





AWTTC Spring Newsletter

A quarterly update featuring the latest news and insights from our multidisciplinary team.

IN THIS ISSUE

January – March 2021 news from:

- 
 Patient Access to Medicines Service (PAMS) - Supporting health technology appraisals and coordinating IPFR outputs.
- 
 Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit (WAPSU) - Analysing prescribing data and developing medicines optimisation resources.
- 
 Welsh National Poisons Unit (WNPU) - Providing 24-hour poisons advice to healthcare professionals
- 
 Yellow Card Centre (YCC) Wales - Monitoring adverse reactions to medicines.

News in brief:

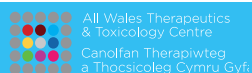
AWMSG calls for new members

AWMSG is seeking new members for the parent committee and its subgroups - the New Medicines Group (NMG) and the All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group (AWPAG).

For those interested in health technology appraisal and promoting best prescribing practice, the position offers the chance to support the delivery of better outcomes for patients across Wales. *Read more [here](#).*

IPFR annual report 2019-2020 published

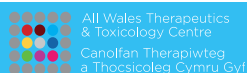
March 2021



In a new look Individual Patient Funding Request (IPFR) report, read an overview of the IPFRs considered across Wales in 2019-2020 and get an update on how IPFR panels are successfully meeting nationally agreed IPFR processes. *Read more [here](#).*

NEW process for appraisal of paediatric medicines

March 2021



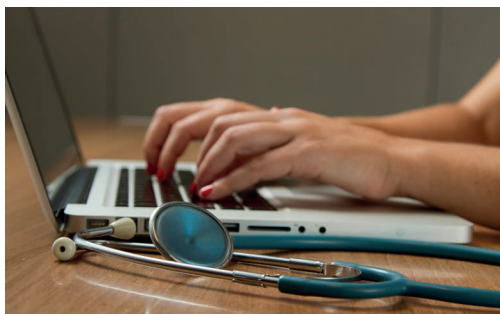
In December 2020, AWMSG endorsed a new process for appraising medicines that have had their licence extended to include use in children and adolescents. In March, the first medicine to meet the criteria for the new process was considered. *Read more [here](#).*

AWMSG Chair update

March 2021



Professor Ceri Philips has stepped down as the Chair of AWMSG to take up the appointment of Vice Chair for the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board. Welsh Government has appointed Professor Iolo Doull as Interim AWMSG Chair. *Read more [here](#).*

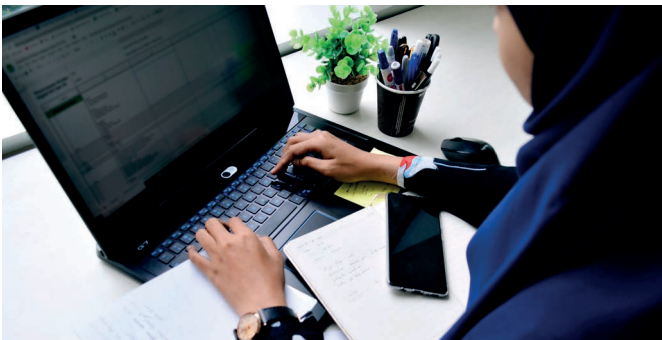


Welsh National Standards for Medication Review

January 2021

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

The Welsh National Standards for Medication Review have been developed to provide a structured approach to optimising patient safety and prescribing practice. These standards are currently being piloted to identify any barriers which may prevent the standards being achieved. *Read more [here](#).*



Prescribing Dilemmas: A Guide for Prescribers

February 2021

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

Guidance has been produced for health professionals covering topics including prescribing duration, foodstuffs, complementary medicines and alternative therapies, common ailments, travel and occupational health vaccines, unlicensed medicines and prescribing outside of national guidance. *Read more [here](#).*

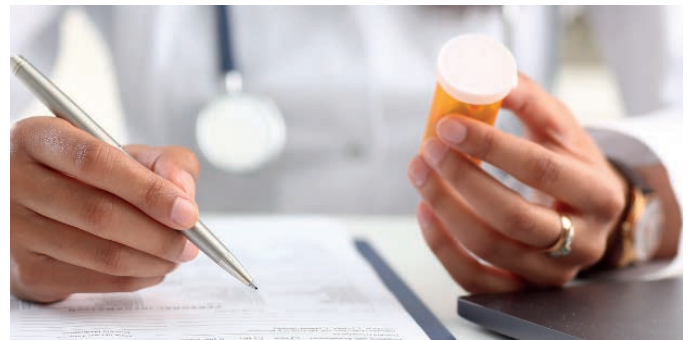


Avoid Nitrofurantoin in the Treatment of Pyelonephritis

February 2021

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

A Best Practice Reminder document has been developed to inform primary care prescribers to avoid prescribing nitrofurantoin in the treatment of pyelonephritis. The document outlines the rationale behind this and what can be prescribed in its place. *Read more [here](#).*



Shared Care Prescribing and Monitoring Guidance

February 2021

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

Within NHS Wales, shared care represents circumstances where primary care accept the transfer of prescribing responsibility from specialist care, for medicines that require long-term provision and regular monitoring. This document updates the principles of best practice for shared care prescribing agreements. *Read more [here](#).*

New medicines advice: Five new medicines approved

March 2021

PAMS
Patient Access to Medicines Service
Mynediad Claf at Wasanaeth Meddyginiaethau

Welsh Government has approved AWMSG advice for five new medicines.

Dupilumab (Dupixent®), Opicapone (Ongentys®), Lurasidone (Latuda®), Idebenone (Raxone®) and Melatonin (Slenyto®). Read more about their recommendation uses [here](#).

Annual Prescribing Reports 2019-2020

January 2021



A series of Annual Prescribing Reports 2019-2020 have been developed for health boards in Wales. These are individualised, comparative reports that outline the health board's ranking and progress with regards to a set of measures. *Read more [here](#).*

Quarterly NPI reports: Analysis of Prescribing Data to September

January 2021



The latest National Prescribing Indicator (NPIs) report has been published; the report covers an analysis of prescribing data to September 2020. NPIs for 2020-2021 include indicators for primary and secondary care. *Read more [here](#).*

WNPU announces Medical Toxicology Course

January 2021



WNPU has announced a two day intensive Medical Toxicology Course, which will take place on 8th and 9th October 2021. The course has been created for those interested in medical toxicology and looking to gain expertise in practical management of common toxicology problems. *Read more [here](#).*

NPIS Cardiff contributes to WHO Poison Centre Guidance

March 2021



The World Health Organisation (WHO) originally published guidance for Poison Control Centres in 1997 to help address the growing risks from poisoning by chemicals. Since then the role of Poison Centres has developed and the NPIS unit in Cardiff worked alongside units across the UK to revise the original guidelines. *Read more [here](#).*



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Organization



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