

# **ALL WALES PRESCRIBING ADVISORY GROUP**

## **Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015 commencing 9.30 am At the St Michael's Centre, 10a Pen Y Pound, Abergavenny, NP7 5UD**

### **Voting members**

Mrs Louise Howard-Baker (Chair)	Pharmacist, Betsi Cadwaladr
Mr Alan Clatworthy	Pharmacist, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg
Mr Mike Curson	Pharmacist, Aneurin Bevan
Mrs Sian Evans	Consultant, Pharmaceutical Public Health Wales
Mr Stefan Fec	Community Pharmacist, Powys
Dr Peter Horvath-Howard	GPC Wales
Mrs Sarah Isaac	Pharmacist, Hywel Dda
Dr Susanna Jacks	GP, Aneurin Bevan
Dr Sue Jeffs	Consultant, Aneurin Bevan
Dr Atir Khan	Consultant, Hywel Dda
Dr Sally Lewis	Interim Assistant Medical Director/Primary Care Clinical Director, Aneurin Bevan
Mrs Robyn Miles	ABPI Wales Industry Group
Mrs Fiona Walker	Pharmacist, Cardiff and Vale
Mrs Beverley Woods	Pharmacist, Cwm Taf

### **In attendance (non-voting)**

Ms Kath Haines	AWTTC
Mrs Kate Jenkins	AWTTC
Ms Karen Jones	AWTTC
Dr Tessa Lewis	AWTTC
Dr Stephanie Francis	AWTTC (Observing)

### **Key of abbreviations**

ABPI	Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry
AWMSG	All Wales Medicines Strategy Group
AWMSG SC	All Wales Medicines Strategy Group Steering Committee
AWPAG	All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group
AWTTC	All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre
CEPP	Clinical Effectiveness Prescribing Programme (formerly called the Prescribing Incentive Scheme)
DHSS	Department of Health and Social Services
GP	General Practitioner
NICE	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
NWIS	NHS Wales Informatics Service
NWSSP	NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership
WAPSU	Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
WeMeReC	Welsh Medicines Resource Centre

## 1.0 Welcome & introduction

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed new member, Dr Atir Khan, guests Mrs Anne Bithell and Mrs Louise Williams, and observer Stephanie Francis. Members introduced themselves.

## 2.0 Apologies

Mrs Jane Barnard	Lay member
Mr Andrew Evans	DHSS
Mr Paul Fleming	British Generics Manufacturers
Dr Rick Greville	Director, ABPI Cymru Wales
Miss Sophie Harding	Pharmacist, Velindre
Mr Jonathan Simms	Pharmacist, Aneurin Bevan
Mr Jamie Hayes	AWTTC
Mrs Karen Samuels	AWTTC

## 3.0 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest pertinent to the meeting.

## 4.0 Chair's report

The Chair informed the meeting that there were no items of note to report.

## 5.0 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were checked for accuracy. Accuracy was agreed. The Chair asked for an update on the following action points:

- i. *National Prescribing Indicators 2015–2016 (Page 2)* – Bev Woods gave an update on the work Cwm Taf are doing to identify medicines which have been recently stopped on GP computer systems for potential Yellow Card reports. Undertaking the search is difficult and they are looking at new ways to do this. Bev Woods has been in discussion with the clinical system supplier. Discussion followed regarding coding.

**Action: Bev Woods to inform AWPAG of the company response.**

- ii. *Polypharmacy; Guidance for Prescribing (Page 2)* – the term 'frail' has now been removed from the document title. Kath Haines informed the group that the guidance fits the NICE endorsement programme and they have invited AWTTC to submit the document for assessment to do this. If successful, NICE will signpost to this document from their website.

**Action: AWTTC to submit final endorsement documentation to NICE for consideration.**

- iii. *Prescribing Dilemmas (Page 5)* – A reference has been added for 'Interventions Not Normally Undertaken' section in the document referring to complementary therapies.
- iv. *Review of AWMSG National Audit: Focus on Antibiotic Prescribing 2013–2015 (Page 5)* – Kath Haines updated the group that AWTTC are in contact with NWIS regarding Audit+ and development for the antibiotic audit is aimed to be ready by October 2015.
- v. *Implementation documents for AWMSG Advice on the Role of Oral Anticoagulants (Page 7)* – Tessa Lewis updated the group on the IT implementation issues for this project and also other outstanding IT implementation issues. The Audit+ atrial fibrillation module is currently being

piloted. AWTTC are still chasing progress on the electronic version of the patient held medicines record.

**Action: Kath Haines to obtain an update from Cheryl Way.**

- vi. *Choose Pharmacy Formulary* – It was agreed that the Choose Pharmacy Formulary document should also be sent to general practitioners, nurses and pharmacists.

