



AWTTC

All Wales Therapeutics & Toxicology Centre
Canolfan Therapiwteg a Thocsicoleg Cymru Gyfan

In Focus

Autum & Winter 2025/26 - Issue 31

AWTTC Autum & Winter Newsletter

An update on latest news, publications and resources.

In This Issue

July – January 2025/2026 news from:

- Patient Access to Medicines Service (PAMS)**
Supporting health technology appraisal, One Wales medicines assessments and quality assuring IPFR outputs.
- Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit (WAPSU)**
Development of National Prescribing Indicators and analysis and reporting of medicines usage data.
- Welsh National Poisons Unit (WNPU)**
Providing 24-hour poisons advice to healthcare professionals.
- Yellow Card Centre (YCC) Wales**
Monitoring adverse reactions to medicines.



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AWMSG publishes 2024–2025 Annual Report highlighting achievements in medicines access, safety and optimisation

The report outlines the year's key accomplishments, focusing on collaboration, innovation, and patient-centred approaches.

In the annual report, you can read more about all the projects AWMSG has been working on throughout 2024–2025.

[Read more](#)



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The new Innovative Licensing and Access Pathway (ILAP) welcomes first investigational products

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has announced on behalf of the ILAP Partners, (including AWTTC) that three potential therapies have become the first to enter a new UK scheme designed to help promising new medicines reach NHS patients faster and have been awarded 'Innovation Passports'.

[Read more](#)



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Medicines safety explored at joint AWTTC and Yellow Card Centre Wales Best Practice Day

Over 150 healthcare professionals from across Wales attended the annual Best Practice Day, at the All Nations Centre in Cardiff on 2 July 2025. The event focused on the theme of Medicines Safety and featured a packed programme of expert talks, a poster competition, and breakout sessions, all aimed at improving prescribing practice across NHS Wales.

[Read more here](#)

[Recordings and slides from the sessions are available here](#)



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AWTTC publishes Individual Patient Funding Request Annual Report 2024-2025

In 2024-2025 IPFR teams across Wales continued to provide an essential service for patients who might require treatments not routinely available in NHS Wales. Teams have worked hard to ensure that IPFRs are considered in a timely and consistent manner to provide fair and transparent decisions.

[Read more here](#)



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All Wales shared care framework and patient information leaflets published

These documents aim to ensure consistency in shared care across Wales in terms of principles, application of developing and reviewing shared care arrangements, and in taking a patient-centred approach to shared care.

[Read more here](#)



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All Wales guidance to support integrated medicines management in community settings published

This guidance was developed through collaboration with partners in both health and social care and outlines standards on collaborative governance to support safe and optimised medicines management, for a consistent and reliable approach to medicines management in community-based settings in Wales.

[Read more here](#)



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Adult asthma management and prescribing guideline updated

This guideline has been updated to more closely align with the national guidance published by the British Thoracic Society (BTS), NICE and Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN).

[Read more here](#)



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AWTTC publication - the impact of GLP-1 receptor agonist use on unscheduled care

Written by Clinical Director of AWTTC and Professor in the School of Medicine at Cardiff University, Prof. James Coulson, and Oliver Thomas from Cardiff and Vale University health board.

Their paper, titled “GLP-1 agonist-associated presentations to unscheduled care: An opportunistic pilot study”, was published in the British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology.

[Read more](#)



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AWTTC awarded first place for best poster presentation at RPS Annual Conference 2025

AWTTC is delighted to have been awarded first place for best poster presentation at this year’s Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) conference.

The poster ‘Developing the 2025–2028 National Prescribing Indicators for NHS Wales: A Stakeholder-Led Approach’, was presented by Shaila Ahmed, Senior Pharmacist at AWTTC.

