

ALL WALES PRESCRIBING ADVISORY GROUP

Minutes of meeting held on

Wednesday 26 June 2019, commencing 9.30 am at the Angel Hotel, Cardiff

Voting members

Dr Lisa Adams	General Practitioner, Swansea Bay
Mr David Barnard	Lay member
Dr Richard Brown	General Practitioner, Hywel Dda
Mr Alan Clatworthy	Pharmacist, Swansea Bay
Mrs Clare Clement	Prescribing Advisor, Cardiff and Vale
Mr Ross Davies	Pharmacist, Hywel Dda
Mrs Sian Evans	Consultant in Pharmaceutical Public Health, PHW
Mr Aled Falvey	Clinical Specialist Physiotherapist, Powys
Dr Laurence Gray	Consultant, Cardiff and Vale
Mrs Louise Howard-Baker (Chair)	Pharmacist, Betsi Cadwaladr
Ms Lynette James	Pharmacist, Cardiff and Vale
Ms Rachel Jenkins	ABPI Representative
Dr Becky McGee	General Practitioner, Aneurin Bevan
Mr Sudhir Sehrawat	Community Pharmacist
Dr Anders Skarsten	Consultant, Powys
Mr Neil Thomas	Nurse Representative
Mr Ben Woodhouse	Pharmacist, Betsi Cadwaladr
Mrs Bev Woods	Pharmacist, Cwm Taf Morgannwg

In attendance (non-voting)

Miss Shaila Ahmed	AWTTC
Mr Richard Boldero	AWTTC
Dr Rob Bracchi	AWTTC
Dr Thomas Curran	AWTTC
Dr Rick Greville	ABPI
Ms Kath Haines	AWTTC
Dr Carolyn Hughes	AWTTC
Miss Laura Phillips	AWTTC
Mrs Karen Samuels	AWTTC
Mrs Claire Thomas	AWTTC

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
HEIW	Health Education and Improvement Wales
MHRA	Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency
NICE	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
NOAC	Non-Vitamin K antagonist oral anticoagulants
NPIs	National Prescribing Indicators
NWIS	NHS Wales Informatics Service
PHW	Public Health Wales

1.0 Welcome and introduction

The Chair welcomed new members Sudhir Sehrawat, deputy community pharmacist representative, and Rachel Jenkins deputy ABPI representative to their first meeting.

Members introduced themselves.

2.0 Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Mr Mike Curson	Pharmacist, Aneurin Bevan
Mr Paul Fleming	British Generics Manufacturers
Mr Jamie Hayes	AWTTC
Mr Dylan Jones	Community Pharmacist, Powys
Mrs Susan Knights	ABPI
Dr Sally Lewis	National Clinical Lead for Value-Based and Prudent Healthcare, Aneurin Bevan
Mr Darren Ormond	Welsh Government
Mrs Bethan Tranter	Chief Pharmacist, Velindre

3.0 Declarations of Interest and Confidentiality Agreement

The Chair asked members to declare any interests relevant to the meeting. No declarations of interest pertinent to the agenda were declared.

4.0 Chair's report

The Chair informed members that Craig Barrington had resigned as a medical representative on the group and thanked him for his valuable contribution to the committee over the last year. Sue Knights has been approved as the new ABPI representative and Rachel Jenkins as deputy ABPI representative. The Chair reminded members that there are vacancies for doctors from Betsi Cadwaladr and Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Boards, and that members should contact Anne Coles for further information regarding nominations. The Chair informed members that the agenda for the Best Practice Day, which she will be chairing, is now finalised and that this would be discussed further, under agenda item 11. Paul Gimson will be arriving to talk about the All Wales Medicines Safety Programme (agenda item 7).

5.0 Minutes of previous AWPAG meeting – 20 March 2019

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

Matters arising

Mike Curson had given apologies and was therefore unable to report back on any outcomes of the MHRA work in respect of the work around needle length in young allergy sufferers.