**Actions:**

**Upload to AWMSG website. AWTTC to disseminate to general practitioners, nurses and pharmacists.**

**A clarifying/introductory statement for the website is required from Andrew Evans.**

## **6.0 Feedback from 25 March 2015, 22 April 2015 and 20 May 2015 AWMSG for information**

Kath Haines provided feedback from the AWMSG meeting:

- [The Role of Medication Safety Officers and the Process for Implementation of Medication Safety Alerts in Wales](#) – AWMSG members supported the proposals and recommendations made in the paper at their March 2015 meeting.
- [Prescribing Dilemmas: A Guide for Prescribers](#) - The document was presented to AWMSG on 25 March 2015. It was endorsed and is on the AWMSG website.
- [Therapeutic Priorities and CEPP Summary 2015–2016](#) - The document was presented to AWMSG on 25 March 2015. It was endorsed and is on the AWMSG website.
- [NHS Wales Primary Care Prescribing Analysis for Tramadol – Data to September 2014](#) - The document was presented to AWMSG on 25 March 2015. It was endorsed and is on the AWMSG website.
- [All Wales Choose Pharmacy Formulary](#) - The document was presented to AWMSG on 20 May 2015 and was endorsed by members.
- [National Prescribing Indicators 2015–2016 Slide Set](#) - The document was presented to AWMSG on 20 May 2015. It was endorsed and is on the AWMSG website.
- [National Prescribing Indicators 2014–2015 Analysis of Prescribing Data to December 2014](#) - The document was presented to AWMSG on 20 May 2015. It was endorsed and is on the AWMSG website.

## **Website Papers for Information**

The following papers had been sent to AWPAG for e-sign off and are to be considered by AWMSG at their 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015 meeting.

- **National Audit: Focus on Antibiotic Prescribing – Update**
- **National Audit: Towards Appropriate NSAID Prescribing - Update**

## **7.0 Documents for discussion**

### **7.1 Medicines Administration, Recording, Review, Storage and Disposal**

Louise Williams presented the Medicines Administration, Recording, Review, Storage and Disposal document developed by the MARRS group which last met on 2 June 2015. The document was well received. Discussion followed regarding the current situation with medication administration. It was noted that it is common in practice for nurses to sign the administration box before a patient actually takes medication. Louise Williams described a recommendation for a 'dot in the box' process to minimise early signing which has been trialled and subsequently rolled out in Cardiff, and is used extensively in England too. There was also discussion around self administration and timings of medicine rounds. A fridge specification has also been developed which will be circulated separately; the majority of fridges will not need immediate upgrade and they can be replaced in a timely way. An educational package around the document has been developed which will be available by the end of the year and a slide set will be available by the end of July.

**Action: AWTTC to edit document and co-ordinate a consultation during July/August for AWMSG in September. Consultation to include PHW, Chief Pharmacists and Nurse Directors.**

### **7.2 All Wales Guidance for Health Boards/Trusts in Respect of Medicines and Healthcare Support Workers**

Anne Bithell presented the All Wales Guidance for Health Boards/Trusts in Respect of Medicines and Healthcare Support Workers. Discussion surrounding care standards, differences in residential care and nursing care, multiple dosage systems (MDS) and social care engagement. Members suggested that clarification/explanation on banding of posts in relation to roles is needed in the document. Anne Bithell commented that there is some ambiguity regarding controlled drugs in the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) Standards for Medicines Management and the different classifications of CDs. i.e. Schedule II vs. Schedule III and IV. Anne Bithell will also explore the timeframe for development of social care guidance on medicines administration being developed by NICE. Members expressed strong support for this work.

#### **Actions:**

**Explanation/clarification of nursing staff banding in relation to roles is needed.**

**Document to go to consultation in July - to include social care and PHW.**

### **7.3 Development of Secondary Care National Prescribing Indicators**

Kate Jenkins presented the Development of Secondary Care National Prescribing Indicators. Proposed indicators were developed during a task and finish sub-group meeting held in March. Now presented for wider AWPAG discussion and support:

1. Analogue insulin prescribing - measure as per current local comparator, measured in both primary and secondary care. There was discussion around engaging with secondary care. The group felt examples of good practice were required and ways to incentivise change in practice needs to be considered. The measure was supported.
2. Biosimilar medicines – infliximab. Infliximab spend is high and although currently no data is available we should be able to measure as there is a recommendation to prescribe by brand.