[Read more](#)



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‘Treatment of COVID-19’ section added to ‘Primary care antimicrobial guidelines’

A new section on ‘Treatment of COVID-19’ has been added, alongside minor updates to the sections for ‘Suspected meningococcal disease’, ‘Out of hospital sepsis’, ‘Varicella zoster (Chickenpox)’, ‘Herpes zoster (Shingles)’, ‘Influenza’, ‘Oral candidiasis’, ‘Dermatophyte infection’, and ‘Dental abscess’.

[Read more here](#)



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Prescribing guidance for endocrine management of gender incongruence in adults updated

A minor update has been published that removes a recommendation for routine biennial endometrial ultrasound screening.

[Read more here](#)

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AWTTC publication - Toxicovigilance in the UK during the COVID-19 pandemic

Congratulations to Nicolas Brooke of UK Health Security Agency and members of the National Poisons Information Service, including AWTTC's Toxicologist/ Medical Writer Siân Harbon on their recent publication.

Their paper, titled "Toxicovigilance in the UK during the COVID-19 pandemic", was published in the journal Toxicology Research on the 14th December 2025.

[Read more](#)

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More Learning at Lunch sessions now available

More one-hour Learning at Lunch sessions were held online on 10 July and 1 October covering a variety of topics including 'Decarbonisation of medical gases – nitrous oxide project', 'New medicines ecosystem in Wales', 'Greener primary care, and 'Menopause and prescribing intervals'.

[Information on future events and recordings are available here](#)

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Minor updates to Common Ailments Service Formulary monographs published

Minor updates have been published to a range of monographs within the 'All Wales Common Ailments Service formulary', including 'Sore throat', 'Urinary tract infection', 'Back pain', 'Constipation', 'Diarrhoea', 'Dyspepsia' and 'Threadworm.

[Read more here](#)

PAPIG

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Latest news from AWMMSG's Patient and Public Interest Group (PAPIG)

PAPIG met on 12 September and 3 December, with discussions exploring pharmacogenomics and precision medicines in Wales, prioritising the voices of people with lived experience in rare disease research, weight-loss injections and pregnancy, taking your own medicines in hospital and balancing independence with staff support, learning to prescribe by putting trainees in the driving seat, and how medicine label directions can improve patient safety.

Join us at our next free online meeting on March 6th. [Please complete our online form if you would like to come to the meeting.](#)



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AWMSG medicines optimisation resources – Feedback survey

We are inviting you to share your feedback and views on AWMSG medicines optimisation resources. Your feedback will help inform an extensive review of the 'Medicines Optimisation Framework' which describes how AWMSG's medicines optimisation resources are created, from proposal by stakeholders, to endorsement, dissemination, and review. Your feedback will help ensure the review reflects the priorities and needs of the public and health and social care professionals in Wales.

The survey should take no more than 10 minutes to fill in. Please feel free to share it with your colleagues.

[Access the survey here](#)



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Join us for our Industry Engagement Day 2026

The event, which will be held on Thursday, April 30 from 8.30am to 3.30pm, at the All Nations Centre, Cardiff, will cover crucial topics such as Horizon Scanning, Commercial Engagement, Medicines Access processes, and the VPAG Investment Programme (Wales).

This is a prime opportunity for industry partners to engage with AWTTC and learn how and when to get involved in our processes. To discover what we are doing to enhance access to medicines for people living in Wales and find out how you can participate, register now for this event.

[Register here.](#)

Survey: AWMSG medicines optimisation resources - your feedback





PAMS
Patient Access to Medicines Service
Mynediad Claf at Wasanaeth Meddyginiaethau

New medicines advice for NHS Wales

Welsh Government has approved advice from the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG) for two medicines.

[September: Review of advice for infliximab by the One Wales Medicines Assessment Group](#)

[December: Review of advice for venetoclax \(Venclyxto®\) with azacitidine by the One Wales Medicines Assessment Group](#)



PAMS
Patient Access to Medicines Service
Mynediad Claf at Wasanaeth Meddyginiaethau

The list of Blueteq High Cost Drug system forms goes live on the AWTTC website

A dedicated list of Blueteq forms available for use across NHS Wales is now live on the AWTTC website. This marks an important step in supporting health boards, trust and clinicians with the implementation of the [Blueteq High Cost Drug \(HCD\) system](#).

