

Enclosure No:	1/AWMSG/1125
Agenda Item No:	1 – Minutes of previous meeting
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All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG)

Minutes of the AWMSG meeting held at 09:30 am on Tuesday, 7th October 2025 at the All Nations Centre, Sachville Avenue, Cardiff, CF14 3NY

Voting members present:

**Did not
participate
in agenda
item:**

- | | | |
|------------|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Prof Dyfrig Hughes | Chair |
| 2. | Prof Stephen Monaghan | Consultant in Public Health Medicine |
| 3. | Dr Rachel Gemine | NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee |
| 4. | Ms Kate Parrish | ABPI (Wales) |
| 5. | Mrs Pam James | Lay Representative |
| 6. | Ms Julie Wilson-Thomas | Lay Representative |
| 7. | Dr Richard Brown | General Practitioner with an interest in therapeutics |
| 8. | Miss Rafia Jamil | Managed Sector Pharmacist – Primary Care |
| 9. | Mr James Leaves | Director of Finance |
| 10. | Mrs Susan Newport | Senior Nurse |
| 11. | Mrs Cathy Wynne | Other healthcare professions eligible to prescribe not already represented |
| 12. | Dr Alison Thomas | Clinical Pharmacologist |
| 13. | Dr Owen Seddon | Hospital Consultant |
| 14. | Mr Jonathan Simms | Director of Pharmacy |

Welsh Government:

Mr Andrew Evans

Medicines Values Unit:

Rhiannon Walters-Davies

AWTTC staff:

Mr Richard Boldero, Senior Pharmacist

Dr Stephanie Francis, Principal Scientist

Mr David Haines, Senior Health Technology Analyst

Mr Emyr Jones, Consultant Pharmacist

Mrs Ruth Lang, Senior Liaison Manager

Miss Laura Phillips, Administration Manager

Mr Anthony Williams, Head of PAMS

Mrs Claire Thomas, Head of WAPSU and Medicines Optimisation

Ms Karen Jones, Senior Pharmacist

List of abbreviations:

ABPI	Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry
AWMSG	All Wales Medicines Strategy Group
AWPAG	All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group
AWTTC	All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre
BTS	British Thoracic Society
CIW	Care Inspectorate Wales
HIS	Health Inspectorate Wales
MHRA	Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency
NHS	National Health Service
NICE	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
NPGG	National Pharmacogenomics Group
OWMAG	One Wales Medicines Assessment Group
PAPIG	Patient & Public Involvement Group
SIGN	Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network
SMC	Scottish Medicines Consortium
VPAG	Voluntary Scheme for Branded Medicines Pricing, Access and Growth

1. Welcome and introduction

The Chair opened the meeting, welcomed members and observers, and explained the meeting protocol. The Chair confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

2. Apologies:

Mr David Fox, Managed Sector Pharmacist – Hospital Pharmacist

Mr Dylan Jones, Community Pharmacist

Mr Jim Mcguigan, Medical Director

Dr Richard Skone, Medical Director

Mr Hywel Pullen, Director of Finance

Prof Iolo Doull, Chair

Dr Andy Champion, Programme Director AWTTC

3. **Declarations of interest:**

The Chair invited declarations of interest.

Ms Kate Parrish had declared an interest in agenda item 7 (All Wales Adult asthma management and prescribing guideline). The Chair confirmed she could remain in the meeting for this item.

The Chair declared an interest in agenda item 9 (Update on the development of the pharmacogenomics delivery plan). The Chair informed members he was the Chair of the NPPG and asked if there were any objections to him presenting that agenda item. None were raised.

4. **Minutes of previous meeting**

The draft minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th September were checked for accuracy and approved. Dr Owen Seddon highlighted that he had not been at the previous meeting but was listed as being in attendance. It was confirmed that he would be removed from the attendance list.

5. **Chair's report (verbal update)**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chair informed members of the ratification of the OWMAG decision to recommend infliximab as an off-label treatment for myocarditis has been received from Welsh Government, and advice has been disseminated to the service. The Chair also gave an update on OWMAG reviews for dabrafenib with trametinib for thyroid cancer and nivolumab for oesophageal cancer.

Members were informed of the upcoming consultation on the Self-administration of medicines framework and were encouraged to share the consultation widely among colleagues.

Members were informed that the training event on 29 January 2026 had been cancelled. He asked members to inform AWTTTC of any training requirements.