## DRAFT

The group supported the measure, but felt that it should measure all biosimilars. Mr Alan Clatworthy informed the group that there were National Advisory groups producing documents in relation to the use of biosimilars and he would send links to AWTTC. The All Wales Drug Contracting Committee has also suggested looking at the filgrastim data, which was supported by the group. The group felt an all Wales document supporting the use of biosimilars was required to support this measure. AWTTC are currently in discussions with Welsh Government and ABPI.

3. Surgical prophylaxis – this measure was suggested at the Antimicrobial Spring Symposium. Data would need to be collected by audit. Details to be determined with support from antimicrobial pharmacist group.

The group supported the further development of the three proposed indicators. The group would like to see the full document with supporting information

### **Actions:**

**Bev Woods to share Cwm Taf's work on analogue insulins.**

**Alan Clatworthy to forward details of biosimilars.**

**Kate Jenkins and Stephanie Francis to develop the document with support from the NPI Task and Finish Group as necessary.**

**Document to come back to AWPAG in September.**

#### **7.4 Diabetes Prescribing Analysis with Cluster Level Comparators**

Karen Jones presented the Primary Care Prescribing Analysis – Medicines used in Diabetes. Karen Jones informed the group that this was a preliminary draft document as new clinical guidance was due out in August 2015. Discussion followed regarding the prescribing data, GP cluster groupings, outcome measures, who the document should be shared with and the possibility of a slide set to aid with implementation. Suggested amendments were raised.

### **Actions:**

**Karen Jones to email AWPAG asking for support to gather information on work done locally to add to the guidance section of the document.**

**Changes to be made to document as discussed, then to AWPAG for e-sign off.**

**AWTTC to disseminate to stakeholders following AWMSG consideration.**

**Karen Jones to send out a survey to assess the success of previous primary care prescribing report on respiratory medicine.**

#### **7.5 Guidance to Support the Safe Use of Long-term Oral Bisphosphonate Therapy**

Kate Jenkins presented the Guidance to Support the Safe Use of Long-term Oral Bisphosphonate Therapy paper. Kate Jenkins informed the group that this document had first been presented to AWPAG in December 2013 following a pilot study by Dr Stuart Linton. Following previous consultation comments Kate Jenkins had been in discussion with Dr Mike Stone and Dr Jane Turton from Cardiff and Vale University Health Board to produce a revised algorithm. The document was currently out for wide consultation and the deadline for comments was 8<sup>th</sup> June 2015. The comments would then be collated and discussed with Dr Linton, Dr Stone and Dr Turton before the document being sent to AWPAG members for electronic sign off. Discussion followed regarding the DXA/FRAX section on Page 9 with regards to DXA being available/ limited availability and it was agreed that the algorithm be amended.

**Action: AWTTC to update the document with AWPAG and consultation comments. Document to be sent to members for electronic sign-off and to AWMSG on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015.**

Dr Atir Khan and Dr Sally Lewis left the meeting.

## **8.0 Verbal updates**

### **8.1 Dose Taper and Discontinuation of Biologics in Low Disease Activity Rheumatology Patients and Review of Biologics Pathway**

Kath Haines updated the group on the Dose Taper and Discontinuation of Biologics in Low Disease Activity Rheumatology Patients and Review of Biologics Pathway document. Since starting the project Jayne Price has been on Welsh Government secondment and been unable to take this forward until now. Jayne Price will meet with the Rheumatology Specialist Advisory group and will produce a report for the September AWPAG meeting.

The consultation document on rheumatoid arthritis anti-TNF technology appraisal update, which is due for publication in October 2015, does not specifically refer to biologic treatment. Kath Haines also confirmed with NICE that they will not be looking at anti-TNF treatment in their review of rheumatoid arthritis guidelines due to be published in 2016.

**Action: Chair to provide Kath Haines with a contact from Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB).**

### **8.2 Medicines-related Admissions**

The Chair updated the group on the Medicines-related Admissions project. 500 GPs responded to the WeMeReC case study and 99% supported feedback to prescribers on medicines related incidents. Yellow Card Champions are also engaged in the process to enable MHRA reporting.

**Action: Chair to bring back to next meeting.**

### **8.3 Mechanisms to Promote and Support the Systematic Implementation of National Therapeutic Guidance**

Tessa Lewis updated the group on the Mechanisms to Promote and Support the Systematic Implementation of National Therapeutic Guidance document. A document was tabled by Tessa Lewis and discussion included cardiology engagement with support from Dr Chris Jones and the implementation of guidance in primary and secondary care services. Other discussion included enhanced services for heart failure, priority areas and a shared decision making toolkit. It was noted that the NICE cardiovascular quality standard is due for publication in Autumn 2015.

The Chair agreed to liaise with local cardiologists before wider consultation with cardiac networks. It was agreed to consult using the current format.