WHEPPMA

Richard Boldero thanked members who provided comments for the SBAR paper, in support of the benefits realisation from introducing an electronic prescribing and administration system. This paper had been provided to Dr Gareth Collier, the clinical lead for WHEPPMA.

Paediatric Steroid Replacement Therapy Care for Adrenal Insufficiency

Thomas Curran updated members on recent correspondence with Dr Rebekah Pryce with regards to the update to the Paediatric Steroid Replacement Treatment Card. Following discussion with her colleagues at UHW, Dr Pryce is proposing a more substantial update to the treatment card and supporting materials. AWTTC are awaiting a revised project proposal detailing the extra work required.

Louise Howard-Baker informed members that she had spoken to Janet Thomas in relation to the work being carried out on the production of support materials for adults with Addison's disease and would report back when there was more information.

6.0 Feedback from May and June 2019 AWMSG meetings for information

- All Wales COPD Management and Prescribing Guide

Richard Boldero informed members that the All Wales COPD Management and Prescribing Guide was endorsed at the AWMSG meeting in May. Endorsement was provided to the guideline in its current form and not for any future 'app' version. The guideline is to be reviewed once a year and the details of the update process are yet to be agreed.

- Antimicrobial Drug Chart

Claire Thomas informed members that the Antimicrobial Drug Chart had been endorsed and was now online.

- National Prescribing Indicators 2018–2019 Analysis of Prescribing Data to December 2018

Claire Thomas informed members that the National Prescribing Indicator (NPI) quarterly report to December 2018 had been presented at the May AWMSG meeting and that members thought the NPIs were vital to aid in sharing best practice.

7.0 Medicines Safety Programme – Paul Gimson

The Chair welcomed Paul Gimson, National Primary Care Programme Manager, Public Health Wales. Members introduced themselves. Members were given a background to the 1,000 Lives Medicines Safety Programme and why the programme was created. Paul Gimson explained to members how the programme was working to address the Global Patient Safety Challenge from the World Health Organization, and stated that it was a national programme with a national board overseeing development. Paul Gimson explained that 1,000 Lives are looking to support a number of patient safety initiatives at health board / cluster / hospital level, with the aim of sharing the successful initiatives for adoption across Wales. Members queried if ABPI would be involved in the programme; Paul Gimson stated this would be something he would look into down the line and Rick Greville stated that he would be happy to contribute to the programme. Paul Gimson informed members he would be happy to talk to other groups if members thought it would be beneficial.

8.0 Documents for discussion

8.1 Medicines Identified as a Low Priority for Funding in NHS Wales – discussion around latest NHS England consultation

Richard Boldero presented members with a number of options for medicines to be included within the next low priority for funding paper. These were based upon the NHS England draft paper entitled "Items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care: an update and a consultation on further guidance for CCGs". Members were provided with Welsh prescribing data for the nine medicines/medicines groups within the NHS England paper. Following discussion it was decided to progress with amiodarone, dronedarone, minocycline, rubefacients, and aliskiren. Members did not rule out the other options completely; however, they felt that silk garments, and bath and shower emollients may be more appropriate to be part of a joint project with the Welsh Dermatology Board. For blood glucose testing strips, and needles, members requested further investigation as to other work being conducted within Wales where these issues may have already been addressed. Mr Boldero informed members that as per agreement with regards to the previous meeting, probiotics and vitamins and minerals were also to be included within this next paper. Members were in agreement for all probiotics to be included however wished some further investigation around

which vitamins and minerals were to be included within the monitoring basket given the number of exceptions already required.

Also considered was a selection of items provided by the Chief Pharmacists/ Directors of Finance group. Members felt that only three of these suggestions were robust enough to progress with at this time. These were: silver dressings, chloral hydrate and cloral betaine, and alimemazine.

Action: AWTTC to liaise with Welsh Dermatology Board around joint working potential.

Action: AWTTC to investigate work being undertaken with regards to diabetic monitoring and administration.

