

# Grŵp Strategaeth Meddyginiaethau Cymru Gyfan All Wales Medicines Strategy Group All Wales Medicines Strategy Group

# **AWMSG** and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act



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# List of abbreviations

ATMP Advanced Therapeutic Medicinal Product
AWMSG All Wales Medicines Strategy Group

AWTTC All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre

EqHIA Equality and Health Impact Assessment

EMA European Medicines Agency
HTA Health technology assessment

ILAP Innovative Licensing and Access Pathway

IPFR Individual Patient Funding Request

MHRA Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency NICE National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

PAPIG Patient and Public Interest Group

WHO World Health Organization

WHSSC Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee

WPAS Wales Patient Access Scheme

# The well-being of future generations in Wales

The All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG) and the All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre (AWTTC) support the well-being of future generations through their work to:

- ensure people in Wales can access clinically effective and cost-effective medicines as quickly as possible when they need them; and
- protect the public by improving the safe use of medicines.

AWMSG and AWTTC aim to reduce inequalities in healthcare relating to medicines across Wales; this means reducing any differences in healthcare between different social or racial groups. AWMSG and AWTTC are committed to ensuring equality (everyone has the same rights and opportunities as everyone else) and equity (fairness).

To ensure that NHS Wales can provide the best healthcare possible for future generations and use the finite resources of the NHS wisely, AWMSG's prescribing guidance will be essential to:

- ensure that medicines are used correctly and in the right clinical situations;
- reduce the amount of inappropriate prescribing and variation in prescribing across Wales; and
- reduce medicines waste.

# **Public bodies and the Well-being of Future Generations Act**

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act aims to ensure that future generations in Wales have at least the same quality of life as we do now<sup>1</sup>. The Act sets out seven well-being goals for public bodies to achieve by following five ways of working:

- **long-term**: balance short-term needs with ability to meet long-term needs;
- **prevention**: help to stop problems occurring or getting worse;
- **integration**: consider how their objectives may impact on the well-being goals, their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies;
- **collaboration**: think about working with others, including other public bodies;
- **involvement**: consider and involve people who are interested in achieving the well-being goals, ensuring that these people reflect the diversity of the area that the body serves.

AWMSG and AWTTC will ensure that they follow these five ways of working during their decision making in all aspects of their work. AWMSG will ensure that equality and health impact assessments are conducted, and consulted on, for all its work.

The Act defines sustainable development as "the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals". Each public body should carry out sustainable development, and work to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

Public bodies should apply the sustainable development principle in their work. They must set and publish well-being objectives showing how they will work to achieve the seven well-being goals, and also show the progress they make towards achieving them<sup>1</sup>. AWTTC has set up a Sustainability Group, to help apply sustainable development principles in its work and the work of AWMSG.

# Seven well-being goals and AWMSG's Strategy 2018–2023

AWMSG published recommendations in its Five-Year Strategy 2018–2023<sup>2</sup>. The recommendations relate directly to the seven well-being goals set out in Welsh Government's Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015<sup>1</sup>. These seven goals are connected: some recommendations may help to meet more than one goal. Below we highlight AWMSG's recommendations and how they will help AWMSG and AWTTC to work towards the seven well-being goals.

# Well-being Goal 1: A prosperous Wales



#### **AWMSG** recommendations:

- 2.2 Medicines homecare services
- 3.6 Resource reallocation
- 4.6 Health technology assessment (HTA) review the appraisal process to meet the developing needs of NHS Wales
- 4.7 Wales Patient Access Scheme ensuring NHS Wales recoups any financial discounts

We recognise the limits of the current financial resources for healthcare and that it is essential to use these efficiently and proportionately. Currently, AWMSG appraises all new medicines not considered by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), ensuring that the current financial resources are used effectively.

AWMSG is working to provide innovative ways to ensure that future generations receive medicines at a price the NHS can afford by exploring innovative schemes such as the Wales Patient Access Scheme (WPAS), opportunities for resource reallocation and monitoring home care services.

AWTTC has developed a tool on SPIRA (the server for prescribing information reporting and analysis) to monitor the carbon footprint of medical inhaler devices used for asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD). AWTTC is measuring the progress that is being made in achieving the target of the NHS Wales Decarbonisation Strategic Delivery Plan to increase the use of low global warming potential inhalers to 80% of the total inhalers issued by 2025. This would equate to a decrease in carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from a baseline of 65,000 tonnes per year to 20,000 tonnes by 2025; a difference of 45,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide each year. AWTTC anticipates that the tool will help inform a conversation between practitioners and patients around the carbon footprint of inhalers and support, where appropriate, a switch to alternative inhalers.