**Action: The Chair and Tessa Lewis to progress with cardiologists. Implementation of shared decision-making to be explored by Sally Lewis, Sue Jeffs & Tessa Lewis**

### **8.4 Welsh Lexicon**

Kath Haines provided a verbal update on the Welsh Lexicon project. Professor Dyfrig Hughes had informed AWTTC that the BNF group had given permission to use and translate their cautionary and advisory labels. They are in the process of agreeing a contract. The group is due to meet again in June 2015.

### **8.5 Primary Care Antimicrobial Guidelines**

Kath Haines informed the group that the Primary Care Antimicrobial Guidelines document has not yet gone out for consultation as updates are still awaited. It is hoped that these should be received with the next couple of weeks.

**Action: AWTTC to contact Robin Howe for the most up to date version of the guidance to send out for consultation.**

### **8.6 Amiodarone**

The Chair is working with Dr Khan in BCUHB and will inform AWTTC when the document is ready to send to AWPAG members for comment.

**Action: Send to AWPAG members for comment when ready.**

## **9.0 Documents for Review**

### **9.1 Prescribing of Low Molecular Weight Heparin in Wales**

The group agreed that the Prescribing of Low Molecular Weight Heparin in Wales document needed reviewing and updating. It was agreed that the group would forward to AWTTC issues they felt needed addressing before being taken to AWMSG Steering Committee.

#### **Actions:**

**AWPAG members to forward issues to AWTTC which need addressing.  
Search to be conducted for any recently published guidance.**

### **9.2 All Wales PPI and Dyspepsia Resource Pack**

The group agreed that the All Wales PPI and Dyspepsia Resource Pack should be considered for review, particularly as there is a National Prescribing Indicator for 2015-16. It was agreed that this will be a large piece of review work and needs to be considered by AWTTC in context of all priorities.

**Action: AWPAG members to forward to AWTTC issues which need addressing for consideration of priorities.**

## **10.0 Additional Items for discussion**

### **10.1 Inhaled Steroid Safety Cards**

Kath Haines informed the group that an email had been received from Kevin Smith requesting consideration of adopting Inhaled Steroid Safety Cards which were produced in England.

All Wales Respiratory guidelines, led by Dr Simon Barry, are in development and it was agreed to explore if this was a consideration within this remit.

**Action: Fiona Walker to contact Dr Simon Barry**

### **10.2 Shared Care Protocols at an All Wales Level**

Fiona Walker had enquired whether Shared Care Protocols at an All Wales level were still a remit of AWPAG, with particular reference to specialist medicines. It was noted that this is included in the AWMSG Five Year Strategy. Historic difficulties of this work were discussed, together with the potential need for resources to take it forward again if thought appropriate.

**Action: Kath Haines to take to AWMSG Steering Committee**



### **10.3 Guidance for Partnership working**

AWTTC and the TDA Partnership Group are reviewing the existing document. Once a draft is available it was agreed to bring it to AWPAG for comment.

**Action: AWPAG members to send examples of policies, guidance, protocols etc. to Kath Haines.**

### **10.4 NICE medicines optimisation guideline**

There was brief discussion about whether organisations had already looked at this work, how to avoid duplication and whether this was a priority for AWPAG. Two health boards (Cardiff and Vale and Aneurin Bevan) are planning meetings to look at priority areas from within the document. It was agreed to revisit the recommendations if health boards identified issues which should be progressed nationally or if there was opportunity for shared learning.

### **10.5 All Wales advice on the role of oral anticoagulants**

Tessa Lewis noted that recommendation 3.2 is due for review September 2015 and sought the views of the committee on current practice, prior to review with the guidance subgroup.

#### **Actions:**

**Tessa Lewis to email options out to AWPAG for comment. Comments to Tessa Lewis by deadline of 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015.**

**AWTTC/Tessa Lewis to progress with subgroup.**

### **11.0 Feedback from the All Wales Chief Pharmacists Committee (AWCPC)**

Nothing to report.

### **12.0 AOB**

- i. Susanna Jacks informed the group of work carried out updating guidance on the procurement and prescribing of specials.

#### **Actions:**

**Susanna Jacks to circulate document to AWPAG members.**

**AWPAG to provide any examples of scenarios/case studies to illustrate guidance.**

- ii. Kate Jenkins advised the need for NPI Task and Finish Group to meet in July. All previous members are happy to be involved.

**Action: Date to be arranged for July in Abergavenny.**

- iii. Kath Haines shared with the group correspondence regarding the place of Fostair® in the NPI basket for low dose inhaled corticosteroids. Following discussion no changes were proposed.

- iv. Bev Woods advised the group that PrescQIPP was now available to Health Boards in Wales.

**Date of next meeting – Wednesday 23 September 2015**