Action: AWTTC to scrutinise vitamins and minerals data to ascertain usage outside of 'exceptions'.

Action: AWTTC to progress the next "Medicines identified as a Low Priority for Funding in NHS Wales" paper.

8.2 All Wales Advice on Oral Anticoagulation for Non-valvular Atrial Fibrillation

Shaila Ahmed presented the document to members and thanked those who had contributed to the update. Shaila Ahmed informed members that Dr Alikhan would take the document to the next All Wales Haematologist meeting to obtain further comments. Shaila Ahmed informed members that NICE guidance was due in September 2020 and the group agreed to proceed with updating this All Wales guidance rather than delay.

The group discussed comments received on the anticoagulant comparison table and information that had been included with regards to relative efficacy for stroke prevention. The appendix diagram on choosing a NOAC was also discussed. In both cases it was concluded that both of these appendices should be a focus of the review at the All Wales Haematologist meeting. Shaila Ahmed informed members about an online calculator tool developed by Betsi Cadwaladr UHB and how this could be used alongside or instead of the Risk/Benefit Assessment tool. The group agreed this sounded beneficial and asked that its applicability as an All Wales tool should also form part of the review by the All Wales Haematologists. The group also agreed that the specialist group should provide a consensus view on the use of the term 'ideal' vs 'actual' body weight in the guideline and whether this was used appropriately throughout.

The group agreed that the revised document should be shared with AWPAG before going out for wider consultation.

Action: AWTTC to communicate points raised by AWPAG to Dr Alikhan so they can be discussed at the All Wales Haematologist group meeting.

Action: AWTTC to share updated guideline with AWPAG prior to full consultation.

8.3 All Wales Agreement for Shared Care Prescribing of Somatostatin Analogues for the Treatment of Patients with Neuroendocrine Tumours

Kath Haines presented the Somatostatin Shared Care Prescribing document to members. Members were informed that comments received from the shared care specialist review group had been addressed, and asked for any additional comments. The group discussed the designation of the document as a shared care guideline because the requirement of primary care to provide patient monitoring was unclear. It was agreed by the group to amend the title to "Shared Prescribing". Ben Woodhouse queried if GPs were already using this process and Clare Clement stated that it was in use in Cardiff and Vale UHB. The group agreed that the publication of a template for Health Boards to adapt would be beneficial. The group agreed they were happy for the

document to go out for consultation as a Best Practice document following edits to include additional clarity around patient monitoring in primary care, prevalence of the condition and removal of references to treatment of acromegaly and homecare service provision.

Action: AWTTC to seek clarification around primary care monitoring of patients.

Action: AWTTC to remove references to treatment of acromegaly and homecare service provision.

Action: AWTTC to seek information on prevalence of condition.

Action: AWTTC to include more detail on rescue medication.

8.4 Endocrine Management of Gender Dysphoria in Adults: Prescribing Guidance for Non-Specialist Practitioners

Kath Haines presented the document, informing members that Dr Sophie Quinney had adapted the document for use in Wales from a protocol used by Charing Cross Gender Identity Clinic. Kath Haines informed members that WHSCC will be commissioning the service based on the accompanying Welsh Directed Enhanced Service. Members requested that more information be added to the monitoring section for testosterone gel. The group agreed that a glossary should be added to the document. It was raised that the term 'squirts' with regards to dosage was unclear, though it was clarified that the Dr Quinney had changed this to 'pumps' as part of some revisions more recently submitted to AWTTC.

It was agreed that after the discussed revisions the document could be distributed for wider consultation, and AWPAG members could submit any further comments at that point.

Action: Dr Sophie Quinney to add range limits to the monitoring section.

Action: Dr Sophie Quinney to add a glossary to the document.

Action: AWTTC to distribute document for wider consultation after edits have been made.

