). Please retain all such material. I am not asking for you to provide us with this material at this stage, but I may request that you do so in due course.

I have routine TAG meeting emails with attached agendas and papers, which were sent to the entire group, going back to 28.09.2020.