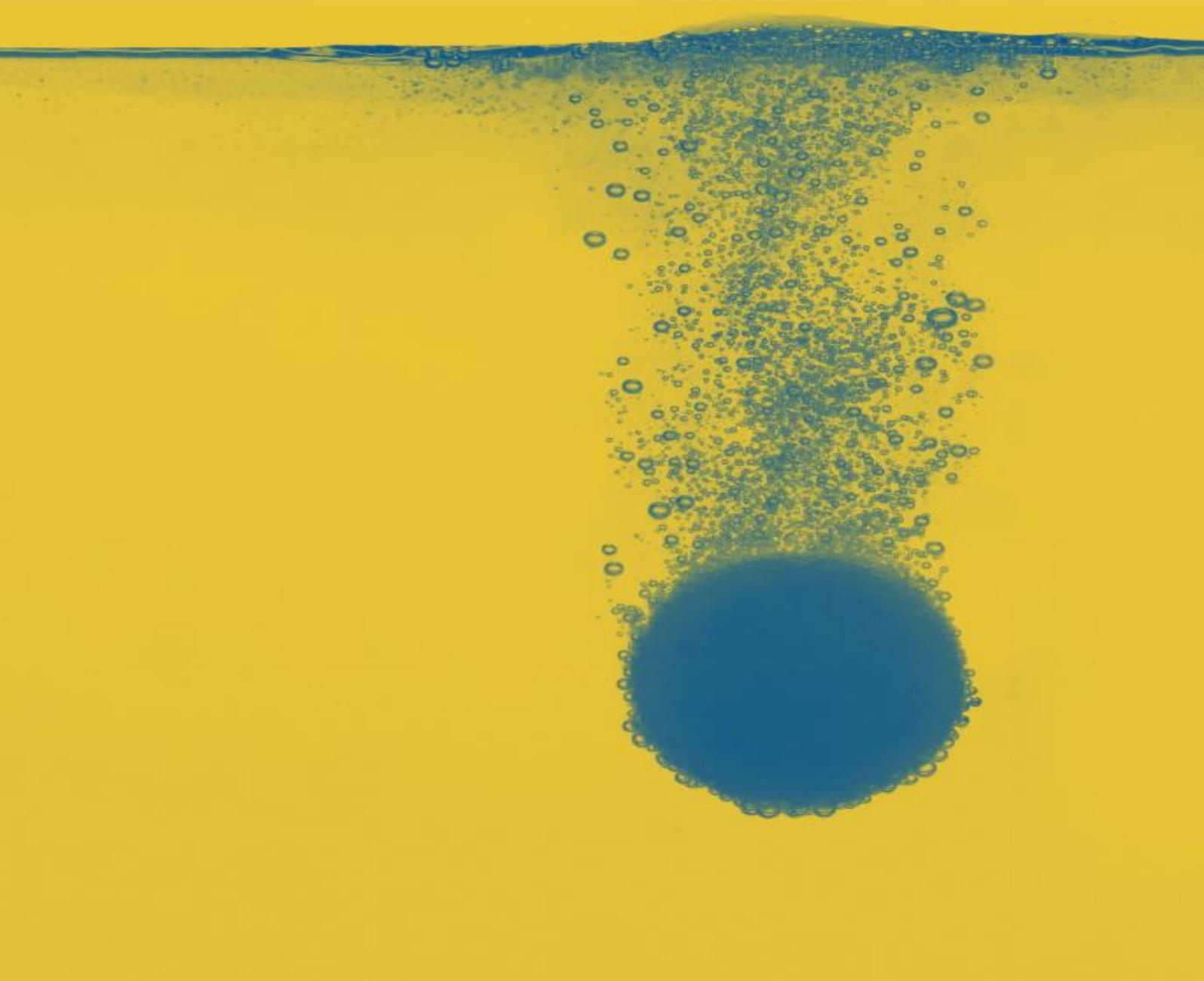




YCC Wales

Yellow Card Centre Wales
Canolfan Cerdyn Melyn Cymru

Annual Report 2024-2025





Contents

1. TEAM.....	3
2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	3
3. YELLOW CARD DATA.....	4
4. DISCUSSION OF YELLOW CARD DATA.....	12
5. PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES.....	13
6. PUBLICATIONS.....	16
7. YCC WEBSITE.....	16
8. RESEARCH AND ONGOING INITIATIVES.....	17
8.1 Yellow Card Champion Scheme.....	17
8.2 National Prescribing Indicator.....	19
8.3 Social Media.....	23
9. CONCLUSIONS.....	25
10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	26
11. ANNEX 1 – Event programme.....	28
12. ANNEX 2 – Progress report summary against objectives.....	29



