

Equality and Health Impact Assessment

Policy* title: Decarbonisation – inhaler prescribing, use and disposal, 2023–2030. A national strategy for Wales.

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: 09/11/2023

1.	Names of the policy lead(s) AWTTC contact details	Welsh Government Task and Finish Group Tel: 02921 826900; email: awttc@wales.nhs.uk
2.	State the objectives of the policy.	To reduce the carbon impact of inhalers in Wales, AWTTC will work with Welsh Government, NHS Wales, and other organisations in Wales, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • collaborate with a range of stakeholders including patients and the public, policy makers, the pharmaceutical industry and healthcare professionals; • take a holistic patient-centred approach to ‘greener’ respiratory care from diagnosis through to inhaler disposal; • design interventions and test pilot services based on best evidence or information available and informed by behavioural insights and data; • ensure appropriate data on inhaler prescribing in Wales is accessible to all stakeholders to inform activity and monitor progress against the decarbonisation initiatives in the NHS Wales Decarbonisation strategic delivery plan. • provide guidance and educational resources to encourage carbon literacy.



<p>3.</p>	<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 the month of November 2022, a total of 357,024 respiratory inhaler items with an indicative carbon footprint of 4,784 tonnes of CO₂e (tCO₂e) were prescribed in primary care in Wales. 66% of inhalers prescribed were metered dose inhalers – which have a high global warming impact.</p> <p>NHS Wales Decarbonisation strategic delivery plan Respiratory Health Implementation Group guidelines : national guidelines for managing COPD and asthma in Wales. National Prescribing Indicators SPIRA dashboard data: Measuring the carbon footprint of inhaler use within primary care in Wales. AWTTC monthly reports: NHS Wales inhaler carbon footprint reports.</p> <p>Stakeholders: Welsh Government Public Health Wales NHS Wales NHS England NHS Scotland Pharmaceutical industry and ABPI Green Health Wales Respiratory Health Implementation Group Health Education and Improvement Wales Health boards in Wales Patient organisations, patients, their families and carers, and the general public in Wales</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Who will this policy affect?</p>	<p>Prescribers in Wales Patients in Wales with respiratory diseases, and their families and carers Policy makers in Wales</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 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>A positive impact: patients of all ages will benefit from a review of their inhaler medication and inhaler technique. In younger patients especially we consider it will have a positive impact, in terms of a significant reduction in carbon footprint and maintaining planetary health for the future generations.</p>	N/A	N/A
<p>5.2 Persons with a disability as defined in the Equality Act 2010 Those with physical impairments, learning disability, sensory loss or impairment, mental health conditions,</p>	<p>A positive impact: all patients will benefit from a review of their inhaler medication and inhaler technique.</p>	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.
long-term medical conditions such as diabetes.			
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.	Neutral impact	N/A	N/A
5.4 People who are married or who have a civil partner.	Neutral impact	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. They are protected for 26 weeks after having a baby whether or not they are on maternity leave.	Neutral impact	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.
5.6 People of a different race, nationality, colour, culture or ethnic origin including non-English speakers, gypsies/travellers, migrant workers.	A neutral impact: all patients will benefit from a review of their inhaler medication and inhaler technique.	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.	Neutral impact	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).	Neutral impact	N/A	N/A
5.9 People who communicate using the Welsh language in terms of correspondence, information leaflets, or service plans and design. 	Neutral impact	Ensure any patient information is provided in English and Welsh, including easy read formats of both.	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			
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.	Neutral impact	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.	Neutral impact	All services provided should be available across all areas of Wales, including medication reviews and inhaler disposal/recycling.	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. • People who are homeless or those who experience homelessness: people on the street; those staying 	Neutral impact	Provide easy read formats of any patient information.	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.
temporarily with friends/family; those in hostels/B&Bs. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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>	Neutral impact	N/A	N/A
<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>	Neutral impact	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.
<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>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>	Neutral impact	N/A	N/A
<p>6.4 People in terms of their use of the physical environment.</p> <p>Consider the impact:</p>	Positive impact on the environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.	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>6.5 People in terms of social and community influences on their health.</p> <p>Consider the impact on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • family organisation and roles; social support and social networks; 	<p>Neutral impact, or positive impact from community initiatives to recycle inhalers.</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.
<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>	A significant reduction in carbon footprint, and maintaining planetary health for the future generations: a positive impact.	N/A	N/A

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>We expect the strategy to have a positive impact on all people in Wales, mainly due to the significant reduction in greenhouse gases in the environment, and increased safe disposal and recycling of inhalers. We also expect it to have a positive impact on people in Wales with respiratory diseases who need to use an inhaler. We have not identified any negative impacts of the strategy.</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>	Public consultation	AWTTC	July–August 2023	Consultation completed and minor changes made to strategy document.
<p>7.3 Is a more comprehensive Equalities Impact Assessment or Health Impact Assessment needed?</p>	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
<p>7.4 What are the next steps?</p>	<p>Proceed to public consultation.</p> <p>Send to AWPAG for consideration Send to AWMSG for endorsement</p>	AWTTC	<p>July–August 2023</p> <p>September 2023 November 2023</p>	<p>Consultation completed. Responded to comments. Made minor changes to strategy text.</p> <p>No changes made to document. Document endorsed and published</p>