AWMSG's Patient and Public Interest Group (PAPIG) gave input into the development of a patient leaflet to encourage people to switch to using a dry powder inhaler, which is more environmentally-friendly (has a lower carbon footprint) than metered-dose inhalers.

AWMSG will continue to collaborate with other agencies involved in the approval of medicines and engage with the public, patients and healthcare professionals to ensure continuing confidence in the process. Several challenges and opportunities will affect medicines provision for future generations; for example, orphan and ultra-orphan medicines, and pioneering cell and gene therapies. AWTTC is represented on the All Wales Genomics-Oncology Group, to ensure the development of precision medicines in Wales is aligned with AWMSG's goals. AWMSG is exploring innovative ways of funding to ensure access to new and innovative medicines for generations of the future.

AWTTC is representing AWMSG in discussions with the Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) and NICE about NICE's new Innovative Licensing and Access Pathway (ILAP).

AWTTC has set up an Industry Forum with representatives of pharmaceutical companies, which could consider ideas and potential projects about reducing carbon emissions associated with the supply and use of medicines.

# **Well-being Goal 2: A resilient Wales**



#### AWMSG recommendations:

- 2.3 Safe medication systems
- 3.1 Medication-related admissions
- 3.4 Reduce medicine-related harm
- 3.5 Pharmacovigilance
- 4.5 National Prescribing Indicators
- 4.8 Using data to improve patient outcomes

Future generations in Wales will face many major challenges in the use of medicines, including increasing levels of antimicrobial resistance and medication-related harm from polypharmacy<sup>3</sup>.

The World Health Organization (WHO) Global Patient Safety Challenge: *Medication Without Harm* launched in March 2017. It highlighted the importance of reducing medication-related harm and challenged countries to reduce serious medication-related harm by 50% over the next five years<sup>4</sup>. To meet the WHO's challenge AWMSG has developed National Patient Safety Indicators that are intended to highlight potential prescribing safety issues and, through their use, ensure that future generations in Wales are protected from these areas of concern.

AWMSG will support work to monitor medication-related admissions and initiatives to reduce these types of admissions. AWMSG is also working to improve the monitoring of adverse reactions from the use of medicines in Wales to help identify signals and, with early detection of an adverse drug reaction, prevent future generations from medication-related harm such as the thalidomide disaster in the 1960s. Understanding the implications of high socioeconomic deprivation on medicines use by future generations is essential for addressing the impact of health inequalities on variation in medication use<sup>5</sup>.

AWMSG is working with health boards, trusts and stakeholders to continue to develop National Prescribing Indicators and demonstrate an improvement in healthcare outcomes for patients by using all available health technology. AWTTC is

a commentator organisation on the development of a new process at NICE for health technology evaluation of antibiotics.

AWTTC is supporting a project to assess the environmental problems caused by antibiotic use. AWMSG could consider any potential environmental impact of medicines, such as its predicted no effect concentration (PNEC) – the concentration below which no adverse effects on the ecosystem are expected to happen.

AWMSG supports social prescribing as a way to reduce the use of certain types of medicines; for example, a patient information leaflet about tramadol includes suggestions for social prescribing.

AWTTC is working on a tool to highlight inequalities in medicines prescribing in Wales.

# **Well-being Goal 3: A healthier Wales**



#### AWMSG recommendations:

- 1.1 Partnership with the public
- 1.2 Reduce medicines wastage
- 1.3 Ensure fair and equitable provision of healthcare
- 2.1 Workforce development
- 3.2 Medication review
- 4.4 Repeat prescribing systems

AWMSG is focused on maximising people's physical and mental well-being and ensuring that choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood. AWMSG is also committed to preventing disease, as well as preventing harm from medicines. The AWTTC website has a page dedicated to COVID-19 vaccine information, and a range of information resources related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

AWMSG supports shared decision-making, and is engaging with HealthWise Wales to increase public understanding and involvement in the work of AWMSG.

AWMSG is working to ensure a healthier and better informed Wales for future generations and will encourage workforce development by supporting health boards and trusts to provide education opportunities for prescribers. Providing educational initiatives will ensure that prescribers and stakeholders keep up-to-date with work undertaken by AWMSG and ensure an up-to-date and informed healthcare service in Wales for future generations.

