

ALL WALES PRESCRIBING ADVISORY GROUP

Minutes of meeting held on

Wednesday 20 March 2019, commencing 9.30 am at the Angel Hotel, Cardiff

Voting members

Dr Lisa Adams	General Practitioner, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg
Mr David Barnard	Lay member
Mr Alan Clatworthy	Pharmacist, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg
Mr Mike Curson	Pharmacist, Aneurin Bevan
Mrs Clare Clement	Prescribing Advisor, Cardiff and Vale
Mr Ross Davies	Pharmacist, Hywel Dda
Ms Lee-Ann Farrell	ABPI
Dr Laurence Gray	Consultant, Cardiff and Vale
Mrs Louise Howard-Baker (Chair)	Pharmacist, Betsi Cadwaladr
Ms Lynette James	Pharmacist, Cardiff and Vale
Mr Dylan Jones	Community Pharmacist, Powys
Dr Becky McGee	General Practitioner, Aneurin Bevan
Mr Neil Thomas	Nurse Representative
Mrs Bethan Tranter	Chief Pharmacist, Velindre
Mrs Bev Woods	Pharmacist, Cwm Taf

In attendance (non-voting)

Miss Shaila Ahmed	AWTTC
Mr Richard Boldero	AWTTC
Dr Rob Bracchi	AWTTC
Ms Anne Coles	AWTTC
Miss Christine Collier	AWTTC
Ms Kath Haines	AWTTC
Mrs Claire Thomas	AWTTC
Mr Emyr Jones	Consultant Pharmacist, Community Healthcare Cardiff & Vale
Mr Gareth Collier	Respiratory Consultant, Hywel Dda
Ms Leanne Lewis	Principal Pharmacist Patient Services/Medicines Safety Officer, Aneurin Bevan
Ms Julie Harris	Antimicrobial Pharmacist, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg

Key of abbreviations

ABPI	Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry
AWMSG	All Wales Medicines Strategy Group
AWTTC	All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre
CEPP	Clinical Effectiveness Prescribing Programme
MHRA	Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency
NICE	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
NPIs	National Prescribing Indicators
NWIS	NHS Wales Informatics Service
PHW	Public Health Wales

1.0 Welcome and introduction

The Chair welcomed new member Neil Thomas (NT), nurse representative, to his first meeting and Shaila Ahmed (SA) from AWTTC. Members were informed that Chrissie Collier (CC) was attending her last meeting and the Chair thanked her for all her work over the last 5 years. Further to the request at the last meeting for nomination for a new Vice Chair, members were informed that the AWMSG Steering Committee had approved the nomination of Laurence Gray (LG) to the role.

Members introduced themselves.

2.0 Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Dr Anders Skarsten	Consultant, Powys
Dr Craig Barrington	Consultant, Velindre
Mr Aled Falvey	Clinical Specialist Physiotherapist, Powys
Mrs Sian Evans	Consultant in Pharmaceutical Public Health, PHW
Dr Rick Greville	ABPI
Dr Sally Lewis	National Clinical Lead for Value-Based and Prudent Healthcare, Aneurin Bevan
Mr Paul Fleming	British Generics Manufacturers
Mr Darren Ormond	Welsh Government
Mrs Karen Samuels	AWTTC
Mr Jamie Hayes	AWTTC

3.0 Declarations of Interest and Confidentiality Agreement

The Chair asked members to declare any interests relevant to the meeting. LF confirmed a conflict of interest in respect of Enclosure 7. No other declarations of interest were declared.

4.0 Chair's report

The Chair reported attendance at the meeting of AWMSG in March; this would be discussed further under agenda item 6.

5.0 Minutes of previous AWPAG meeting – 19 September 2018

Minutes for the previous meeting were checked for accuracy and agreed.

Matters arising

Mike Curson fed back on his action to complete an NPPF for work around needle length in young allergy sufferers. It was reported that the MHRA is doing work in this area so no further action will be taken until MHRA produce guidance.

Action: MC to report back to members on any outcomes of the MHRA work.

