

Enclosure No:	x/AWMSG/0211
Agenda Item No:	xx – AWPAG update
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ALL WALES PRESCRIBING ADVISORY GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD Thursday 27th January 2011 at 10.30 am At the St Michael's Centre, Abergavenny, NP7 5UD

Members

Dr Tessa Lewis (Chair)	GP South East Wales
Ms Jane Barnard	Lay Member
Ms Sue Beach	Pharmacist, West Wales (representing Mrs Judith Vincent)
Mrs Nuala Brennan	Public Health Wales
Mr Mike Curson	Pharmacist South East Wales (representing Mr Bill Duffield)
Mr Richard Greville	Director, ABPI Wales (non-voting)
Mrs Louise Howard-Baker	Pharmacist, North Wales
Mrs Sarah Isaac	Pharmacist South West Wales
Dr Susannah Jacks	GP South East Wales
Dr Sue Jeffs	Secondary Care Consultant
Dr Hamsaraj Shetty	Secondary Care Consultant
Mr Jonathan Simms	Pharmacist South East Wales
Mr John Terry	Secondary Care Pharmacist
Mrs Fiona Walker	Pharmacist South East Wales
Dr David Webb	Secondary Care Consultant
Dr Sean Young	GP South West Wales

In attendance

Dr Robert Bracchi (Welsh Medicines Partnership)
Mr Trevor Brooking (Welsh Medicines Partnership)
Mrs Susan Cervetto (Welsh Medicines Partnership)
Mrs Ruth Lang (Welsh Medicines Partnership)

Key of abbreviations

AWMSG	All Wales Medicines Strategy Group
AWPAG	All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group
CASPA	Comparative Analysis System for Prescribing Audit
CEPP	Clinical Effectiveness Prescribing Programme (formerly known as the Prescribing Incentive Scheme)
CPW	Community Pharmacy Wales
DoH	Department of Health

GP	General Practitioner
HSW	Health Solutions Wales
HoPMM	Heads of Pharmacy and Medicines Management
MHRA	Medicines Health and Regulatory Authority
NHSIF	NHS Industry Forum
NMG	New Medicines Group
NPHS	National Public Health Service
NSAIDs	Non steroidal anti inflammatory drugs
PSU	Prescribing Support Unit
SLA	Service Level Agreement
UHB	University Health Board
WeMeReC	Welsh Medicines Resource Centre
WMP	Welsh Medicines Partnership

1. Welcome and introduction

The Chair opened the meeting, welcomed members, and reminded those present of the remit of the Group.

2. Apologies

Dr Jonathan Jones
Mrs Kath Hier
Dr David Leopold
Mr Bill Duffield
Mr Stuart Evans
Mrs Judith Vincent
Ms Rebecca Hogarth

3. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Chairman's Report

The Chair gave a verbal report regarding papers endorsed by AWMSG in December 2010 and informed the meeting that the proton pump inhibitor indicator had been added to the National Indicators to support the invest to save initiative.

4. Minutes of previous AWPAG meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed. There was one point of accuracy noted - Dr Sue Jeffs is a hospital consultant and not a general practitioner.

Matters arising:

Proposal for Model GMS Local Enhanced Service: Near Patient Testing

It was noted that some potentially toxic medications still do not have national agreement on prescribing status classification or effective monitoring arrangements. The Chair provided an update in relation to previous work in developing an All Wales Shared Care list. It was agreed that there is potential to identify those drugs that need greater scrutiny on a national basis, linking with 1000 lives and pathology systems.

ACTION

Dr Young and Dr Lewis to progress issue outside the meeting

Antimicrobial prescribing

The Chair informed members that she had met with Karen Fitzgerald, Robin Howe and Maggie Heginbotham from Public Health Wales to discuss issues raised by AWPAG and the Welsh Interface Pharmacists in relation to antimicrobial prescribing. The Chair proposed that the group consider the antimicrobial indicator at the next meeting and that Karen, Robin and Maggie should be invited to attend.

ACTION

**Antimicrobial indicator to be discussed at AWPAG on 14 April 2011
Chairman to invite representatives from NPHS to the next meeting**

Prescribing Leads Network

The Chair informed members that some GP leads had been identified at the recent RCGP conference. Further work on this issue had been deferred pending an imminent meeting reviewing primary care clinical networks organised by WAG and NLIAH.

Elderly National Service Framework/Medicines and Older People

Dr Shetty informed the group that he had submitted the updated chapter for Medicines and Older People. This document will be considered by an editorial board prior to public consultation.

