

## Equality and Health Impact Assessment

### All Wales Shared Care Framework

AWTTC will fill in an Equality and Health Impact Assessment in parallel with each development stage of our projects. This will help us to follow the five ways of working for public bodies, and work to achieving the wellbeing goals, outlined in the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Date: 26/08/2025

1.	AWTTC contact details	Tel: 02921 826900 Email: <a href="mailto:awttc@wales.nhs.uk">awttc@wales.nhs.uk</a>
2.	State the objectives of the project.	The objective of the project is to develop an All Wales framework that sets out the principles of shared care and supports health boards and prescribers in the appropriate use of shared care. The framework aims to ensure consistency in shared care across Wales in terms of principles, application of developing and reviewing shared care arrangements, and in taking a patient-centred approach to shared care.
3.	Evidence and background information considered. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• population data</li> <li>• staff and service users' data, as applicable</li> <li>• needs assessment</li> <li>• engagement and involvement findings</li> <li>• research</li> <li>• good practice guidelines</li> <li>• participant knowledge</li> </ul>	Existing guidance in Wales (the <a href="#">Shared care prescribing and monitoring guidance</a> ) lacks a clear framework for standardisation, and therefore variation in decision-making, shared care drug baskets, interpretation of guidance and acceptance of shared care has been identified across Wales.  This document was developed following input from a Shared Care Short Life Working Group (SLWG) comprising stakeholders from health boards, primary and secondary care and lay representation. The resulting document was considered by members of the All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group and updated to incorporate changes before disseminating for public consultation.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• list of stakeholders and how stakeholders have engaged in the development stages</li><li>• comments from those involved in the designing and development stages</li></ul> <p><a href="#">Population pyramids</a> are available from Public Health Wales Observatory.</p>	Following the consultation, further revisions were made to incorporate the feedback received.
4.	Who will this project affect?	Prescribers across NHS Wales (including primary care, GPs and specialist involved in shared care arrangements), medicines management teams in health boards, and patients eligible for shared care.



### 5. EQIA - How will the project impact on people?

Questions in this section relate to the impact on people based on the 'protected characteristics' of the Equality Act 2010, and other factors.

How will the project impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by).
<p><b>5.1 Age</b> For most purposes, the main categories are people aged:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• under 18 years;</li> <li>• between 18 and 65 years;</li> <li>• over 65 years.</li> </ul>	<p>We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people based on their age.</p> <p>Tailoring medication management in social care settings can positively impact older adults in particular by ensuring they receive the correct medications in appropriate dosages, potentially improving their overall health and well-being.</p> <p>[Note: For prescription medicines we expect the prescriber to have prescribed or advised their use within the terms of their UK marketing authorisations. Healthcare professionals should take note</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>



How will the project impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by).
	<p>of the contraindications, warnings, safety recommendations and any monitoring needs for the medicine. These are explained in the Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) for the medicine or the British National Formulary [add links]. Healthcare professionals should follow relevant professional guidance and take full responsibility for the decision when prescribing or advising the use of off-label or unlicensed medicines. This includes considering the contraindications, warnings, monitoring requirements and other safety recommendations for the medicine (<a href="#">MHRA guidance on off-label or unlicensed use of medicines</a>) ]</p>		



How will the project impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by).
<p><b>5.2 Persons with a disability as defined in the Equality Act 2010</b></p> <p>Those with physical impairments, learning disability, sensory loss or impairment, mental health conditions, long-term medical conditions such as diabetes.</p>	<p>We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people with a disability.</p> <p>Providing accessible and clear medication guidance can greatly benefit individuals with disabilities, ensuring they have the necessary support and information to manage their medications effectively.</p>	<p>All related documents published on the AWTTC website will meet accessibility requirements.</p> <p>Any patient-facing materials will be also be produced as easy read booklets in Welsh and English.</p>	
<p><b>5.3 People of different genders:</b></p> <p>Consider men, women, people undergoing gender reassignment. <b>N.B.</b> Gender-reassignment is anyone who proposes to, starts, is going through or who has completed a process to change his or her gender with or without going through any medical procedures. Sometimes referred to as Trans or Transgender.</p>	<p>We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people based on their gender, or on people undergoing gender reassignment.</p>	N/A	N/A



<b>How will the project impact on, or affect:</b>	<b>Potential positive and/or negative impacts</b>	<b>Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation</b>	<b>Actions taken (and who by).</b>
<b>5.4 People who are married or who have a civil partner.</b>	We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people based on their marital status or being in a civil partnership.	N/A	N/A
<b>5.5 Women who are expecting a baby, who are on a break from work after having a baby, or who are breastfeeding.</b> They are protected for 26 weeks after having a baby whether or not they are on maternity leave.	We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on women who are expecting a baby, are breastfeeding, or are on a break from work after having a baby.	Prescribers should take account of the Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) when prescribing any medicines for women who are pregnant, or who are breastfeeding.	N/A
<b>5.6 People of a different race, nationality, colour, culture or ethnic origin including non-English speakers, gypsies and travellers, migrant workers.</b>	We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people of a different race, nationality, colour, culture or ethnic origin.  Providing resources in multiple languages and culturally sensitive guidance can positively impact individuals from diverse backgrounds.	N/A	N/A



How will the project impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by).
	However, challenges may arise in ensuring equal access and understanding for non-English speakers		
<p><b>5.7 People with a religion or belief or with no religion or belief.</b> The term 'religion' includes a religious or philosophical belief.</p> <p><a href="#">Implications of religious beliefs on selection of medicines (BMJ)</a></p> <p><a href="#">In practice: guidance on religion, personal values and beliefs</a> (General Pharmaceutical Council)</p>	<p>We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people who have a religion or belief, or people with no religion or belief.</p> <p>Religion or belief typically does not directly impact medication management. However, it's important to respect individual preferences and considerations related to religious practice e.g. implication of fasting in patient with Diabetes during Ramadan</p> <p>Some medicines are made from certain animal products and people might not want to take them because of religion or belief.</p>	N/A	N/A