AWTTC organises and hosts an annual Best Practice Day to share good practice in medicines prescribing and safety initiatives. The meeting brings together teams from all health boards and trusts in Wales, with the aim of sharing good prescribing practice, and highlighting any specific strategies and projects used to maximise achieving any of the National Prescribing Indicators, including the benefits of social prescribing.

All AWMSG consultations are made public on the AWMSG website and anyone can contribute. Members of AWMSG's Patient and Public Interest Group (PAPIG) are also contacted directly about AWMSG's public consultations. Patients and the public are involved in AWMSG's work in appraising medicines and producing advice to improve medicines optimisation.

#### Well-being Goal 4: A more equal Wales



#### **AWMSG** recommendations:

- 1.3 Ensure fair and equitable provision of healthcare
- 3.3 National prescribing and administration chart
- 4.1 Transformational digital technology
- 4.2 Nationally available medicines list

By appraising new medicines (those not on the NICE work programme) AWMSG ensures that patients in Wales, no matter what their postcode, background or circumstances, have access to appropriate clinically effective and cost-effective new medicines at the appropriate time. This will lead to improved patient health outcomes.

AWTTC co-ordinates the One Wales process to ensure that all patients in Wales can access medicines that may not be routinely prescribed in Wales. This covers medicines that:

- NICE or AWMSG will appraise in the future;
- are not yet licensed by the MHRA or EMA;
- are licensed but only to treat a different condition; or
- are not included in current treatment guidelines.

AWMSG will introduce measures to ensure adherence to National Prescribing Indicators. It will also develop an All Wales Home Care prescribing and administration chart, to help future generations with the use of their medications.

AWMSG is supporting the introduction of a single electronic prescribing system in hospitals in Wales. Introducing electronic prescribing will benefit future generations in Wales from associated improvements in medication safety. Having a national electronic prescribing system will allow communication between all hospitals in Wales, allowing improved recording of the use of medicines and improved service to patients who may be under the care of more than one hospital.

AWMSG is committed to Welsh Government's aims to create:

- a more equal Wales where everyone is treated as an equal citizen, and
- meaningful change to outcomes in healthcare for Black, Asian and minority ethnic people.

AWMSG will ensure that any potential racial variation in the metabolism of medicines is considered, so that all citizens in Wales derive benefits from the medicines appraised and considered by AWMSG.

AWMSG and its subcommittees will consider the impact of their work on people in Wales, and their health and wellbeing; AWMSG will also consider how to address any inequalities in health in relation to medicines use. AWTTC will support this by ensuring that an equality and health impact assessment (EqHIA) is conducted for all projects and guidance that go to AWMSG for endorsement, as well as for internal AWTTC policies. AWTTC will try to highlight any factors that might disadvantage people's outcomes in healthcare, such as socioeconomic status, disability or location. Each EqHIA will be available on the AWTTC website for all stakeholders to comment on.

AWTTC's Communication and Engagement Strategy states that "all communication and engagement activity will take into consideration equality impact assessments and mitigating communications will be established to ensure equity of access and information".

# **Well-being Goal 5: A Wales of cohesive communities**



#### **AWMSG** recommendations:

- 1.1 Partnership with the public
- 2.1 Workforce development
- 4.3 Improving prescribing and medicines optimisation within NHS Wales
- 4.5 National Prescribing Indicators

AWMSG is working to communicate better with all stakeholders. AWTTC has developed a Communications and Engagement Strategy to communicate its work and the work of AWMSG. The strategy aims to:

- inform and raise awareness of AWMSG;
- engage and involve relevant stakeholders; and
- build recognition and retain engagement for AWMSG's work.

Specifically, the strategy should help AWMSG to build and sustain engagement with patients and the public, clinical networks and pharmaceutical companies. Communication and engagement activities planned include: online surveys and PR campaigns, social media channels (Twitter, LinkedIn), podcasts and virtual events; attending conferences and meetings, and reaching out to primary care networks and clinical networks. AWTTC will work with organisations in Wales that support patients and carers, to try to engage with people in Wales who are not online or who do not use social media.

AWMSG will measure the success of its strategy to improve communication and engagement by monitoring and seeking to address inappropriate variation in National Prescribing Indicators, and by investigating the current awareness of AWMSG by the public in Wales.

AWTTC is working in partnership with Yma, a not-for-profit social enterprise, to develop prescribing guidance and practical tools in alliance with general practitioners with a prescribing lead role, to support the promotion of best practice and ultimately improve patient safety in Wales.

