

ALL WALES MEDICINES STRATEGY GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON

5th DECEMBER 2002 COMMENCING AT 1.00 PM IN

COMMITTEE ROOM 2, COUNTY HALL, OYSTERMOUTH ROAD,
SWANSEA, SA1 3SN

MEMBERS PRESENT:

1.	Mr Jeffrey Evans	Representing other healthcare professionals eligible to prescribe, Wales Centre for Podiatric Studies, UWIC, Cardiff
2.	Ms Sian Evans	Local Health Group pharmacist representative, Merthyr Tydfil Local Health Group
3.	Mr Peter Harsant	Industry representative, Norgine Limited, Uxbridge, Middlesex
4.	Councillor Meurig Hughes	Lay member representative, Llangefni, Ynys Mon
5.	Dr Thomas Lau	LHG prescribing lead representative, Liswery Medical Centre, Newport
6.	Mr David Morgan	Director of Pharmaceutical Public Health representative, North Wales Health Authority, Mold
7.	Dr Ceri Phillips	Health Economist School of Health Science, Swansea
8.	Mr Michael Pollard	Chief Pharmacist representative, Wrexham Maelor Hospital
9.	Dr Quentin Sandifer	Director of Public Health representative, Morgannwg Health Authority, Swansea
10.	Professor Roger Walker	Chairman AWMSG Director of Pharmaceutical Public Health Gwent Health Authority, Pontypool

IN ATTENDANCE:

11.	Ms Susan Baboolal	Welsh Medicines Partnership
12.	Ms Ruth Lang	Minutes (Welsh Medicines Partnership)
13.	Mr Gavin Parry	Senior Executive Officer National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff
14.	Mrs Carolyn Poulter	Head of Pharmaceutical Services Branch National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff
15.	Professor Philip Routledge	Welsh Medicines Partnership
16.	Ms Fiona Woods	Welsh Medicines Partnership
17.	Miss Carwen Wynne-Howells	Chief Pharmaceutical Adviser National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff

List of Abbreviations:

AWMSG – All Wales Medicines Strategy Group

WMP – Welsh Medicines Partnership

WAG – Welsh Assembly Government

2/1. Welcome and Introduction The Chairman invited Mr Ceri Phillips to welcome those present and asked each member to introduce themselves. The Chairman declared that the role of the Committee is as set out in the constitution, proceedings are recorded and the minutes will be available on the website.	Action
2/2. Apologies Ms Kathryn Bourne, Nurse Prescriber representative Community Learning Disabilities Team, Newport. Mrs Susan Hobbs, NHS Trust Nurse Director representative University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff.	

<p>2/3. Minutes of Meeting</p> <p>The Minutes were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting.</p>	
<p>2/4. Matters Arising</p> <p>4.1 (1/1) The Chairman noted that Mr David Morgan had been elected Vice Chairman of the AWMSG at the end of its last meeting in October in Wrexham.</p> <p>4.2 (1/3.1) Membership of the AWMSG has been announced by WAG.</p> <p>4.3 (1/7) Professors Routledge and Walker had attended the Independent Medical Advisers / Independent Pharmaceutical Advisers Conference on 18th October 2002. Establishment of a sub-group of the AWMSG to advise on prescribing issues was discussed. Prescribing indicators will be discussed further with the advisers group at their next meeting on 9th January 2003.</p> <p>4.4 (1/7) WMP confirmed agreement had been reached to explore benchmarking of prescribing in Wales with that of the North East of England. A paper will be provided at a future meeting.</p> <p>4.5 A pharmacist had been appointed within WMP and will take up post in February 2003.</p>	<p>RW</p> <p>PAR</p>
<p>2/5. Declarations of Interests</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest. It was noted this information was not yet available on the web page.</p>	<p>RL</p>
<p>2/6. Disease modifying therapies for multiple sclerosis: risk sharing scheme</p> <p>Mr Gavin Parry presented Enclosure No 2/AWMSG/1202 to the Group for information. It was noted the risk sharing scheme announced in WHC 2002(17) had not yet commenced although 187-190 patients were currently receiving treatment across Wales. Further developments will be reported at the next AWMSG meeting.</p>	<p>GP</p>