6. **AWTTTC Programme Director's report**

Anthony Williams and Claire Thomas provided the AWTTTC update report. Anthony Williams began with an update on the latest meeting of the AWMSG Scrutiny Panel. Members were informed that the recent OWMAG meeting had been cancelled due to issues of quoracy. Members were also informed of collaborative work by AWTTTC, SMC, NICE, the MHRA and other key stakeholders to develop a pathway summarising the processes pharmaceutical companies should follow when preparing to launch new medicines in the UK, details of which can be [found here](#).

Claire Thomas gave an update on the recent Learning at Lunch session and informed members of the variation in prescribing dashboard, which has recently been demonstrate to health boards, the CMO and Chief Pharmaceutical Officer. Details were also provided of the inaugural VPAG Programme Board meeting, and an update was given on progress with the VPAG workstreams. Members were also given an update on recent AWTTTC Industry Forum and PAPIG meetings.

7. **All Wales Adult Asthma Management and Prescribing Guideline (Minor updates)** – for information

Richard Boldero provided an update on the All Wales Adult Asthma Management and Prescribing Guideline. This guideline has undergone some minor updates, mainly to align with guidance jointly published in 2024 by NICE, BTS and SIGN. New treatment options were also added to reflect changes in the availability of licensed products for the AIR and MART regimens. AWPAG has assessed the changes and deemed them to be minor updates, so the updated version has been published and disseminated and was presented here for information.

There was some discussion on the superseded 'traditional' regimen which is still included in the supporting notes. Members discussed how the move away from this will be implemented going forwards, and how patients might best transition to the new, preferred regimen if appropriate. There was also discussion on the availability of FeNO testing across Wales, which is a key part of the updated treatment algorithm. Members were assured that there was some work currently being done around this. There was further positive feedback on the guidelines, particularly the visual style of the treatment algorithm.

8. **National Pathway Mapping of Complex Therapies - Proposal for National Process and Governance Structure**

Stephanie Francis gave a presentation on the complex pathways work, including some background, current context and some examples of complex therapies. The presentation also covered possible barriers to the timely implementation of complex therapies and outlined the proposed governance structure and expected outcomes.

Members discussed the proposed governance structure and requested clarity on which groups would be responsible for specific actions. It was agreed that more work was required to specify roles and responsibilities within the structure.

The wider question around what criteria will be used to define a complex medicine was discussed. It was agreed that the criteria must be selective enough to exclude medicines which do not need consideration as a complex therapy, and members discussed possible ways this could be done. The importance of considering the wider clinical and service pathways rather than individual medicines was raised, as was the need to consider medicines beyond those undergoing assessment or approved for use by NICE or AWMSG.

Similar work within NICE and SMC was discussed, and it was suggested that AWTTTC should liaise with those groups to explore options.

9. **Update on the development of the pharmacogenomics delivery plan**

Dyfrig Hughes gave a presentation on the pharmacogenomics delivery plan in the absence of Dr Sophie Harding. The presentation included some

background and context and highlighted the example of CYP2C19 genotype testing for clopidogrel treatment in stroke prevention which is expected to improve patient outcomes and result in financial savings. The delivery plan for Wales was outlined, along with short and long term goals and a list of objectives.

Members discussed the importance of digital infrastructure in this work, as making the records of patients genotype tests easily available to prescribers will be key to efficiency of delivery. It was confirmed that work is ongoing to develop this, and members suggested the use of the Shared Medicines Record.

There was also some discussion around point of care genotype testing and how this will be factored into the delivery plan.

10. Guidance to support integrated medicines management in community settings

Karen Jones, Emyr Jones and Jason Bennett presented an overview of the guidance. They informed members of the challenges of integrated medicines management in community settings, and how these had been explored and addressed during the development process. Follow-up engagement and consultation was used to gather comprehensive feedback from multiple stakeholders. Members were asked to decide if the guidance should be endorsed by AWMSG.

The Chair thanked the team for their work and opened the floor to questions. Members praised the collaborative work that had taken place during development.

There was discussion on the administration of medicinal products in care homes, and members felt it was important to promote self-administration where appropriate. It was noted that the document helps to promote independence and links to the separate care homes medicines optimisation toolkit which contains supporting resources.

Members asked how the standards set out in the guidance would be monitored and it was noted that Care Inspectorate Wales will use the guidance when conducting inspections. It was suggested that AWMSG could write a letter to relevant parties to help reinforce the implementation of this guidance. The Chair thanked members for their comments, and the group agreed to endorse the guidance.

11. Any other business

No other business was raised.

The Chair thanked AWMSG members and confirmed the date of the next meeting on, Wednesday, 5th November 2025 at the All Nations Centre, Sachville Avenue, Cardiff, CF14 3NY