AWMSG is committed to developing viable, safe and well-connected communities. It involves patients and the public in its work to ensure that future generations are fully aware of the work of AWMSG. AWTTC's new website launched in 2022 and incorporates the work of AWMSG. The site is available in English and Welsh, and all our stakeholders may submit their views in English or in Welsh on any consultations, projects and medicines appraisals.

# Well-being Goal 6: A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language



#### **AWMSG** recommendations:

- 1.1 Partnership with the public
- 2.1 Workforce development

AWMSG is promoting the Welsh language and culture and has developed a Welsh Language Strategy. AWMSG aims to be present at national Eisteddfod festivals; and will provide documents, videos and websites in Welsh and English. AWMSG will ensure its meetings and public meetings meet Welsh language standards.

As part of the Welsh Language Strategy, all communication and engagement activity will comply with Welsh Language Standards, with the aim of achieving an environment that encourages and promotes the use of the Welsh language within AWTTC and AWMSG for Welsh-speaking clinicians, members of the public and organisations.

To ensure compliance with the Welsh Language Standards listed as part of the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board Compliance Notice, AWTTC has created a General Action Plan and will monitor progress of the standards outlined within this plan.

AWTTC works closely with the academic institutions in Wales: involves PhD students in various medicines-related projects, publishes research papers and presents posters at scientific conferences and meetings.

# Well-being Goal 7: A globally responsible Wales



#### **AWMSG** recommendations:

- 1.2 Reduce medicines wastage
- 1.3 Ensure fair and equitable provision of healthcare
- 3.4 Reduce medicine-related harm
- 4.6 HTA review the appraisal process to meet the developing needs of NHS Wales

AWMSG is a recognised national appraisal body and has been appraising medicines by health technology assessment for over 18 years<sup>6</sup>. AWMSG's appraisal process is accredited by NICE as best practice. AWMSG decisions are included in the British National Formulary. With timely decisions being made on the availability of new medicines and development of best practice guidance, AWMSG contributes to the well-being of future generations in Wales.

AWMSG will consider the environmental impact of the medications it appraises and recommends.

AWMSG promotes antimicrobial stewardship and is working toward ways to reduce antimicrobial resistance.

AWMSG is committed to the WHO's global challenge to reduce serious medication-related harm by 50% over five years for the benefit of future generations.

AWTTC is developing a project on 'penicillin allergy de-labelling'. Some people think, or have been told, that they are allergic to penicillin but when tested they do not have a true allergy to it. These people could then be given penicillin antibiotics if needed, instead of having to take alternative antibiotics that may have more side effects than penicillin antibiotics. The project aims to develop an algorithm to help identify who might need testing for an allergy to penicillin.

Adherence to medicines is one of many causes of medicines waste. A collaborative project is under way, funded by AWTTC and in partnership with Bangor University and the Bevan Commission, to look at improving adherence to medication and thereby reduce medicines waste. The WHO and NICE claim that between a third and a half of dispensed medicines are not taken as recommended. It has been estimated that £300 million of NHS-prescribed medicines are wasted each year<sup>7</sup>. A reduction in waste may improve the patient's experience by optimising their medication and reduce unnecessary demand on the NHS<sup>7</sup>.

AWTTC co-hosted the Health Technology Assessment International (HTAi) virtual conference in 2021, and is now collaborating with organisations in the UK (NICE and the Scottish Medicines Consortium) and also in Canada and Australia.

# Our plan

AWTTC will publish a well-being statement when setting well-being objectives explaining why they feel the objective will help them achieve the goals and how it has applied the sustainable development. AWMSG will publish an annual report showing our progress towards achieving the well-being objectives.

AWMSG and AWTTC have started to set out four objectives that describe how we plan to achieve the seven well-being goals, and make sure that we put the five ways of working outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act at the heart of our work.

# Objective 1: Highlight the challenges and opportunities facing future generations in relation to medicines

#### AWMSG will:

- Be a guardian for future generations working with the public, patients and all stakeholders. By engaging all stakeholders, we will develop the best ways of tackling the challenges we face and highlighting the opportunities to act.
- Support and endorse the work of the NHS in Wales to ensure the prudent and safe use of medicines and provide advice and education on medicines optimisation.
- Use our expertise and data to identify potential problems with medicines prescribing or use, and act to prevent problems getting any worse.
- Create the right infrastructure for future generations, focusing on:
  - ensuring our medicines appraisal process is in line with other UK health technology assessment bodies;
  - supporting the introduction of innovative medicines, such as ATMPs and precision medicines; and
  - o resource reallocation making the best use of current resources.