[Read more](#)



WAPSU
Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Uned Cymorth Presgripsiynu Dadansoddol Cymru

Latest 'NHS Wales inhaler carbon footprint reports' and 'NHS Wales prescribing interval reports' published

AWTTC generates monthly reports providing a brief summary of some of the key metrics provided within the SPIRA dashboards for 'inhaler decarbonisation' and 'prescribing intervals'.

[Read more here](#)



WAPSU
Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Uned Cymorth Presgripsiynu Dadansoddol Cymru

National Prescribing Indicators 2025–2026: Analysis of prescribing data to September 2025

The National Prescribing Indicator (NPI) report, analysing data for the quarter ending September 2025 has been published.

[Read more here](#)

**WNP**
Welsh National Poisons Unit
Uned Gwenwynau Cenedlaethol Cymru

NPIS Cardiff - Cardiff University Summer School event

The NPIS Cardiff team recently hosted an educational escape room experience for A-level students aspiring to study medicine or dentistry at Cardiff University this September.

[Read more](#)

**WNP**
Welsh National Poisons Unit
Uned Gwenwynau Cenedlaethol Cymru

NPIS publication - retrospective review of mushroom exposures

Several poisonous mushroom species are present in the United Kingdom, but exposures that cause severe toxicity or death are rare. This study uses poison centre data to describe trends in mushroom poisoning in the United Kingdom over a 10-year period.

[Read more](#)

**WNP**
Welsh National Poisons Unit
Uned Gwenwynau Cenedlaethol Cymru

NPIS Cardiff 60th anniversary CPD event

The event was a great opportunity to connect with colleagues from across the NPIS and National Poisons Information Centre of Ireland but also from other organisations such as UK Health Security Agency, RCCE, WEDINOS, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service and Public Health Wales.

[Read more](#)

**WNP**
Welsh National Poisons Unit
Uned Gwenwynau Cenedlaethol Cymru

Medical Toxicology update course 2025

The annual event provides students and healthcare professionals with the opportunity to expand their knowledge and understanding of management of poisoning cases, as well as providing information about the latest trends and research in the field of medical toxicology.

[Read more](#)



World Patient Safety Day and Med Safety Week

Yellow Card Champions across Wales have been busy raising awareness of the importance of Yellow Card reporting and supporting international World Patient Safety Day (WPSD) and #MedSafetyWeek campaigns.

WPSD took place on 17th September 2025 when Yellow Card Champions in Cardiff and Vale UHB, joined forces with colleagues in the Patient Safety, Pharmacy and Women & Children teams (plus others) to champion the importance of “safe care for every newborn and child”.

During #MedSafetyWeek, 3rd-9th November 2025, our champions held a variety of events. They reminded staff and members of the public that ‘we can all help make medicines safer’ by reporting suspected adverse reactions to medicines and suspected problems with medical devices to the Yellow Card scheme.

We had a productive day at Asda Leckwith promoting awareness of the Yellow Card scheme.

Public engagement was excellent, with a relaxed and interactive atmosphere. Discussions frequently focused on GLP-1 receptor agonists, including side effects such as “Monjaro hair,” and biologic medicines. These conversations provided an ideal opportunity to highlight the importance of reporting adverse effects and the positive impact this has on patient safety, particularly with newer treatments. It was insightful to hear personal experiences. We also offered practical advice on managing medicine shortages, which remain a common challenge.



Sign-up to receive our future newsletters and read previous issues on the [AWTTC website](https://www.awttc.wales.nhs.uk).



For AWTTC’s latest updates follow: [@AWTTCComms](https://twitter.com/AWTTCComms) | [@AWTTCCymraeg](https://twitter.com/AWTTCCymraeg)



To give feedback or join the AWTTC mailing list email: awttc@wales.nhs.uk