The AWMSG website survey was raised and it was confirmed that some responses had been received.

Action: AWTTC to send link to members

6.0 Feedback from February and March 2019 AWMSG meetings for information

- **All Wales COPD Management and Prescribing Guide** – The document was not endorsed until further changes requested by AWMSG members were completed. A meeting to discuss next steps is scheduled for 28th March.
- **Mental Health Medicines in Older Adults – the ADRe Profile** – The document was supported as good practice and it was agreed that the authors would work

with the Assistant Medical Directors to decide where the ADRe Profile will sit in primary care

- **National Prescribing Indicators 2018–2019 Analysis of Prescribing Data to September 2018** – The inclusion of insulin data in SPIRA was highlighted.
- **National Prescribing Indicators 2019–2020 and - National Prescribing Indicators 2019–2020: Supporting Information for Prescribers and Healthcare Professionals** – Both documents were endorsed at the February meeting and there was positive feedback for the Supporting Information in particular. The accompanying slide set is now available on the AWMSG website.
- **Making Choices Together** – This initiative received AWMSG Acknowledgement at the February meeting.
- **Your Medicines Your Health** – This initiative received AWMSG Acknowledgement at the February meeting.
- **Therapeutic Priorities and CEPP Summary 2019–2020** – This document was endorsed at the March meeting

7.0 Community Healthcare Work Programme Update – Emyr Jones

Emyr Jones, Consultant Pharmacist in Community Healthcare, gave an overview of the five work streams that would be making up his role.

- Care homes and domiciliary care – Domiciliary care guidelines are currently being developed. Emyr suggested that AWMSG might not be the right organisation to endorse and would look at who might be best to provide endorsement for this work. There was discussion of the relevance of this work to AWMSG strategy recommendations and Rob Bracchi suggested that the group would be keen to be involved.
- Palliative care – Emyr highlighted that this would be a new area of focus that he would be bringing to the role, coming from a palliative care background.
- Medicines optimisation – Emyr highlighted a need to review the Polypharmacy Guidance for Prescribers. It was suggested that a Task and Finish Group could be established to review the large number of new guidelines available since original publication.
- Medication charts – Emyr highlighted the need for review of syringe driver chart, in addition to the potential of developing an All Wales Homecare Medication Administration chart, to align with the domiciliary care work. Work is ongoing to investigate the potential of EMAR (Electronic Medication Administration Record) for care homes.
- Other – any other work that falls within the community healthcare remit.

8.0 WHEPPMA

Dr Gareth Collier, Respiratory Consultant, Hywel Dda health board gave the background to the WHEPPMA project and asked AWPAG for support. Dr Gareth Collier would like assistance in producing an appendix to the business case for WG, highlighting a group of professionals i.e. AWPAG, who will identify specific areas to target in terms of data collection and review to demonstrate benefits realisation, for example cost avoidance, reduction in errors associated with high risk medicines etc. Potential to link in with NPIs and the Medicines Safety Dashboard, due to be launched shortly. Members agreed this was a good idea and were happy to provide support.

Action: Members to volunteer by contacting AWTTTC if they wish to be part of the Task and Finish Group

9.0 Documents for discussion

9.1 All Wales Antimicrobial In-patient Medication Administration Record

Leanne Lewis, Principal Pharmacist Patient Services/Medicines Safety Officer, Aneurin Bevan and Julie Harris, Antimicrobial Pharmacist, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg presented the All Wales Antimicrobial In-patient Medication Administration Record. Background information to the development of the chart was given, and members were informed that a pilot of the chart commenced in December 2017 in Abertawe Bro Morgannwg, Betsi Cadwaladr and Glangwilli Hospital in Hywel Dda. Members were shown the 12 page booklet format of the chart and informed that training packages were available.