#### • Equip people for the future, by:

- giving them the skills for the future use of medicines, through workforce development;
- o medication safety monitoring; and
- o reducing hospital admissions from medication-related harm.
- Share learning with other nations promoting best practice learned in Wales whilst learning from other organisations supporting and challenging progress on sustainable development.

# How we will do it:

- Set (and at intervals review) priority areas for action to address the biggest challenges and issues facing future generations in Wales. AWMSG will engage with experts, organisations, public bodies and citizens to define these challenges and issues, identifying key opportunities and strategies to tackle them.
- Monitor our well-being objectives, policy development and decision-making, within our priority areas, to identify key opportunities to promote sustainable development and the AWMSG strategy recommendations to ensure we are applying the principles of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act.

- Work with others, build knowledge around the seven well-being goals and priority areas and develop targeted resources setting out the challenges and opportunities facing Wales and demonstrating the positive difference that implementation of the Act can make.
- Routinely conduct, consult and publish Equality and Health Impact Assessments on the work and policies of AWMSG and AWTTC.

# Objective 2: Think about the long-term impact of what we do AWMSG will:

 Support all its stakeholders to develop an integrated, long-term approach to promote the well-being goals and the current recommendations in the AWMSG 2018–2023 Strategy.

#### How we will do it:

- Establish partnerships with the appropriate bodies leading on the different areas covered by the AWMSG Strategy recommendations. Use the expertise of AWMSG and its subcommittees to help develop the AWMSG Strategy recommendations.
- Set up a Sustainability Group in AWTTC to develop and promote a working environment that improves energy efficiency and the sustainable use of resources, including reducing medicines waste.
- Develop and monitor a dashboard to show the carbon footprint of medicines used in Wales, to encourage discussion and develop mechanisms to reduce the detrimental environmental impact of medicines on future generations.
- Work with public bodies, including PAPIG, to develop work fit for future generations, taking better account of the long-term impact of their decisions and to maximise their contribution to each of the well-being goals.

# Objective 3: Work with others to drive the changes needed AWMSG will:

- Build strong and effective partnerships with all our stakeholders to implement AWMSG's strategic recommendations.
- Collaborate with patients, carers and patient organisations; public interest groups; pharmaceutical companies; health boards and trusts in Wales; healthcare professionals; and other public bodies in Wales, the UK and around the world.

#### How we will do it:

- Working with stakeholders, we will develop an understanding of how AWMSG's strategic recommendations can be used as a framework for transformational change.
- Develop our communications infrastructure, including cluster groups, collaborating with other groups and partners, to support and improve public understanding of AWMSG's work and its goals.
- Set up regular forums and meetings to inform and collaborate with our stakeholders, including the pharmaceutical industry, GPs and other healthcare professionals.

- Hold regular meetings and workshops with our Patient and Public Interest Group (PAPIG) to build an understanding of levels of citizen involvement and engagement in Wales, to support sustainable development and the implementation of the AWMSG Strategy recommendations.
- Continue to develop and implement our Communications and Engagement Strategy, and enable people in Wales to get more involved in the work of AWMSG and AWTTC. Involve lay people, patients and carers in developing any of our resources that are aimed at patients and the public.

# Objective 4: Be the change we want to see in others

#### **AWMSG will:**

- Routinely follow the five ways of working in all the work we do.
- Work collaboratively and take a partnership approach to support services and deliver our recommendations.
- Seek to learn from others and share our organisational learning with other public bodies and our stakeholders, through workshops and training days, publications and our communications channels.

#### How we will do it:

- Develop and create a culture and working practices in AWMSG and AWTTC that contribute to achieving the well-being goals by following the five ways of working. Increase awareness of the goals and five ways of working within our organisations.
- Build an infrastructure to deliver our work based on partnerships with others, avoiding duplication and maximising opportunities for joint working.
- Publish an AWMSG annual report by each year, containing our well-being statement and showing our progress towards achieving the well-being goals by implementing AWMSG's Strategy recommendations.
- Ensure all documents published by AWMSG and AWTTC are accessible, and use inclusive and person-centred language. Ensure all our documents for patients and the general public use plain language, or include a plain language summary (for technical documents). Produce Easy Read formats of information for patients if needed.

