



# AWTTC

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

# In Focus

Summer 2023 - Issue 22

## AWTTC Summer Newsletter

A quarterly update on latest news, publications and resources.

### In This Issue

April – June 2023 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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### AWTTC promotes medicines safety at the Eisteddfod yr Urdd, 29 May – 3 June 2023

May 2023

The All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre (AWTTC), including colleagues from Yellow Card Centre Wales and the Welsh National Poisons Unit, went to the Eisteddfod yr Urdd in Llandovery to manage a stand on 'Help Make Medicines Safer'.

[Read more here.](#)



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### AWTTC updates its health technology assessment (HTA) methods and processes

May 2023

Key changes include removing the end-of-life modifier and introducing a new 'severity modifier', described in AWMSG's new 'Policy for appraising medicines for severe conditions'.

[Read more here.](#)



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## The third learning at Lunch session has taken place

May 2023

More than 100 clinicians joined the popular online session which included talks on Rapid update on common skin infections – red legs, Repeat Prescribing in General Practice and Primary care antimicrobial guidelines and CEPP audits as well as all the latest news from AWTTC.

[Read more here.](#)



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## AWTTC attends the MediWales Connects Conference 2023

June 2023

The conference at the All Nations Church in Cardiff was a chance to showcase the work of AWTTC and learn about the work and research being carried out by the health and care communities in Wales.

[Read More here.](#)



**Yellowcard Centre Wales**

## Yellow Card Centre Wales' Medicine Safety Day 2023

June 2023

The event was held jointly with the All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre (AWTTC) and celebrated the 40th anniversary of YCC Wales.

[Read More here.](#)



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## Patient and Public Interest Group (PAPIG) meeting

April 2023

The most recent online Patient and Public Interest Group (PAPIG) meeting took place on 20 April and focused on polypharmacy.

[Read more here.](#)



**PAMS**  
Patient Access to Medicines Service  
Mynediad Claf at Wasanaeth Meddyginiaethau

## New medicines advice for NHS Wales

June 2023

Welsh Government has approved advice from the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG) for one new medicine.

[Read More here.](#)



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

## Understanding unlicensed medicines

May 2023

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance for improving the management of unlicensed 'specials' and off-label medicines in all sectors of healthcare in NHS Wales.

[Read more here.](#)



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

## Primary care antimicrobial guidelines

April/ May 2023

A minor update to this document.

[Read more here.](#)



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

## All Wales paediatric asthma management and prescribing guidelines

June 2023

The All Wales Paediatric Asthma Management and Prescribing Guidelines have been developed as part of an integrated approach to standardise care across Wales for children with respiratory disease.

[Read more here.](#)



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

## NHS Wales inhaler carbon footprint reports

June 2023

The Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit (WAPSU), the analytical unit of AWTTC, has developed a dashboard to report on progress in reducing the carbon footprint of inhalers used within primary care in Wales.

[Read more here.](#)



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

## NHS Wales prescribing interval reports

June 2023

The Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit (WAPSU), the analytical unit of AWTTC, has developed a dashboard to report on progress for increasing the interval of prescribing durations for prescriptions issued within primary care in Wales.

[Read more here.](#)



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

## National Prescribing Indicators 2022-2023: Quarterly reports

April 2023

The National Prescribing Indicators (NPIs) for 2022-2023 include indicators for primary and secondary care.

[Read more here.](#)



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

## National Prescribing Indicators 2022-2025

June 2023

National prescribing indicators show how the different health boards in Wales prescribe certain medicines, and highlight any differences in prescribing patterns.

[Read more here.](#)



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

## New SPIRA dashboards published: 'Prescribing Interval' and 'Green Inhaler QI Project'

May/June 2023

The Server for Prescribing Information Reporting and Analysis (SPIRA) is an online interactive programme for comparative analysis of prescribing data.

