

Enclosure No:	1/AWMSG/1124
Agenda Item No:	1 – Minutes of previous meeting
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All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG)

**Draft minutes of the AWMSG meeting held
at 09:30 am on Tuesday 8 October 2024 at the All Nations Centre,
Sachville Avenue, Cardiff, CF14 3NY**

Voting members present:

**Did not
participate
in agenda
item:**

- | | | |
|------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Prof Iolo Doull | Chair |
| 2. | Prof Stephen Monaghan | Consultant in Public Health Medicine |
| 3. | Mrs Eleri Schiavone | NHS Wales Joint Commissioning
Committee |
| 4. | Prof Dyfrig Hughes | Health Economist |
| 5. | Ms Kate Parrish | ABPI (Wales) |
| 6. | Mrs Claire James | Lay Representative |
| 7. | Mrs Pam James | Lay Representative |
| 8. | Mr Dylan Jones | Community Pharmacist |
| 9. | Dr Richard Skone | Medical Director |
| 10. | Dr Jeremy Black | GP with prescribing lead role |
| 11. | Ms Rafia Jamil | Senior Primary Care Pharmacist |
| 12. | Mr Hywel Pullen | Director of Finance |
| 13. | Mr David Fox | Senior Hospital Pharmacist |
| 14. | Mrs Susan Newport | Senior Nurse |
| 15. | Mrs Cathy Wynne | Other healthcare professions eligible
to prescribe |
| 16. | Dr Alison Thomas | Clinical Pharmacologist |
| 17. | Dr Manjeet Singh | Hospital Consultant |

Welsh Government:

Andrew Evans

AWTTC staff:

Dr Andrew Champion, Programme Director

Dr Thomas Curran, Principal Scientist

Dr Paul Deslandes, Senior Pharmacist

Dr Laurence Gray, AWPAG Chairman

Mrs Rachel Jonas, Medical Writer

Dr Stuart Keeping, Senior Scientist

Mrs Ruth Lang, Senior Liaison Manager

Mr Anthony Williams, Head of PAMS

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
OWMAG	One Wales Medicines Access Group
NPIs	National Prescribing Indicators

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 Stuart Rees, Clinical Pharmacy Lead for Patient Services.

Mrs Claire Thomas, Head of WAPSU and Medicines Optimisation

Mr Mark Francis, Medicines Values Unit

3. Declarations of interest:

The Chair invited declarations of interest. There were none.

4. Minutes of previous meeting

The draft minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 September 2024 were checked for accuracy and approved. There were no matters arising.

5. Chair's report (verbal update)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that it was Dr Jeremy Black's last meeting and Rick Greville was retiring, both were thanked for their support.

The Chair informed members the Inhaler decarbonisation Task and Finish Group, chaired by Sian Evans at Public Health Wales, was announced as the winner of the Sustainability in Healthcare award at the Welsh Pharmacy Awards 2024.

The Chair informed members that the One Wales Medicines Assessment Group held a virtual consultation in September 2024 to review One Wales

advice for dostarlimab for the first-line treatment of deficient mismatch repair or high microsatellite instability rectal cancer. AWMSG members are asked to note the decision of OWMAG is to continue to support use, with the next review to take place after two years.

6. **All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG) Constitution** (for approval)

The Chair highlighted the updated AWMSG Constitution and asked if members had any comments, members recommended broadening the wording for several membership nominations due to various routes of recruitment other than the ones specified in the document currently. It was also suggested to avoid appointing a Chair and Vice Chair at same time to allow for takeover/deputisation after end of Chairs term.

Members were happy for the document to be sent to the Welsh Government for ratification after the changes were made.

7. **AWMSG Sub Group Constitutions** (for information)

- **AWMSG Steering Committee**
- **Licensed One Wales Medicines Assessment Group (LOWMAG)**
- **One Wales Medicines Assessment Group (OWMAG)**
- **All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group (AWPAG)**
- **Commercial Arrangement Scheme Wales Group (CASWG)**

The Chair highlighted the documents circulated to members and asked for any comments. It was suggested that the documents may be easier to manage from an administration perspective if they were amalgamated as after the initial explanation of the specific constitution, wording is duplicated across all documents. The differences of remit between CASWG and Medicines Values Unit were explained.

8. **Evidence summary review galsulfase**

Dr Stuart Keeping introduced the evidence summary review of agenda item 8 and 9 and gave an overview on the clinical need of these medicines stating it was now standard of care in clinical practice. There were no comments from members.

9. **Evidence summary review miglustat**

As above in item 8.

10. **Prescribing of branded generics in NHS Wales – Position Statement** (for endorsement)

Dr Laurence Gray and Dr Tom Curran presented an overview of the Prescribing of branded generics in NHS Wales position statement.

Members queried if there was enough specific information on situations where brand name prescribing is recommended to reduce the risk of confusion and error in dispensing and administration. Members were informed that the document was originally more detailed, but changes were

made following consultation and further discussion at AWPAG to signpost to MHRA and SPS resources where more comprehensive and up-to-date information was available, reducing the likelihood of this position statement document becoming out of date and requiring updates. Members queried if data before and after this position statement coming into effect could be compared to see if there has been impact, AWTTTC agreed they would look into this possibility and work with Welsh Government to see if an appropriate measure could be developed through the Value and Sustainability group. It was also discussed and agreed that it is not necessarily expected that Health Boards would reverse existing branded generic prescribing directives, and it is up to individual Health Boards to consider where and how that can be done (e.g. discontinuing existing ScriptSwitch messages). AWTTTC agreed to make a minor amend to the 'Branded prescribing' section of the glossary to more clearly align it with terminology used in the document itself.

11. Prescribing Dilemmas: Sharing responsibility for prescribing between a private clinician and an NHS prescriber (for endorsement)

Dr Paul Deslandes and Dr Laurence Gray presented the updates requested to the document. Members appreciated the complexity of this situation and felt the changes made make the document clearer. It was requested that the sentence '*prior review of any proposed shared care agreement at a senior level within the health board would likely be required for NHS indemnification to apply. Non-medical prescribers should seek advice from their indemnifier*' could be highlighted to ensure it is brought to the readers attention. Members suggested that adding information regarding the Ombudsman may be useful. Dr Gray thanked Paul for all of his work on this document.

12. Common Ailment Service formulary (Minor updates) (for information)

Dr Tom Curran presented an overview of the monograph updates, focusing on the following sections; athlete's foot, dry eye disease, sore throat, and ringworm. Members had no comments on the changes made, but asked that inclusion of product brand names be considered in light of the previously discussed 'Branded generics position statement'. AWTTTC agreed to pass this on to the Welsh Medicines Advice Service who coordinate the development and update of the monographs.

13. Communicating advice from the National Pharmacogenomics Group (NPGG) to NHS Wales

Prof Dyfrig Hughes presented an overview of the communicating National Pharmacogenomics Group (NPGG) advice to NHS Wales document, highlighting the two pathways of interim advice and specific guidance. This document will be added to the AWTTTC website and there is a separate email account being generated to assist the service with any questions in this area.

14. Any other business

There was none

The Chair thanked AWMSG members and confirmed the date of the next meeting on Wednesday 6 November 2024. Venue: Cyncoed Campus, Cardiff Met University.