<p>2/7. AWMSG Future Work Programme</p> <p>Professor Philip Routledge presented Enclosure No 3/AWMSG/1202. The major tasks, as recommended by the Task and Finish Group, had been identified and prioritised, and the Group discussed the designated priority status for each task. <i>It was agreed</i> that C5, D4, D18-20, G8 and H2 should be changed from priority 2 to 1 and the expected completion date for I11 be changed to December 2003.</p> <p><i>It was also agreed</i> A7-A9, B2-B5 and F2-F4 had been implemented but should not be recorded as completed. The Chief Pharmacists Committee were asked to report on their implementation and progress B7.</p>	<p>PAR</p> <p>MAP</p>
<p>2/8. NHS Industry Forum</p> <p>Mrs Poulter outlined Enclosure No. 4/AWMSG/1202 (appendices 1 and 2). The Group noted the Constitution, which had been agreed by the Minister prior to the AWMSG meeting. Invitations to apply for membership of the Committee had been circulated. It was noted the Committee would not meet in public, minutes would not be audio-taped and Welsh/English translation would not normally be available at meetings.</p>	<p>CP/ DM</p>
<p>2/9. Primary Care Prescribing Support Group</p> <p>Mrs Poulter outlined Enclosure No. 5/AWMSG/1202. The Group discussed the constitution of the Group that will form an advisory subgroup of the AWMSG. <i>It was agreed</i> that the group should be called the “All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group”, and would be chaired by Dr Thomas Lau.</p> <p><i>It was also agreed</i> that there would be representation from secondary care. It was noted the Committee would not meet in public, minutes would not be audio-taped and Welsh/English translation would not normally be available at meetings.</p>	<p>CP/ TL</p>
<p>2/10. Role and Structures of Prescribing Committees in Wales: A Way Forward</p> <p>Professor Philip Routledge outlined Enclosure No. 6/AWMSG/1202, an advisory paper suggesting future roles and structures of prescribing committees in Wales. <i>It was agreed</i> to recommend that LHB Prescribing Advisory Groups, Trust Prescribing Advisory Group, and LHG / Trust Partnership Medicines and Therapeutic Committees</p>	

be established. The view of the Group was that structures currently in place at local and at wider level should not be disbanded, but built upon. <i>It was agreed</i> to review the structures in April 2004. The Chairman asked WMP to make the appropriate amendments to the paper and distribute to LHB, Trust, regional officers and WAG.	PAR
<p>2/11. Process for Therapeutic Development Assessment</p> <p>Mrs Woods outlined Enclosure No. 7/AWMSG/1202 Appendices 1-4. The Group discussed the process and documentation for AWMSG Therapeutic Development Assessment. <i>It was agreed</i> that documentation would be posted on the website. The Chairman stated the intention to identify and list the therapeutic developments to be assessed by the AWMSG Group on the website. Those that do not meet the criteria for assessment will also be posted on the website for appraisal at local level. The Chairman thanked the individuals who had contributed to the development of the documentation.</p>	RML
<p>2/12. Update of Prescribing in Wales</p> <p>The Chairman invited Professor Routledge to outline Enclosure No. 8/AWMSG/1202. The Group discussed the general issues and suggested measures to improve appropriate generic prescribing be explored. <i>It was agreed</i> that WMP would progress the issue.</p>	PAR/ SE
<p>2/13. Drug Budget Allocation 2003/2004</p> <p>The Chairman invited Mrs Poulter to address the meeting. Mrs Poulter confirmed that she had been unsuccessful in her attempt to invite a WAG member along to the AWMSG meeting to outline the funding allocation for 2003/04. She confirmed that outline proposals were currently being discussed with the Minister and, once agreed, a draft allocation letter would be circulated to Trust Executives. The Chairman expressed the Group's disappointment and reiterated the need for clarity across the NHS with regard to funding issues.</p> <p>Mr Parry agreed to issue a letter to the service clarifying incentive schemes by April 2003.</p>	CP/ GP

<p>2/14. Chairman's issues</p> <p>The Chairman suggested and the Group agreed that the Minister be asked that the lay person, Councillor Meurig Hughes, become a voting member of the Committee.</p>	<p>CP</p>
<p>Date of next meeting.</p> <p>The next meeting will be held at the All Nations Centre, Sachville Avenue, Heath, Cardiff, CF14 3NY at 1.00 pm on Tuesday, 4th March 2003.</p>	