Advisory Group on Military Medicine (AGOMM)

Professor Peter Blain Medical Toxicology Centre Newcastle University UK

Background to AGOMM

- Set up in 2008
- Previously was 'Advisory Group on Medical Countermeasures' (AGMC)
- Broadened scope required:
 - Operational need
 - New medical interventions
 - Capability gaps in specific expertise

Reason for Visit to DHB

- Identify areas of similar interest and work
- Determine scope for interaction between the two advisory bodies:
 - Share views on relevant issues
 - Consider joint working groups for problems common to both military
 - Exchange appropriate output documentation
 - Maintain awareness of each others work

- The charter or purpose of AGOMM, as requested by UK military
- The kinds of professional skills and talents represented in AGOMM members
- The structure of AGOMM (e.g. committees, task forces, leadership of AGOMM)
- How connect into UK military
- Regular interactions with uniformed and civilian leadership of UK military (e.g. Services' Surgeons General)
- How does AGOMM receive requests for assistance from UK military
- As an independent advisory body are you permitted to identify areas of need and propose them to UK

- The charter or purpose of AGOMM, as requested by UK military:
 - Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB)
 - Independent expert advice to Secretary of State for Defence
 - Work with Surgeon General's Department on specific issues
 - Provide expert advice for urgent operational requirements
 - "Top Cover"

- The kinds of professional skills and talents represented in AGOMM members
 - Acute (Emergency) Medicine
 - Anaesthetics and ITU
 - Medicines Approval and Licensing
 - Ethics and Law
 - Clinical Pharmacology
 - Clinical Toxicology
 - Medical Microbiology
 - Vaccinology
 - Clinical Infectious Diseases
 - Occupational Medicine
 - Radiation Medicine
 - Psychiatry
 - Trauma Surgery

- The structure of AGOMM (e.g. committees, task forces, leadership of AGOMM)
 - Chairman (& Deputy)
 - Secretary (SO1 NBC/MedInt)
 - Executive Officer (SG)
 - Members
 - Officials
 - Military
 - Defence civil service
 - Health civil service

- The structure of AGOMM (e.g. committees, task forces, leadership of AGOMM)
 - Sub-committees
 - Special Medical Countermeasures
 - Medical Implications of Less Lethal Technologies
 - Working Groups e.g.
 - Vaccination Policy
 - Blood Borne Viruses
 - Haemostatics
 - Trauma Recovery AFIRM
 - PHP Patch

- How connect into UK military:
 - Based in Defence Medical Services SG's Department
 - Networked by SO1 NBC (AGOMM Secretary)
 - Security Clearance
 - Notional ranks

- Regular interactions with uniformed and civilian leadership of UK military (e.g. Services' Surgeons General)
 - UK has only one SG
 - Directors General of Army, Navy, Air Force Medical Services
 - Visits to military establishments (hospitals now in NHS)
 - Attendance at exercises
 - Attendance at research reviews
 - Operational updates and Threat briefings

- How does AGOMM receive requests for assistance from UK military
 - Secretary of State's Office
 - SG's Department Staff
 - Other MOD Departments e.g. CBRN Policy, Procurement, Chief Scientist, DG S&T
 - Individual service e.g. Army Medical Service
 - Operational command

 As an independent advisory body are you permitted to identify areas of need and propose them to UK:

- Meeting's Agenda approved by Chairman

- Members raise areas of concern through Chairman
- AGOMM opinion taken by SG to MoD
- Annual Report to SofS

Other Defence Advisory Groups

- SG's Research Strategy Group
- Defence Scientific Advisory Council

 Register of Security Cleared Subject Matter Experts
- Independent Ethics Board