5. Non NHS Prescribing – A Guide for Prescribers

Members were informed that the paper had undergone a technical edit by WMP and was the final draft prior to AWMSG. It was noted that Professor Walker's report in relation to co-payments had not been published. Several minor amendments were recommended. Dissemination should include the acute sector.

ACTION

**Mrs Howard-Baker to update the paper in light of the comments received
WMP to add to agenda of AWMSG Steering Committee and AWMSG
WMP Paper to be sent to GPC Wales**

7. Monitored Dosage System (MDS) at hospital discharge

The Chair provided the background and invited members to comment on the document. It was agreed that following minor changes and checks the paper should be presented to the AWMSG Steering Committee in February with the proposal that it be taken to AWMSG in March.

Implementation of the document was discussed. It was agreed that it should be disseminated through local medicines management groups ensuring it is made clear that it is guidance and 'an example of good practice' that could be adopted and adapted locally.

ACTION

**WMP to update paper
WMP to add to the agenda of AWMSG Steering Committee**

MDS audit criteria

It had been agreed at the October meeting that based on an aging population and increased morbidity, demand for MDS solutions could increase. Further work on the wider issues would require a systems approach involving multiple stakeholders. It had been agreed that audit criteria be developed to assess the extent of the problem, in order to inform the development of a standard of best practice.

Dr Jacks presented the results of an initial data collection exploring the profile of patients using MDS. The pilot involved two Welsh practices and identified useful datasets which can be modified in response to comments from the group and rolled out to interested GPs.

Dr Shetty volunteered to carry out a pilot data collection within the hospital setting. The following further suggestions were made in order to investigate current practice and provide best practice guidelines:

- Establish the source of requests for MDS. A gate keeping process is needed to ensure good clinical practice
- Data on discharges
- Quantify any delay in discharge related to dispensing medication in MDS
- Link with PCQIS
- Seek patient views in relation to ease of discharge
- Number of complaints made by patients following discharge on MDS
- Consider community pharmacists review/audit of MDS.

Members were informed that a review of the systems in Hywel Dda Health Board was currently being undertaken and permission to share the findings would be sought. Sue Beach offered to assess discharge interface issues.

ACTION

Members to submit data to WMP who will collate the information

8. National Audit on Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs

The Chair welcomed Mr Deslandes, a representative of the Welsh Medicines Partnership who presented the findings of the national NSAID audit. The audit had been developed by AWPAG in collaboration with PCQIS and issued April 2010. Members confirmed that the NSAID audit should be available during 2011-12 and that raising awareness and uptake of this audit should be a priority. Dr Jacks outlined updates required members discussed the details. Concerns were raised that despite previous discussions diclofenac is still being initiated within secondary care. It was suggested that WMP should disseminate the audit along with a summary of the results, and that “champions” could be identified within M&TCs to take the message forward.

ACTION

Dr S Jeffs to explore information cascade to appropriate specialists

Dr S Jacks / WMP to update audit in light of discussions

WMP to add to agenda AWMSG March 2011 for re-issue 1 April 2011

Mr Simms to notify Chief Pharmacists of National Audits

9. National Audit on Proton Pump Inhibitors

The Chair welcomed Mrs Bev Woods, a representative from the Welsh Medicines Partnership who presented the WMP PPI audits, part of the ‘invest to save initiatives’. Discussion included a suggestion to use Audit+ to obtain more detailed information and to consider using an average daily dose rather than a defined daily dose. The need to be able to benchmark with England was noted. It was agreed that the document should contain a caution/warning for patients where PPIs should not be stopped.

ACTION

WMP to circulate updated audit for comment

10. Lipid Prescribing

The Chair provided the background and invited comments in relation to the update of the template for prescribing lipid lowering agents. The Chair updated members regarding the statin indicator, the BNF section review and the increased prescribing of combination lipid-lowering products.

WMP provided the group with prescribing data and members were asked to identify which aspects of the data should be captured in future. It was noted that WMP representatives would be linking with the South East Wales Cardiac Network on 28th January 2011. It was suggested that the data could be linked to other national data such as QoF prevalence data, and would need clinical interpretation before being disseminated, and that the data should be considered by medicines management groups. The issue of adverse reactions to rosuvastatin was raised.

Members discussed the title and scope of the template. It was noted that under the heading of secondary prevention the final recommendation referring to Simvastatin 80mg required amendment. Fiona Walker outlined local audit work relating to the use of lipid lowering agents and offered to share this. It was agreed that a task and finish group would work with the author to effect the changes and bring the amended template to the group meeting in April 2011. It was also suggested that the template be forwarded to the diabetic networks in Wales for comment, and that the order be changed to primary prevention followed by secondary prevention.