[Read more here.](#)



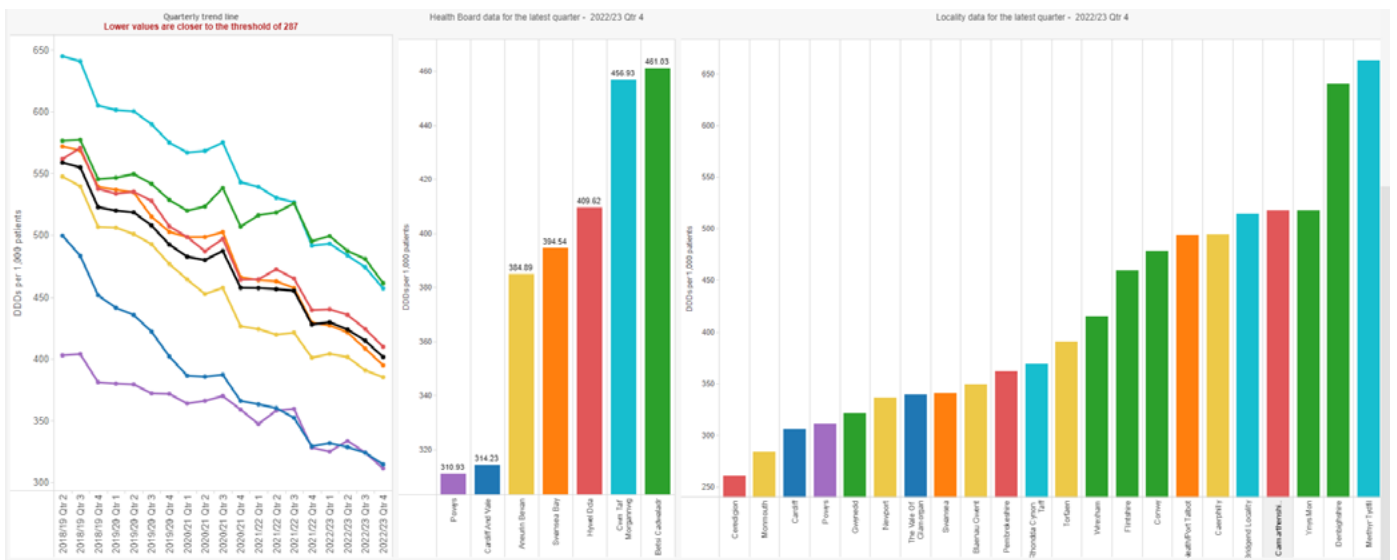
**WAPSU**  
Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit  
Uned Cymorth Presgripsiynu Dadansoddiol Cymru

## New AWMMSG Acknowledgement: Adverse Drug Reaction (ADRe)

April 2023

AWMSG's Acknowledgement process aims to highlight resources, initiatives or campaigns that are already recognised or endorsed by a national body or institute and have been implemented or accepted as good practice within NHS Wales.

[Read more here.](#)



SPIRA Dashboard, national prescribing indicators



**WNPU**  
Welsh National Poisons Unit  
Uned Gwenwynau Cenedl

## The 43<sup>rd</sup> Congress of the European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists, Palma, Mallorca 23–26 May 2023

May 2023

The Welsh National Poisons Unit (WNPU) was represented by a number of staff at the congress, two of whom gave oral presentations on inadvertent instillation of electronic cigarette liquid into the eyes, and on sodium nitrite as an emerging public health concern in the UK.

[Read more here.](#)



**WNPU**  
Welsh National Poisons Unit  
Uned Gwenwynau Cenedlaethol C

## British Toxicology Society Annual Congress 2023

April 2023

The Welsh National Poisons Unit recently attended the BTS Annual Congress in Birmingham.

[Read more here.](#)



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## AWTTC staff take part in the annual Cosmeston run

Runners from AWTTC were joined by friends to form 3 teams of three people each in the relay run in Cosmeston lakes Park with each person running 5 km. The weather was kind and as ever it was keenly attended with over 700 runners plus spectators. Our teams came in at 1h14m, 1h15m and 1h27m – so a great effort and it was a lot of fun. The first and second runners in each time experienced the excitement of trying to find their team mate to hand over the baton amongst a crowd of 200 people in a packed space.

AWTTC participants were Karen Jones, Richard Boldero, Gill Carter, Sabrina Rind and Stuart Keeping.



A massive thanks to honorary AWTTC members for the evening: Andy Champion, Alex Hirst, Sally Harlin and John Dyer who completed our teams.



Sign-up to receive our future newsletters and read previous issues on the [AWTTC website](#).



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