9.0 Verbal updates

9.1 WHEPPMA

See above – *Section 5.0.*

9.2 Nationally agreed multi-professional standard for medication review

Rob Bracchi informed members that the first meeting to develop a nationally agreed standard for medication review had recently taken place. The meeting comprised a number of presentations covering patient/carer involvement, safety, medicines optimisation, waste reduction and patient care plans. Attendees were asked to feedback on what each area meant to them, what resources they used and where they felt there were gaps. A further meeting is scheduled for September 4th 2019.

9.3 All Wales Paediatric Steroid Card for Adrenal Insufficiency

See above – *Section 5.0.*

9.4 All Wales Guidelines for the Management of Chronic Pain

Kath Haines informed members that the guidelines were currently in development and AWTTC are awaiting submission of the first draft.

9.5 All Wales Guidance for the delegation of nursing medication support duties to Health Care Support Workers and Care Home Support Workers

Kath Haines informed members that this was now being developed by Emyr Jones following approval of the project proposal.

9.6 SPIRA Steering Committee

Claire Thomas informed members that the inaugural SPIRA Steering Committee meeting took place at the start of June and the committee will meet on a quarterly basis. Claire Thomas informed members of the main agenda items and fed back on the decision to update new and historical data on SPIRA to reflect the new health board boundaries, in relation to Swansea Bay UHB and Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB from the first quarter of 2019-2020.

10.0 National Prescribing Indicators 2020-2021

10.1 Feedback from NPI Task and Finish Group

The Chair gave a background to members and Kath Haines presented a possible revision as to how the NPIs could be presented for next year. It was proposed that there should be three main priority areas - anticoagulants, analgesics and antimicrobial stewardship. The remaining indicators would continue to be reported but the focus would be on the priorities. The group agreed that they were happy with the suggested new format and priorities. Claire Thomas summarised discussion from the NPI Task and Finish Group and presented each of the current and proposed indicators in turn.

The Prescribing Safety Indicators were discussed and Claire Thomas informed members that NWIS had amended the 'aspirin in patients under 12' search to 'aspirin in patients under 16' as had previously been requested. The change will take effect from the first quarter of 2019-2020. Further updates to the Prescribing Safety Indicators were discussed and agreed.

Discussion took place regarding a suitable anticoagulant indicator. Claire Thomas informed members that the 'Stop a Stroke' campaign data could be used as it monitored the number of patients with Atrial Fibrillation on a NOAC, warfarin, antiplatelet monotherapy etc. It was suggested that data from the Sentinel Stroke Audit could be used as a measure for secondary care. It was agreed that these areas would be explored.

Members discussed the options for indicator measurement and agreed that a reduction was a better measure than a specific reduction measurement.

Action: AWTTC to develop draft NPI document to be brought back to AWPAG in September

10.2 Yellow Cards

Rob Bracchi presented a document from Yellow Card Centre Wales highlighting the positive impact that the Yellow Card NPI has had on reporting in Wales. Rob Bracchi noted that reports across the rest of the country have declined, but Wales has not experienced the same trend. YCC Wales continue to support the inclusion of Yellow Cards as a National Prescribing Indicator due to the positive effect this has had on Yellow Card reporting in Wales to date.

11.0 Best Practice Day 2019

Kath Haines updated members on the presentations and sessions to be held at the Best Practice Day 2019. Kath Haines reminded members to pick their preferred five sessions for the interactive element in the afternoon. Members were asked to tweet about the day in order to build awareness. Karen Samuels informed members that she had received positive feedback regarding the videos of presentations from previous Best Practice Days. The group discussed how they could promote the videos to a wider audience. Rob Bracchi suggested that HEIW may be able to help promote the videos.

12.0 Feedback from the All Wales Chief Pharmacists Group

Bethan Tranter had given apologies and therefore was not available to feedback from the All Wales Chief Pharmacists Group.

13.0 Feedback from health boards

No members had any feedback from their health boards to report.

14.0 Any other business

Members had no other issues to be raised.

15.0 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 18th September 2019