

Equality and Health Impact Assessment

Policy* title: All Wales Guide: Pharmacotherapy for smoking cessation

AWMSG and AWTTC will consider and complete an Equality and Health Impact Assessment in parallel with each development stage of our policies. 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.

*** The term “policy” is used throughout to cover: policies, strategies, functions, practices, procedures.**

Date: 15/11/2024

1.	AWTTC contact details	Tel: 02921 826900; email: awttc@wales.nhs.uk
2.	State the objectives of the policy.	<p>Smoking continues to be the leading preventable cause of illness and premature death in Wales. Smoking cessation interventions are a cost-effective way of reducing ill health and preventing premature death, and the use of pharmacotherapy alongside support for behavioural change can improve quit rates significantly.</p> <p>This Guide supports the appropriate prescribing and supply of smoking cessation pharmacotherapy in NHS Wales for smokers who are motivated to quit. Phased prescribing and supply are promoted to more closely target the individual’s needs during their quit attempt and reduce the potential for wastage.</p> <p>The All Wales Guide: Pharmacotherapy for Smoking Cessation was developed in collaboration with Public Health Wales and published in February 2018. The document has been reviewed and updated as part of the AWTTC review process and following changes to the availability of available treatments and AWMSG advice on the use of cytisinicline (cytisine). The updates have been highlighted and are focused on the following sections:</p>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction• Choice of NRT formulation• A new section has been added for cytisinicline (cytisine) after AWMSG advice <p>References to adverse effects experienced with NRT being not serious and references to supply of NRT not commencing until the patient has decided on a quit attempt date have been deleted.</p>
3.	<p>Evidence and background information considered. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• population data• staff and service users' data, as applicable• needs assessment• engagement and involvement findings• research• good practice guidelines• participant knowledge• list of stakeholders and how stakeholders have engaged in the development stages• comments from those involved in the designing and development stages <p>Population pyramids are available from Public Health Wales Observatory.</p>	<p>In April 2017, a new unified brand Help Me Quit was launched in Wales with single freephone number and new website making it easier for smokers to access help to quit. Smokers can be referred or signposted by a healthcare professional, or can contact Help Me Quit directly by calling 0800 085 2219, visiting www.helpmequit.wales.</p> <p>The All Wales Guide: Pharmacotherapy for Smoking Cessation covers the use of licensed pharmacotherapy to support stopping smoking in one step, and does not cover tobacco harm reduction approaches. Guidance on tobacco harm reduction approaches, including temporary or long-term use of licensed nicotine-containing products, is provided by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE).</p> <p>The Guide does not cover the use of electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS), which include e-cigarettes and vapes, to stop smoking. Some guidance on the use and potential benefits of using ENDS by committed smokers who are unwilling or unable to stop smoking is provided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NICE. National Guideline NG209. Tobacco: preventing uptake, promoting quitting and treating dependence. 2021.
4.	<p>Who will this policy affect?</p>	<p>Healthcare staff in Wales, including doctors, nurses, pharmacists and smoking cessation practitioners. Adults who smoke, and their families and carers.</p>

5. EQIA - How will the policy impact on people?

Questions in this section relate to the impact on people on the basis of their 'protected characteristics'.

Specific alignment with the 7 goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is included against the relevant sections.

How will the policy impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by). Refer to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate.
<p>5.1 Age</p> <p>For most purposes, the main categories are people aged:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • under 18 years; • between 18 and 65 years; • over 65 years. 	<p>For prescription medicines we expect the prescriber to have prescribed or advised their use within the terms of their UK marketing authorisations (SPCs). Healthcare professionals should take note of the contraindications, warnings, safety recommendations and any monitoring needs for the medicine. These are explained in the SPC for the medicine or the British National Formulary.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>5.2 Persons with a disability as defined in the Equality Act 2010</p> <p>Those with physical impairments, learning disability, sensory loss or impairment,</p>	<p>We do not expect the guidance to have a potential negative impact on people with a disability.</p> <p>Any patient-facing materials developed to accompany this</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>




How will the policy impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by). Refer to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate.
mental health conditions, long-term medical conditions such as diabetes.	guidance will also be produced in easy read booklets		
5.3 People of different genders: Consider men, women, people undergoing gender reassignment. NB 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.	We do not expect the guidance to have a potential negative impact on people based on their gender, or on people undergoing gender reassignment.	N/A	N/A
5.4 People who are married or who have a civil partner.	We do not expect the guidance to have a potential negative impact on people based on their marital status or being in a civil partnership.	N/A	N/A
5.5 Women who are expecting a baby, who are on a break from work after having a baby, or who are breastfeeding.	We do not expect the guidance to have a potential negative impact on women who are expecting a baby, are	N/A	N/A



How will the policy impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by). Refer to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate.
They are protected for 26 weeks after having a baby whether or not they are on maternity leave.	breastfeeding, or are on a break from work after having a baby.		
5.6 People of a different race, nationality, colour, culture or ethnic origin including non-English speakers, gypsies/travellers, migrant workers.	We do not expect the guidance to have a potential negative impact on people of a different race, nationality, colour, culture or ethnic origin.	N/A	N/A
5.7 People with a religion or belief or with no religion or belief. The term 'religion' includes a religious or philosophical belief.	We do not expect the guidance to have a potential negative impact on people who have a religion or belief, or people with no religion of belief.	N/A	N/A
5.8 People who are attracted to other people of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the opposite sex (heterosexual);• the same sex (lesbian or gay);• both sexes (bisexual).	We do not expect the guidance to have a potential negative impact on people based on who they are attracted to.	N/A	N/A
5.9 People who communicate using the Welsh language in terms of correspondence, information leaflets, or service plans and design.	We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people who communicate using the Welsh language.	Ensure any materials produced for patients and the public are available in Welsh and English.	N/A