YELLOW CARD CENTRE WALES ANNUAL REPORT TO MHRA

Date: 2024/25

1. TEAM

Executive Team

Dr A M Thomas	Medical Director, Yellow Card Centre (YCC) Wales
Mrs D Burnett	Director, Welsh Medicines Advice Service (WMAS)
Mrs S Junaid	Advanced Pharmacist – Porphyria, Pharmacovigilance and Patient Safety
Mrs J Walker	Advanced Pharmacist – Pharmacovigilance and Patient Safety, WMAS

Advisory Board

Mrs A Adams [Chair]	Principal Pharmacist, Welsh Medicines Advice Service (WMAS)
Ms L Allen	Head of Community Pharmacy, Cardiff and Vale UHB
Dr R Bracchi	Medical Advisor, All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre (AWTTC)
Dr A Champion	Programme Director, AWTTC
Professor J Coulson	Clinical Director, AWTTC
Mr A Evans	Chief Pharmaceutical Officer, Welsh Government
Dr L Gray	Medical Director, National Poisons Information Service Cardiff
Ms C Howard	Immunisation Co-ordinator, Child Health, Cardiff and Vale UHB
Dr L Hughes	Senior Lecturer in Pharmacy, Cardiff University
Ms C James	Patient representative
Dr L James	All Wales Consultant Pharmacist, Acute Care & Medication Safety
Ms C Thomas	Head of WAPSU and Medicines Optimisation Lead, AWTTC
Professor C Hopkins	Honorary Professor of the Wales Institute of Science and Art, Consultant Clinical Scientist and Head of TriTech and Innovation at Hywel Dda UHB

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The number of Yellow Card reports for medicinal products submitted in Wales increased from 3539 in 2023/24 to 3757 in 2024/25, an increase of 6%. There was a greater increase in the number of non-COVID vaccine reports; 2832 in 2023/24 to 3405 in 2024/25. This represents a 20% increase in non-COVID vaccine reports in 2024/25.

The health board with the largest percentage increase in the number of Yellow Card reports submitted was Aneurin Bevan UHB, where there was an increase of 47%. Velindre NHS Trust also saw an increase in reports (53%). There was also an increase in reporting from last year from Betsi Cadwaladr UHB, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB and Hywel Dda UHB. A decrease in reporting numbers was seen in the remaining health boards (Cardiff and Vale UHB, Swansea Bay UHB and Powys Teaching HB).

The highest number of reports came from the Patient/Parent/Carer/Consumer group, which contributed 30% (1159) of the total number of reports received for the year. This was a decrease when



compared with the previous year (38%). The second highest reporting group was General Practitioners who contributed 18% (679) of the total number of reports received for the year.

There was an increase in reporting in most groups: Pharmacist, Nurse/Midwives, Other Healthcare Professional, Pre-registration Pharmacist, Hospital Doctor, Community Pharmacist, Physician, Paramedic and Radiographer. No change in reporting was seen in Medical Student and there were no reports where the reporter’s qualification was unknown.

YCC Wales continued to support local Yellow Card Champions and continued to engage with the Welsh Medication Safety Officers (MSOs) and other members of the Welsh Medicines Safety Network. During 2024/25, YCC Wales continued to develop their relationship with colleagues and students at Swansea and Cardiff University, by providing teaching to their Pharmacy and Medical undergraduate students.

Throughout the year, multiple training sessions have been delivered to healthcare professionals and patients. YCC Wales also continues to use and develop bilingual promotional materials for use in primary and secondary care. YCC Wales’ mascot ‘Yellow Card Charlie’ continued to feature in these. Social media has been utilised to raise awareness on reporting, and the YCC Wales LinkedIn Profile was launched to showcase the work more broadly.

In June 2024, YCC Wales held its annual Medicines Safety training day. Yellow Card Champions, Healthcare professionals with an interest in medicines safety and colleagues who have been instrumental in the work of YCC Wales were invited.

The Yellow Card National Prescribing (reporting) Indicators remained in place. The YCC Wales website (yccwales.org) continues to be maintained.

During 2025/26, YCC Wales will continue to introduce new initiatives to promote and encourage reporting of suspected ADRs via the Yellow Card scheme throughout Wales and hopes to see a further increase in reporting rates.