Discussion followed looking at issues of how widespread the second phase of stakeholder involvement would be; the results from Cardiff & Vale health board; agreement for roll out and how the data had been collected. Feedback from Cardiff and Vale raised concerns on the increase in missed doses in particular and would like this to be noted by the reference group. It was noted that Velindre had looked at the chart on numerous occasions and was very supportive. It was also noted to members that Betsi Cadwaladr would not go back to the old chart. It was confirmed that any issues that did arise would be taken back to the Clinical Reference Group.

Members thanked Leanne Lewis and Julie Harris for their work on the chart. Responses to the booklet were positive although it was noted that education would be required for the success of this tool and that monthly data collection and two-year evaluation would be necessary.

AWPAG members agreed to endorse this chart on the basis that it is kept under review. Leanne Lewis confirmed that this would be done.

9.2 Paediatric Steroid Replacement Therapy Care for Adrenal Insufficiency

Chrissie Collier informed members that an update to the current version of the paediatric steroid replacement therapy card had been proposed. The card was originally endorsed by AWMSG in 2013. The version provided to members had been updated since 2013 and is the card currently in use and which will be reviewed. Dr Rebekah Pryce, Consultant Paediatrician, Aneurin Bevan will be leading the review. An updated card will be brought back to AWPAG following consultation.

The Chair noted that the production of a card for adults with Addison's disease had been requested. Members were informed that Janet Thomas had discovered that a pack for patients, which includes an alert card, is available from the Addison's Self Help Group, although at a small cost. It was proposed that supplies could be purchased by health boards to give to patients, however members queried whether the clinical information contained in the alert card was appropriate, and whether the card was available in Welsh. The Chair agreed to ask Janet Thomas to liaise with local endocrinologists and establish whether a Welsh version is available.

Action: Chair to ask Janet Thomas to liaise with local endocrinologists and Addison's Self Help Group.

Action: Reviewed paediatric card to come back to AWPAG following consultation.

9.3 Conditions for which over the counter items should not routinely be prescribed – Guidance for NHS Wales

Richard Boldero presented the proposed guidance; Conditions for which over the counter items should not routinely be prescribed – Guidance for NHS Wales. Members were updated on the work that has been undertaken in light of the received consultation comments. This included a thematic analysis to help summarise the

concerns raised within the consultation comments and what further actions may be required.

Following the presentation it was felt that there were three options available with regards to the next steps: to continue with the proposed guidance, which in view of the consultation comments would require a significant amount of additional work; to suspend any further development; or to stop with the proposed guidance.

Overall members felt that continuing with developing the proposed guidance would be difficult to justify given the strength of concerns expressed within the consultation comments. It was however suggested that there could be a separating out of the "evidence of effectiveness is poor" items i.e. probiotics and vitamins and minerals, for progression within another low priority for funding work stream.

Action: Proposed guidance document with recommended action to be taken to AWMSG Steering Committee.

9.4 National Prescribing Indicators Specifications 2019-2020

Claire Thomas introduced this document and informed members that the thresholds are now included and the document can be published immediately. Claire also highlighted that the antimicrobial targets are based on the new configuration of Cwm Taf and ABM UHBs.

9.5 Local Comparators 2019-2020

Claire Thomas confirmed that the Local Comparators will now comprise retired NPIs only, and will remain Local Comparators for 2 years post retirement.

10. Verbal updates

10.1 Medication Review

The membership of a Task and Finish Group for this work was discussed and 11 potential members have come forward. It was confirmed that Paul Myres will come to the first meeting. Neil Jones volunteered to be the nurse representative on the group. It was suggested that four meetings in total could be held; each held on a quarterly basis.

10.2 Review of Anticoagulant Resources

Louise Howard-Baker confirmed she would chair this group and the original Task and Finish Group members will be involved. Richard Brown will take the place of Mark Walker who has retired. It was suggested that Tristan Groves, the pharmacist who led on the anticoagulant chart, could be approached for involvement. Shaila Ahmed will be leading on this from AWTTC.

Action: Tristan Groves to be approached to join the group.