ACTION

WMP to identify reporting rates and trends of adverse reactions to rosuvastatin via Yellow Card Centre Wales

Mrs Sue Cervetto, Mr Jonathan Simms and Mrs Sarah Isaacs to liaise with Mr Stuart Evans

Fiona Walker to bring audit summary to next meeting

Members to forward any further comments/recommendations to Mrs Sarah Isaacs for consideration AWPAG April 2011

11. Denosumab prescribing

The Chair reported that the Welsh Interface Pharmacist Group had produced a position statement regarding shared care in response to the recent NICE recommendation. Members were informed that this statement would be forwarded to the All Wales Osteoporosis Society for comment once approved by the group. After discussion members supported the statement and agreed that a caveat should be included highlighting that this is a biological agent and that the advice would be reviewed.

ACTION

Chair to feedback to the AWMSG Steering Committee

Chair to liaise with GPC Wales

12. Dissemination and uptake of guidance

A document was tabled on behalf of Jamie Hayes who was unable to attend the meeting. The paper outlined the strengths and weaknesses of the current process, recommendations made previously by Mr Duffield and resources available from NICE. Members supported the recommendations, in particular:

- AWPAG/AWMSG process should include implementation plans at the start of guidance development

- Use design expertise in media and educational departments
- Consider the need for AWMSG implementation resources (to support presentation, audit, professional opinion leaders, workshops etc.)
- Consider working with an individual pharmaceutical company to draw up an implementation strategy or workshop
- Review the new NHS structures
- Medicines Strategy

Using these recommendations and the NICE implementation matrix the group considered the implementation of recently endorsed AWMSG primary care guidance: 'Prescribing Medicines for adults who are unable to swallow oral solid dosage forms.' Mr Hayes has requested input from the media department. It was acknowledged that each health board had different processes for dealing with information. Members agreed that 5 brief key messages should be identified and disseminated with the paper. Primary care CPD coordinators, hospital postgraduate educators and district nurses should be involved.

ACTION

WMP/Bill Duffield to identify 5 key messages

WMP to update AWPAG template

Review of NHS structures to be discussed at next meeting

13. Clinical Effectiveness Prescribing Programme – Local Comparators

The Chair invited comments on a discussion paper in relation to the local comparators.

The following amendments were noted:

Item (4) to be removed in light of recent NICE guidance

Item (5) to be removed as now a national indicator

Item (16) & (17) New proposals: It was agreed that the baskets should be developed and run to establish whether they would be of use nationally.

Item (18) New proposal: Members agreed to add antipsychotic use in the elderly

ACTION

Mr Bill Duffield to update and circulate to members for comment

14. Feedback from other meetings

Medicines Management Programme Board

There were no issues of note.

All Wales Chief Pharmacists Group

Inaugural meeting of the group to be held on 28th January 2011.

PSU Users Group

There were no issues of note.

15. Papers for Information

The following papers were circulated for information:

Proposal for Model GMS Local Enhanced Service: Near Patient Testing

Draft minutes of the AWMSG meeting held in December 2010

National Prescribing Indicators 2011-12

16. Discharge of patients – understanding of prescribed medicines

Mrs Barnard brought to the attention of the group an issue that was raised at a recent CaSE meeting (Cancer in South East Wales, patient organisation). Some patients or carers have not felt adequately informed about their medication regime when discharged from hospital or of where to get urgent advice. Members discussed the issue including assessing the scale of the problem and existing processes to support patients. It was agreed that the issue should be considered in more detail at the next meeting.

ACTION

Mrs Jane Barnard to provide a discussion paper for the next meeting on 14th April 2011

17. Dronedarone (Multaq)

Dr Hamsaraj Shetty drew members' attention to a safety notice issued by MHRA on 21st January regarding the use of dronedarone (Multaq). It was suggested that WMP should consider highlighting this issue to the attention of members of the South East Wales Cardiac Network clinical group, the Chair of New Cardiovascular Drugs Group and Medicines and Therapeutics Committees. Members considered there was a need to develop best practice for dissemination of such information.

ACTION

WMP to highlight this issue with SE Cardiac Network Clinical Group, Medicines and Therapeutics Committees and the Chair of the New Cardiovascular Drugs Group

18. Date of next meeting – Thursday, 14th April 2011, at the St Michaels Conference Centre, Abergavenny.