# What have we done already? Examples of our previous work



# Well-being Goal 1 - A prosperous Wales

- AWTTC helped to implement the Blueteq high cost drugs (HCD) system for the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC). The HCD system was launched in May 2021 and supports the implementation of Advanced Medicinal Therapeutic Products (ATMPs) commissioned by WHSSC. The system will allow NHS Wales to manage the ever-increasing complexities associated with these medicines.
- AWMSG has endorsed three documents that list medicines identified as low value for prescribing in NHS Wales<sup>8-10</sup>. These documents aim to minimise the prescribing of medicines that offer a limited clinical benefit to patients and where more cost-effective treatments may be available.
- AWMSG developed a policy for appraising medicines developed for treating rare diseases<sup>11</sup>.



# Well-being Goal 2 - A resilient Wales

- AWTTC funded a study with Cardiff University that showed that antibiotic
  prescribing was higher in areas of Wales with higher socioeconomic deprivation<sup>5</sup>.
  Antimicrobial resistance was highlighted as a major public health concern and the
  importance of reducing unnecessary use of antibiotics has been highlighted in a
  2016 report<sup>12</sup>.
- AWMSG held a citizens' jury in 2016 to understand the views of the general public about antimicrobial resistance<sup>13</sup>.
- AWMSG introduced National Prescribing Indicators in 2002 to set targets for good prescribing. These have been very successful in increasing the use of generic medicines and improving Yellow Card reports of suspected adverse drug reactions.



# Well-being Goal 3 – A healthier Wales

- In June 2021, AWMSG endorsed a guide to nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) to manage nicotine withdrawal in adults who smoke and are admitted to hospital (secondary care)<sup>14</sup>.
- In December 2020, AWMSG endorsed a nationally agreed multi-professional standard for medication reviews, so that future generations of people in Wales will have their medication reviews according to a nationally agreed standard<sup>15</sup>.
   Several GP practices in Wales are currently taking part in a pilot scheme to use the standard when conducting medication reviews.
- In February 2019, AWMSG acknowledged the public education campaign "Your Medicines Your Health" as good practice<sup>16</sup>.



# Well-being Goal 4 – A more equal Wales

- AWTTC set up the One Wales process. Medicines suitable for the One Wales
  process are identified by analysing data from individual patient funding requests.
  An Interim Pathways Commissioning Group (IPCG) assesses the evidence and
  recommends the use of the medicine to the health board chief executives. If they
  endorse the recommendation, the decision applies across NHS Wales.
- AWMSG has endorsed a single All Wales inpatient medication record<sup>17</sup> and National Prescribing Indicators to optimise the safe use of medicines in Wales by showing how the different health boards prescribe medicines and highlighting any differences in prescribing.



# Well-being Goal 5 – A Wales of cohesive communities

- AWTTC has a programme of virtual AWMSG training days for the pharmaceutical industry.
- AWMSG set up a Patient and Public Interest group (PAPIG) that meets regularly to inform and find out the views of patients and the public on the work of AWMSG.
- AWTTC and AWMSG Twitter accounts.
- AWMSG convened a citizens' jury in 2016 to understand the views of the general public about antimicrobial resistance<sup>13</sup>.



# Well-being Goal 6 – A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

- AWMSG has set up a Twitter account in Welsh, and has a fully responsive bilingual website.
- AWTTC produces bilingual annual reports for AWMSG and Individual Patient Funding Requests (IPFR), and has installed Welsh language software for its staff.
- People can send their views on medicines appraisals in Welsh and respond in Welsh to consultations on the AWMSG website.



# Well-being Goal 7 – A globally responsible Wales

- AWMSG endorsed the "Welsh National Standards for Medication Review" in December 2020<sup>15</sup>. Standard 4 refers to "Reducing waste" and asks healthcare professionals undertaking a medication review to "consider activities and actions that contribute to waste and work to address them", and provides a list of factors to consider and a checklist<sup>15</sup>.
- A five-year review of AWMSG's medicines appraisal work, published in 2018, provided evidence of the effectiveness of AWMSG's appraisal process in terms of patients in Wales gaining earlier access to medicines, as well as efficiency through reduced duplication with NICE<sup>18</sup>.
- AWTTC has developed a tool on SPIRA to monitor the carbon footprint of medical inhaler devices used for asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD). AWTTC has identified potential savings that would equate to 45,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide each year.

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