



AWTTC

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

In Focus

Spring 2022 - Issue 17

AWTTC Spring Newsletter

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

In This Issue

January - March 2022 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.



An educational collaborative event was hosted by the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) Wales on 20th January which involved four short presentations by AWTTC followed by a Q&A session.

Speakers included Shaila Ahmed, Pharmacist at AWTTC who presented on sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 (SGLT-2) inhibitors in type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

Dr Tessa Lewis, GP and Medical Advisor, gave a therapeutic update on avoiding the use of nitrofurantoin in the treatment of pyelonephritis.

Next to talk was Dr Laurence Gray, Consultant Physician at Cardiff and Vale University Health Board. Dr Gray presented Penicillin allergy - not a benign diagnosis!

Dr Robert Bracchi, Medical Advisor at AWTTC, was last to speak and gave an update on the latest news coming from AWTTC.

This was the first of what we hope will be a series of webinars to encourage GP engagement and provide opportunity for two-way discussion.



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Save the date for our AWMSG 20th Anniversary conference

It's hard to believe that it has been 20 years since AWMSG was established the time has gone so quickly. Save the date of November 17th 2022 to come and celebrate with us at Cardiff City Stadium where a plethora of interesting speakers and colleagues old and new will join us to mark this special occasion.

Keep an eye on [our website](#) for more information on how to register.



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Patient and Public Interest Group (PAPIG) meeting – March 18th

March 2022

The latest virtual Patient and Public Interest Group (PAPIG) took place on March 18th and focused on patient participation and the importance of the patient voice.

[Read more here.](#)



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Best Practice Day July 2022

Save the Date – we will be holding a Best Practice Day on the topic of ‘Decarbonisation: the medicines agenda’ on July 19th 2022 via Zoom.

For the first time this online event will also invite members of the PAPIG group to participate. The day will focus on sharing some of the excellent medicines optimisation work ongoing in Wales, and provided the opportunity for attendees to ask any questions and share best practice.

Keep an eye on [our website](#) for more information on how to register.



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AWTTC Best Practice Day

19th July 2022 9.30 am - 1.00 pm via Zoom



Decarbonisation: the medicines agenda

Registration opening soon!
Keep an eye on AWTTC.nhs.wales



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Pharmaceutical Industry Open Days

March 2022

Following the success of the 2021 open day programme, AWTTC delivered its first pharmaceutical open day for 2022 on Thursday 3 March. More than 50 delegates attended the session which provided an overview on how patients in Wales can access medicines and highlighted the importance of early engagement.

The session began with a very well received, interactive quiz which helped introduce some of the topics covered in the presentations. The team briefly spoke about the AWMSG health technology process and the new treatment fund. They also mentioned the One Wales process; the All-Wales free of charge (FOC) medicine supply process and individual patient funding requests (IPFR).

The audience heard about how Wales process commercial arrangements and how they can support the commercial medicines access team to assist in ensuring timely implementation of new medicines for people living in Wales. The session concluded with a summary on the Blueteq patient access scheme administrative system and an update on the future of the Blueteq high cost drug system.

AWTTC look forward to delivering the next session at the end of June.

To find out more or to watch past meetings [visit our website](#).

**WAPSU**Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Uned Cymorth Presgripsiynu Dadansodol Cymru

New dashboard to help NHS Wales reduce carbon footprint from inhalers

January 2022

The Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit (WAPSU), part of the All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre (AWTTC), has developed a [dashboard](#) to report on progress in reducing the carbon footprint of inhalers used within primary care in Wales.

Monthly reports summarising some of the key metrics are also available on the [AWTTC website](#).

**WAPSU**Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Uned Cymorth Presgripsiynu Dadansodol Cymru

National Prescribing Indicators 2022- 2023: Supporting information for prescribers and healthcare professionals

February 2022

A concise summary of the National Prescribing Indicators (NPIs) for 2022-2023 has been published, containing a brief overview of each NPI, including purpose, units of measure, brief rationale and prescribing points, and links to useful resources. [Read more here](#).



WAPSU
Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Uned Cymorth Presgripsiynu Dadansoddol Cymru

National Prescribing Indicators 2021-2022: Analysis of Prescribing Data to September 2021

February 2022

National Prescribing Indicators (NPIs) for 2021-2022 include indicators for primary and secondary care, with a focus on three priority areas:

- Analgesics in primary care
- Anticoagulants in atrial fibrillation
- Antimicrobial stewardship.

[Read more here.](#)



WAPSU
Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Uned Cymorth Presgripsiynu Dadansoddol Cymru

All Wales advice on oral anticoagulation for non-valvular atrial fibrillation

February 2022

Previously published in March 2020 this guidance has been updated to reflect changes in NICE guidance.

This guidance incorporates a risk/benefit assessment tool, and a one-page summary for Welsh healthcare practitioners.

[Read more here.](#)



WAPSU
Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Uned Cymorth Presgripsiynu Dadansoddol Cymru

Primary Care antimicrobial guidelines

March 2022

This guidance was developed to provide comprehensive advice on the antimicrobial management of common infections in primary care, taking into account local pathogen and antimicrobial susceptibility data in Wales.

[Read more here.](#)



WAPSU
Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Uned Cymorth Presgripsiynu Dadansoddol Cymru

CEEP National Audit – focus on antibiotic prescribing

March 2022

This audit aims to promote antibiotic prescribing in accordance with existing guidelines including the primary care antimicrobial guidelines endorsed by AWMSG.

[Read more here.](#)



WAPSU
Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Uned Cymorth Presgripsiynu Dadansoddol Cymru

Management of recurrent symptomatic urinary tract infections in adult women.

March 2022

This guideline is aimed at all community and non-specialist medical, nursing and pharmacy staff involved in the prescribing and management of recurrent UTIs in non-pregnant, non-catheterised women aged 16 years and over.

[Read more here.](#)



WAPSU
Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
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Management of *Clostridioides difficile* infection in Wales.

March 2022

This guidance provides an evidence-based, accessible, antimicrobial prescribing strategy for managing *Clostridioides difficile* infection (CDI) in adults.

[Read more here.](#)



PAMS
Patient Access to Medicines Service
Mynediad Claf at Wasanaeth Meddyginiaethau

New medicines advice for NHS Wales

January - March 2022

Welsh Government has approved recommendations from the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group for six medicines between the months of January and March 2022.

- February New Medicines Advice - [Read more here](#)
- March New Medicines Advice - [Read more here](#)



PAMS
Patient Access to Medicines Service
Mynediad Claf at Wasanaeth Meddyginiaethau

Launch of new ILAP HTA access tool

March 2022

A new HTA access forum tool to support developers in bringing innovative medicines to market in England, Scotland and Wales through the Innovative Licensing and Access Pathway (ILAP) has been launched.

[Read more here](#)



WNPU
Welsh National Poisons Unit
Uned Gwenwynau Cenedlaethol Cymru

Dr John Thompson retires: A great colleague

March 2022

Dr John Thompson retired at the end of March from the Welsh National Poisons Unit (WNPU) and it's only fitting to recognise the contribution he has made to Toxicology, but also recognise a fantastic colleague and friend.

[Read more here.](#)



WNPU
Welsh National Poisons Unit
Uned Gwenwynau Cenedlaethol Cymru

Coming up - Medical Toxicology Course. Register now - 7th-8th October 2022

The National Poisons Information Service (Cardiff) will host its annual Medical Toxicology course in Cardiff.

[Read more here.](#)



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