



AWTTC

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

In Focus

Summer 2025 - Issue 30

AWTTC Summer Newsletter

A quarterly update on latest news, publications and resources.

In This Issue

April – June 2025 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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VPAG (Wales) Investment Programme: A Major Opportunity for NHS Wales

VPAG aims to enable patients to access the latest cutting-edge treatments, strengthen the UK's position in global healthcare innovation and clinical research, and ultimately deliver better health outcomes across the population.

[Read more here](#)



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Learning at Lunch continues to grow

As well as covering a range of therapeutic updates, the latest 1-hour Learning at Lunch session held on 7th May covered propranolol poisoning and a look at the national Quality Improvement Programme for chronic kidney disease. The session was watched live by a record 162 people.

Watch recordings of past sessions and book your place for future events [here](#).

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Consultation on 'Wales General Ophthalmic Services signed orders formulary' now closed

The aim of this document is to agree an approved list of eye preparations (medicines and devices) for inclusion on the WGOS signed orders formulary.

Estimated publication date: September-November 2025

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Guidance on 'Urgent requests for repeat medication' published

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to prescribers in NHS 111 and Out of Hours primary care services when assessing the clinical need and urgency of requests from patients for repeat medication.

[Read more here](#)

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Minor updates to 'Primary care antimicrobial guidelines' published

Minor updates have been made to the monographs on 'Lower UTI in adults', 'Threadworm' and 'Acute rhinosinusitis'.

[Read more here](#)

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'Policy for the sustainable procurement, management, administration and disposal of medical gases to achieve decarbonisation' published

This policy document targets the procurement and management of medical gases, and focuses on nitrous oxide (N₂O) and 50% nitrous oxide and 50% oxygen mix commonly known under the tradename Entonox®.

[Read more here](#)

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Updated allergic rhinitis monograph published in the 'All Wales Common Ailments Service formulary'

An updated monograph for 'Allergic rhinitis' has been published with an updated layout, updated information throughout and adding fexofenadine as a treatment. Additional minor updates have also been made to the monographs for 'Conjunctivitis (bacterial)' and 'Sore throat'.

[Read more here](#)



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AWMSG's Patient and Public Interest Group (PAPIG) Featured on Rookwood Sound

Senior Scientist Dr Clare Elliott, lead for PAPIG, and Senior Pharmacist Sabrina Rind recently returned to the Rookwood Sound studio to join presenter Wesley Pritchard. Together, they highlighted the vital work being carried out by PAPIG in representing patient and public voices.

The June PAPIG meeting was a great success, with strong attendance and meaningful discussion throughout.

Save the date!

Our next meeting will take place on September 12th, and as always, everyone is welcome. We look forward to another insightful conversation and hope you can join us.

[Watch the recordings here](#)



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AWTTC Staff Take on the Cosmeston Relay Run

Staff from AWTTC laced up their trainers once again to take part in the annual Cosmeston Relay Run, held in the scenic surroundings of Cosmeston Lakes Country Park. Forming three teams of three runners each, the participants tackled the 5 km relay legs with enthusiasm and good spirits.

The event continues to be a fun and memorable experience for all involved, combining fitness, teamwork, and community spirit in a beautiful outdoor setting. Well done to everyone who took part—and here's to next year's race!





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AWTTC Recognised at Antibiotic Guardian Awards 2025

The Antibiotic Guardian Awards 2025, part of the ongoing Antibiotic Guardian campaign led by the UK Health Security Agency, celebrated outstanding contributions from across the UK and around the world in tackling antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

The event provided a platform to share learning and showcase innovative efforts aimed at reducing unnecessary antibiotic use.

AWTTC was proud to be shortlisted for two projects, reflecting our commitment to improving antibiotic stewardship in Wales.

[Read more here](#)



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 six medicines.

[May](#)

[June](#)



PAMS

Patient Access to Medicines Service
Mynediad Claf at Wasanaeth Meddyginiaethau

Launch of a new AWMSG sub-committee – CASWG

The new [Commercial Arrangement Scheme Wales Group \(CASWG\)](#) has been inaugurated to support implementation of AWMSG and NICE recommended medicines associated with a commercial arrangement.

[Read more here](#)



PAMS

Patient Access to Medicines Service
Mynediad Claf at Wasanaeth Meddyginiaethau

Phase II launch of the Blueteq High Cost Drug System in Wales

Blueteq is a web-based software system being implemented in Wales to help manage High Cost Drugs (HCD), ensuring they are prescribed in line with Health Technology Appraisal Guidance issued by the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG) and the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE).

The HCD system will allow health boards to monitor the prescribing of high-cost medicines and manage the ever-increasing complexities associated with their use.

[Read more here](#)

**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 2024–2025: Analysis of prescribing data to March 2024

The National Prescribing Indicator (NPI) report, analysing data for the quarter ending March 2024 has been published.

[Read more here](#)

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

New SPIRA dashboard monitoring the use of nitrous oxide published

To support the publication of the medical gases decarbonisation policy, a new SPIRA dashboard has been launched to help track the progress of reducing the amount of nitrous oxide being used in manifolds.

[Access the dashboard here](#)

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

45th Congress of the European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists (EAPCCT)

Members of staff from the Cardiff Poisons Unit attended the 45th Congress of the European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists (EAPCCT) in Glasgow. The conference was attended by many clinical toxicologists and scientists from around Europe as well as the USA, Australia, Kuwait, Canada, Taiwan, Singapore and Thailand.

[Read more here](#)

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

NPIS Cardiff attends the 19th Medical Chemical Defense Conference in Munich

Professor James Coulson travelled to Munich, Germany to represent NPIS's work at the 19th Medical Chemical Defense Conference at the Bundeswehr Medical Academy.

The conference focuses on research into counteracting chemical warfare agent poisoning.

[Read more here](#)

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

National Poisons Information Service CPD Event – Newcastle

Members of staff from the Cardiff Poisons unit attended a National Poisons Information Service (NPIS) CPD event hosted by the Newcastle Poisons Unit at St James' Park, to celebrate 50 years since the NPIS Newcastle unit was established. The event was attended by all four NPIS units as well as colleagues from the National Poisons Information Centre in Dublin, the UK Health Security Agency and the UK Teratology Information Service (UKTIS).

[Read more here](#)

**Yellowcard**
Centre
Wales

Reporting side effects of medicines and vaccines

Members of the public and clinicians can report suspected side effects from medicines, vaccines and medical devices through the Yellow Card Scheme. Everyone can help make medicines safer by reporting side effects to the Yellow Card scheme. All medicines can cause side effects. Some may not yet be known so that's why it's important for people to report to the Yellow Card scheme.

[Read more here](#)



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