<b>How will the project impact on, or affect:</b>	<b>Potential positive and/or negative impacts</b>	<b>Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation</b>	<b>Actions taken (and who by).</b>
<b>5.8 People who are attracted to other people of:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the opposite sex (heterosexual);</li><li>• the same sex (lesbian or gay);</li><li>• both sexes (bisexual).</li></ul> <a href="#">Stonewall</a>	We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people based on who they are attracted to.	N/A	N/A
<b>5.9 People who communicate using the Welsh language in terms of correspondence, information leaflets, or service plans and design.</b>	We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people who communicate using the Welsh language.	Any patient-facing materials will be produced in Welsh and English, in line with the Welsh language standards, including easy read booklets.	N/A
<b>5.10 People according to their income related group.</b>	We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people based on their income-related group.	N/A	N/A
<b>5.11 People according to where they live.</b>	Access to healthcare services and resources may vary based on location.  Reducing variation in the use of shared care arrangements through the All Wales Shared	N/A	N/A



How will the project impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by).
	Care framework could help improve access to medicines where appropriate.		
<b>5.12 Consider others who face health inequalities, such as:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Looked after and accommodated children and young people</li><li>• Carers: paid/unpaid, family members</li><li>• People who are homeless or those who experience homelessness: people on the street; those staying temporarily with friends/family; those in hostels/B&amp;Bs</li><li>• People involved in the criminal justice system: offenders in prison or on probation, ex-offenders</li><li>• People with addictions and substance misuse problems</li><li>• People who have poor literacy</li><li>• People living in remote, rural and island locations</li></ul>	We do not expect that this guidance will affect individuals unequally based on health inequalities.	N/A	N/A



<b>How will the project impact on, or affect:</b>	<b>Potential positive and/or negative impacts</b>	<b>Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation</b>	<b>Actions taken (and who by).</b>
<b>5.13 Consider any other groups and risk factors relevant to this project.</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A

## 6. HIA - How will the project impact on the health and wellbeing of people in Wales and help address inequalities in health?

Questions in this section relate to the impact on the overall health of individual people, and the impact on the population in Wales.

How will the project impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts and any particular groups affected	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by) <i>Refer to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate.</i>
<p><b>6.1 People being able to access the service offered.</b></p>	<p>We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people's ability to access the service offered.</p> <p>Care should be provided by the service best equipped to deliver it safely. In many cases, primary care prescribers are the most suitable for ongoing care, as patients on long-term medication or those who are unwell may prefer to avoid unnecessary hospital visits and receive prescriptions closer to home. The framework outlines core principles that enable patients to access care locally whenever appropriate.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>



<b>How will the project impact on, or affect:</b>	<b>Potential positive and/or negative impacts and any particular groups affected</b>	<b>Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation</b>	<b>Actions taken (and who by)</b> <i>Refer to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate.</i>
<b>6.2 People being able to improve or maintain healthy lifestyles.</b>	We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people's ability to improve or maintain healthy lifestyles.	N/A	N/A
<b>6.3 People in terms of their income and employment status.</b>	We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people in terms of their income and employment status.	N/A	N/A
<b>6.4 People in terms of their use of the physical environment.</b>	We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people's use of the physical environment.  The framework outlines core principles that enable patients to access care locally whenever appropriate.	N/A	N/A
<b>6.5 People in terms of social and community influences on their health.</b>	We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people in terms of social and community influences on their health.	N/A	N/A



<b>How will the project impact on, or affect:</b>	<b>Potential positive and/or negative impacts and any particular groups affected</b>	<b>Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation</b>	<b>Actions taken (and who by)</b> <i>Refer to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate.</i>
<b>6.6 People in terms of macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors.</b>	We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people in terms of macroeconomic, environmental and sustainability factors.	N/A	N/A

**7. Please fill in section 7.1 after completing the EqHIA, and fill in the action plan.**

<p><b>7.1 Please summarize the potential positive and/or negative impacts of the project.</b></p>	<p>No potential negative impacts of the project have been identified. The guidance is expected to have a positive impact on people in Wales by providing a clear framework for management of shared care arrangements. This benefits older people and people from different areas across Wales in accessing care which is tailored to their situations.</p>
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**Action plan for mitigation or improvement and implementation**

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead(s)</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Actions taken (<i>state who by</i>)</b>
<p><b>7.2 What are the key actions identified as a result of completing the EqHIA?</b></p>	<p>Send to the All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group (AWPAG) for consideration.</p> <p>Send out for public consultation</p> <p>Send to AWPAG for consideration</p> <p>Send to AWMSG for endorsement</p>	<p>AWTTC</p>	<p>March 2025</p> <p>May 2025</p> <p>June 2025</p> <p>July 2025</p>	<p>AWPAG agreed document to be sent out for public consultation.</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p>
<p><b>7.3 Is a more comprehensive Equalities Impact Assessment or Health Impact Assessment needed?</b></p>	<p>No</p>			

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead(s)</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Actions taken (<i>state who by</i>)</b>
<b>7.4 What are the next steps?</b>	Document and EqHIA reviewed by AWPAG following consultation	AWTTC	June 2025	
<b>7.5 Review of project and EqHIA</b>	EqHIA will be reviewed at each stage of progression of the project and this info recorded in boxes above.  All finished projects will be reviewed after a specified time, and the EqHIA will be reviewed at the same time.	AWTTC	Post consultation June 2025	

AWTTC's EqHIA template is adapted from the Cardiff & Vale University Health Board EHIA template.