







AWTTC Winter Newsletter

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

IN THIS ISSUE

October – December 2020 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:

AWTTC consultations

AWTTC encourages input into on-going consultations. You can find all the current consultations [here](#). Comments on Initial Clinical Management of Adult Smokers in Secondary Care guidance are being accepted until 22/02/2021.

AWTTC & AWMSG website merge

Work has now begun on AWTTC and AWMSG merging their websites. This new website will bring advantages including greater flexibility and a better user experience. AWTTC is working with the User Experience consultancy BoxUK, and will be seeking wide audience involvement and feedback in the coming weeks.



Supporting prudent prescribing to obtain the best outcomes from medicines for patients in Wales.

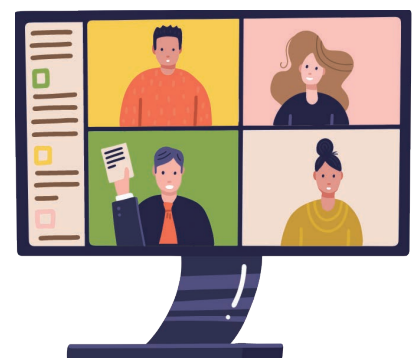
AWMSG Annual Report 2019-2020 November 2020

In a new-look All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG) annual report, read a review of AWMSG's five-year strategy and activities during 2019-2020. *Read more [here](#), available in Welsh [here](#).*



AWMSG hosts first virtual Open Day December 2020

The AWMSG team continued to adapt to a new way of working by launching a virtual Open Day programme for the pharmaceutical industry. *Read more [here](#).*



New medicines advice: Darunavir/ cobicistat (Rezolsta®) November 2020



PAMS
Patient Access to Medicines Service
Mynediad Claf at Wasanaeth Meddyginiaethau

Welsh Government has approved AWMSG advice for extending the use of darunavir / cobicistat (Rezolsta®), which is recommended as an option for use within NHS Wales in combination with other antiretroviral medicinal products for the treatment of HIV. [Read more here.](#)

New medicines advice: Meropenem/ vaborbactam (Vaborem®) October 2020



PAMS
Patient Access to Medicines Service
Mynediad Claf at Wasanaeth Meddyginiaethau

Welsh Government has approved AWMSG advice for one new medicine.

Meropenem/vaborbactam (Vaborem®) was recommended for the treatment of serious bacterial infections in adults. [Read more here.](#)

During December a One Wales decision was re-assessed. [Read more here.](#)

National Prescribing Indicators 2020–2021

Analysis of Prescribing Data to June 2020

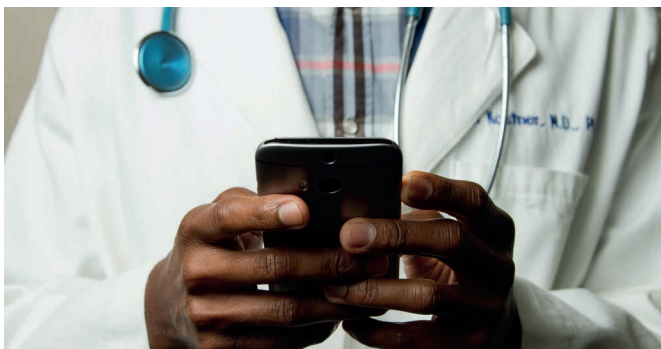


UPDATED: AWMSG resources for the use of opioids December 2020



WAPSU
Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Uned Cymorth Presgripsiynu Dadansoddol Cymru

The AWMSG resources on the use of opioids have been updated to account for MHRA Drug Safety Updates on the use of fentanyl patches in non-cancer pain, and the risk of dependence and addiction associated with opioids. [Read more here.](#)



Quarterly NPI reports December 2020



WAPSU
Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Uned Cymorth Presgripsiynu Dadansoddol Cymru

The latest National Prescribing Indicator (NPIs) report has been published; the report covers an Analysis of Prescribing Data to June 2020.

NPIs for 2020–2021 include indicators for primary and secondary care. [Read more here.](#)

UPDATED: Low Value for Prescribing Paper 3 December 2020



WAPSU
Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Uned Cymorth Presgripsiynu Dadansoddol Cymru

Items Identified as Low Value for Prescribing in NHS Wales – Paper 3 has been updated, to remove the cyanocobalamin section and add a statement concerning the temporary suspension of the active monitoring of items. [Read more here.](#)



NPIS Annual Report 2019-2020

November 2020



WNPU
Welsh National Poisons Unit
Uned Gwenwynau Cenedlaethol Cymru

The National Poisons Information Service (NPIS) has published their 2019-2020 Annual Report. The report summarises NPIS activities for 2019-2020, which included just over 38,000 telephone enquiries to NPIS nationally and almost 686,000 TOXBASE® user sessions. *Read more [here](#).*

WNPU Twitter account launched

November 2020



WNPU
Welsh National Poisons Unit
Uned Gwenwynau Cenedlaethol Cymru

The Welsh National Poisons Unit (WNPU) has launched a new Twitter account @WalesTox. From WNPU news including alerts to information on conferences and updates from TOXBASE®, follow for the latest medical toxicology news and developments. *Read more [here](#).*



Follow WNPU on Twitter: @WalesTox

Yellow Card Centre Wales support #MedSafetyWeek

November 2020

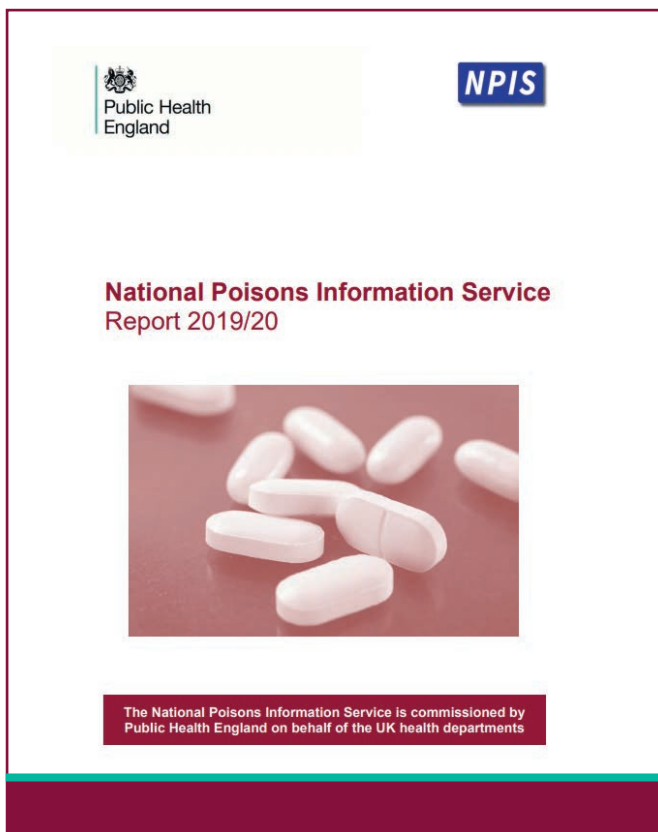


YCC Wales
Yellow Card Centre Wales
Canolfan Cerdyn Melyn Cymru

Yellow Card Centre Wales (YCC Wales) joined healthcare professionals across the world to support #MedSafetyWeek 2020. Each year, patients and healthcare professionals are called upon to report all Adverse Drug Reactions to the Yellow Card Scheme. *Read more [here](#).*



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Read the autumn newsletter here:
www.awttc.org/awttc-newsletter



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