10.3 All Wales Guidelines for the Management of Chronic Pain

Members were informed that Emma Davies, Advance Pharmacist Practitioner in Pain Management, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg Health Board had submitted a new project with Dr Sue Jeffs, Consultant in Pain Management, Aneurin Bevan Health Board. A paper will be brought to the next meeting.

10.4 Endocrine Management of Gender Dysphoria in Adults: Prescribing Guidance for non-specialist Prescribers

Members were informed that this work was previously proposed as a shared care protocol. Some outstanding queries will need to be addressed before this project can progress.

11.0 Best Practice Day 2019

Members were informed that the Best Practice Day will be held on 9 July 2019. Potential sessions were discussed and members encouraged to contact AWTTC with further suggestions.

Action: AWTTC to approach possible speakers.

12.0 IPCG Membership

The AWPAG member role on the IPCG remains vacant and a volunteer was requested. Bethan Tranter confirmed she is already a non-voting member of this group as the Velindre representative and so could also represent AWPAG.

Action: AWTTC to confirm that Bethan Tranter can also represent AWPAG in addition to her current role on the group.

13.0 Feedback from the All Wales Chief Pharmacists Group

Bethan Tranter gave feedback from the All Wales Chief Pharmacists Group.

The Transforming Access to Medicines Services Project continues. It went to the Board in February and the main stream of work that is being taken forward is that related to the revision of aseptic services with a view to greater collaboration between health boards. This is a Welsh Government piece of work.

The Chief Pharmacists met with HEIW to input into their workforce strategy plan, talking primarily about pharmacists across all the sectors and what the needs are going forward. Discussion on multidisciplinary learning at both undergraduate and postgraduate level and broadening roles when patient facing.

The Pharmacy Vision Strategy led by the Welsh Pharmaceutical Committee is close to finalisation. The themes are in line with A Healthier Wales and there are two main deadlines, one of 2022 and one of 2030. All patient facing pharmacists will be non-medical prescribers; there is a drive to digitalisation and increasing service provision in primary care and the community.

The Efficiency Programme continues and the next area being considered is diabetes.

Pharmacy is committed to being a dementia friendly profession, and the first target is to ensure that by the end of year, all of the pharmacy family will be dementia friendly trained/aware.

14.0 Feedback from Health Boards

Mike Curson stated that the anticoagulant guidance would be welcomed as there are issues around choice of NOAC.

Ross Davies raised an issue that had been identified with the population sizes of some practices on SPIRA. It was confirmed that this had now been resolved by Shared Services. In addition, he informed members that in line with the opioid burden NPI high dose opioids had been looked at. Patients had been written to highlighting risks and as a result a number of patients had engaged and prescribing had reduced. Claire Thomas pointed out that this information would be good to post on SHARE. Clare Clement informed members that she has developed audits on high dose opioids that she could also post on SHARE.

The Chair highlighted an issue around the disinvestment guidance on liothyronine which had arisen in Betsi Cadwaladr. It was noted that the clarification had been directly taken from the Regional Medicines Optimisation Committee (RMOC) document and agreed by AWPAG to include within the Welsh document.

Action: Ross Davies to upload information on opioid initiative to SHARE.
Action: Clare Clement to upload information on opioid audit to SHARE.

15.0 Any other business

Antimicrobial Dressings

Leanne Farrell left the room for this item due to a conflict of interest.

This had originally arisen from a query from Sarah Isaac on which dressing basket had been used. The basket of dressings had not been developed by AWTTTC and had arisen from a piece of work undertaken by the Evidence Based Procurement Board Antimicrobial Wound Dressings group. It was also noted that the basket contained a number of dressings that are not silver or antimicrobial.

It was agreed that this will be left with the group who had developed the paper.

National Prescribing Indicators 2020-2021 Subgroup meeting

Volunteers were sought for the NPI subgroup to meet in Angel Hotel on 8th May 2019. Louise Howard-Baker, Mike Curson, Bev Woods, Clare Clement, Richard Brown and Laurence Gray volunteered. Alan Clatworthy informed the Chair that he would be unavailable for the proposed meeting date of 8th May 2019.

17.0 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 26th June 2019