How will the policy impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by). Refer to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate.
 Well-being goal – A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Any patient-facing materials developed to accompany this guidance will be produced in Welsh and English, including easy read booklets.		
5.10 People according to their income related group. Consider people on low income, economically inactive, unemployed/workless, people who are unable to work due to ill-health.	We do not expect a potential negative impact on people based on their income related group.	N/A	N/A
5.11 People according to where they live. Consider people living in areas known to show poor economic and/or health indicators, people unable to access services and facilities.	We do not expect a potential negative impact on people based on where they live.	N/A	N/A
5.12 Consider others who face health inequalities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Looked after and accommodated children and young people.• Carers: paid/unpaid, family members.	We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people who face health inequalities.	N/A	N/A





How will the policy impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by). Refer to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People who are homeless or those who experience homelessness: people on the street; those staying temporarily with friends/family; those in hostels/B&Bs.• Those involved in the criminal justice system: offenders in prison or on probation, ex-offenders.• People with addictions and substance misuse problems.• People who have poor literacy.• People living in remote, rural and island locations.			
5.13 Consider any other groups and risk factors relevant to this project.	N/A	N/A	N/A

6. HIA - How will the policy 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. Specific alignment with the 7 goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is included against the relevant sections.

How will the policy impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts and any particular groups affected	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by) Refer to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate.
<p>6.1 People being able to access the service offered. Consider access for those living in areas of deprivation and/or those experiencing health inequalities.</p>  <p>Well-being goal - A more equal Wales</p>	<p>We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people's ability to access the service offered.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>6.2 People being able to improve or maintain healthy lifestyles. Consider the impact on healthy lifestyles, including healthy eating, being active, no smoking /smoking cessation, reducing the harm caused by alcohol or non-prescribed drugs plus access to services that support disease prevention</p>	<p>The guidance supports the appropriate prescribing and supply of smoking cessation pharmacotherapy in NHS Wales for smokers who are motivated to quit. Phased prescribing and supply are promoted to more closely target the individual's needs during their quit attempt and reduce the potential for wastage.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>





How will the policy impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts and any particular groups affected	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by) Refer to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate.
<p>(such as vaccination, falls prevention).</p> <p>Also consider impact on access to supportive services, including smoking cessation services, weight management services.</p>  <p>Well-being goal – A healthier Wales</p>	<p>The guidance provides an opportunity to support people who might want to try to quit smoking.</p>		
<p>6.3 People in terms of their income and employment status.</p> <p>Consider the impact on the availability and accessibility of work, paid or unpaid employment, wage levels, job security, working conditions.</p>  <p>Well-being goal – A prosperous Wales</p>	<p>We do not expect this guidance to have a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people in terms of their income and employment status.</p>	N/A	N/A
<p>6.4 People in terms of their use of the physical environment.</p> <p>Consider the impact:</p>	<p>The guidance supports Welsh Government's and PHW's smoke-free policies. It might have a positive impact on</p>	N/A	N/A



How will the policy impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts and any particular groups affected	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by) Refer to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on the availability and accessibility of transport, healthy food, leisure activities, green spaces; • of the design of the built environment on the physical and mental health of patients, staff and visitors; • on air quality, exposure to pollutants; • safety of neighbourhoods, exposure to crime; • road safety and preventing injuries or accidents; • quality and safety of play areas and open spaces.  <p>Well-being goal – A resilient Wales</p>	<p>people in terms of their physical environment. We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people’s use of the physical environment.</p>		
<p>6.5 People in terms of social and community influences on their health. Consider the impact on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • family organisation and roles; social support and social networks; 	<p>We do not expect this guidance to have a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people in terms of social and community influences on their health.</p>	N/A	N/A



How will the policy impact on, or affect:	Potential positive and/or negative impacts and any particular groups affected	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Actions taken (and who by) Refer to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• neighbourliness and sense of belonging;• social isolation;• peer pressure;• community identity;• cultural and spiritual ethos.  <p>Well-being goal – A Wales of cohesive communities</p>			
<p>6.6 People in terms of macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors. Consider the impact of government policies; gross domestic product; economic development; biological diversity; climate.</p>  <p>Well-being goal – A globally responsible Wales</p>	<p>We do not expect a potential negative, or unequal, impact on people in terms of macroeconomic, environmental and sustainability factors.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>

7. Please complete section 7 after completing the EqHIA, and complete the action plan.

<p>7.1 Please summarise the potential positive and/or negative impacts of the policy.</p>	<p>The guidance is expected to have a positive impact in helping people to access support and treatment as part of wider pathways including Help Me Quit to help them stop smoking.</p>
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Action plan for mitigation or improvement and implementation

	Action	Lead(s)	Timescale	Actions taken
<p>7.2 What are the key actions identified as a result of completing the EqHIA?</p>	<p>Send update to the All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group (AWPAG) for consideration.</p> <p>Send document to the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG) for information.</p> <p>Publish updated document on AWTTC website</p>	<p>AWTTC</p>	<p>September 2024</p> <p>November 2024</p> <p>November 2024</p>	<p>AWPAG agreed for minor changes to be published.</p>
<p>7.3 Is a more comprehensive Equalities Impact Assessment or Health Impact Assessment needed?</p> <p>This means thinking about relevance and proportionality to the Equality Act and asking:</p>	<p>No</p>			



	Action	Lead(s)	Timescale	Actions taken
is the impact significant enough that a more formal and full consultation is required?				
7.4 What are the next steps?	Publish the updated document on the AWTTC website.	AWTTC	November 2024	

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