3. YELLOW CARD DATA

a. Total Numbers

A total of 3757 reports of suspected ADRs to medicinal products originated from the YCC Wales region in 2024/25. This figure represents a 6% increase from the previous year, 2023/24, which saw a total of 3539 reports. The number of non-COVID vaccine reports increased from 2832 in 2023/24 to 3405 in 2024/25. This represents an increase of 20% in reports this year.

Table 1 and Figure 1 show the total number of Yellow Card reports from Wales over the last 5 years. Figure 1 also shows number of reports excluding COVID-19 vaccines since 2021/22.

Year	Number of reports	Percentage change on previous year
2024/25	3757	+6
2023/24	3539	-12
2022/23	4024 [†]	+93 [†]
2021/22	2084*	+7*
2020/21	1955*	-33*

Table 1: Number of Yellow Card reports submitted from Wales over the last 5 years

[†] For the year 2022/23, the number of YC reports stated in Table 1 includes reports of suspected adverse drug reactions to the COVID-19 vaccines for Q2-Q4.



* For the years 2020/21 and 2021/22, the number of Yellow Card reports stated in Table 1 does not include reports of suspected adverse drug reactions that were submitted in relation to the COVID-19 vaccines. See previous YCC Wales annual reports for details.

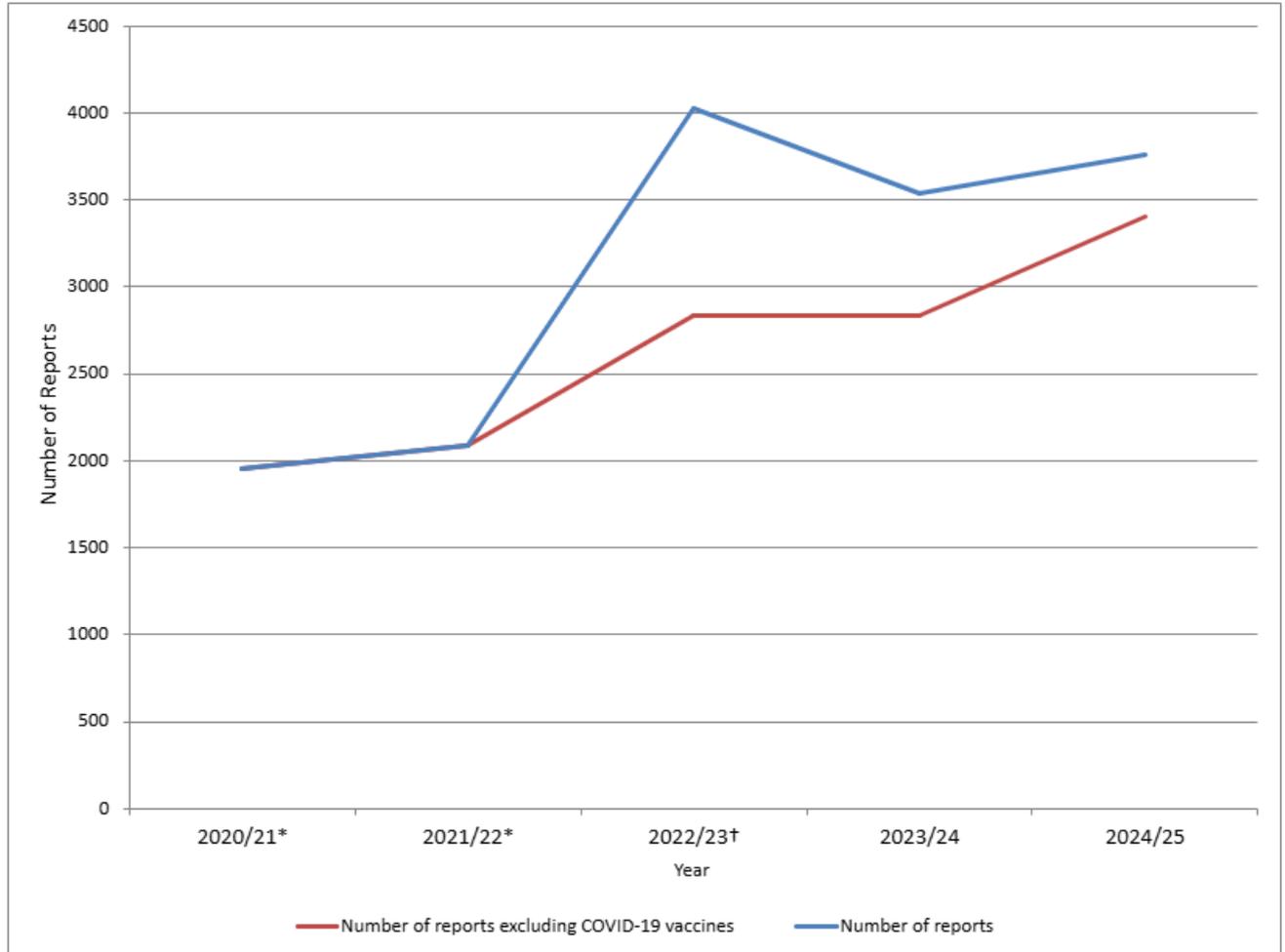


Figure 1: Number of Yellow Card reports submitted from Wales over the last 5 years

† For the year 2022/23, the number of YC reports presented in Figure 1 includes reports of suspected adverse drug reactions to the COVID-19 vaccines for Q2-Q4.

* For the years 2020/21 and 2021/22, the number of Yellow Card reports presented in Figure 1 does not include reports of suspected adverse drug reactions that were submitted in relation to the COVID-19 vaccines. See previous YCC Wales annual reports for details.



Figure 2 shows the seven Health Boards in Wales and Figure 3 the number of reports from each Health Board over the past five years. Reporting numbers for Velindre NHS Trust have also been included.



Figure 2: Map showing Health Boards in Wales

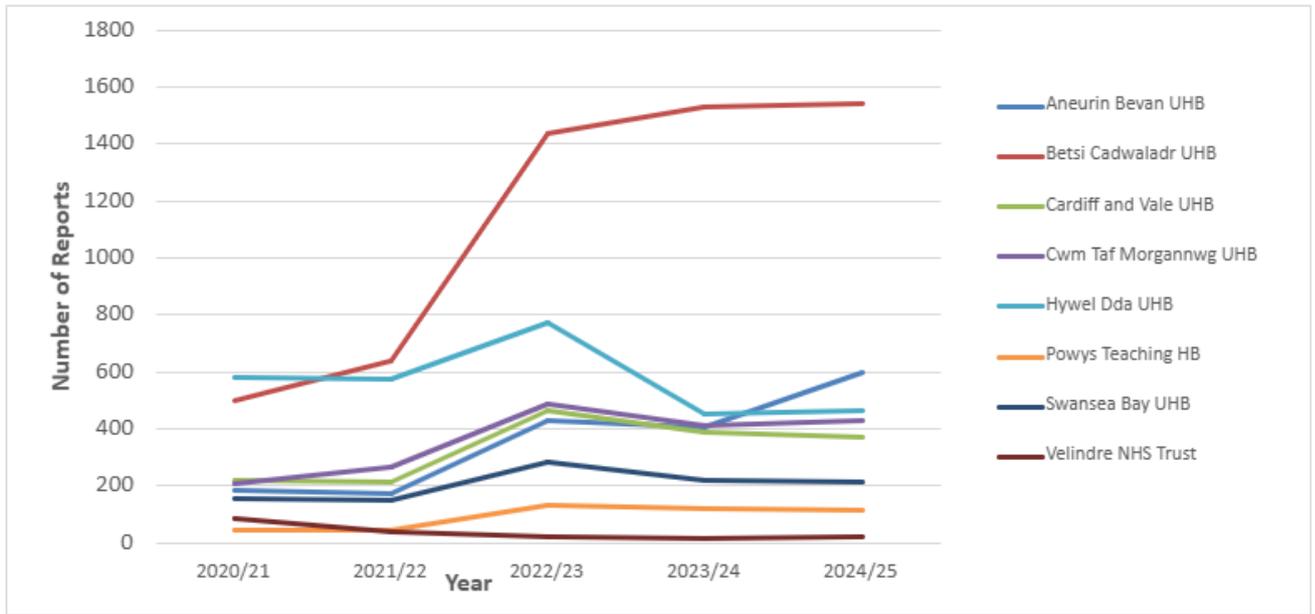


Figure 3: Number of Yellow Card reports submitted from each Health Board / NHS Trust in Wales over the last five years

b. Reporter Qualifications

Figure 4 and Table 2 shows Number of Yellow Card reports submitted from Wales over the last 5 years by reporter qualification.

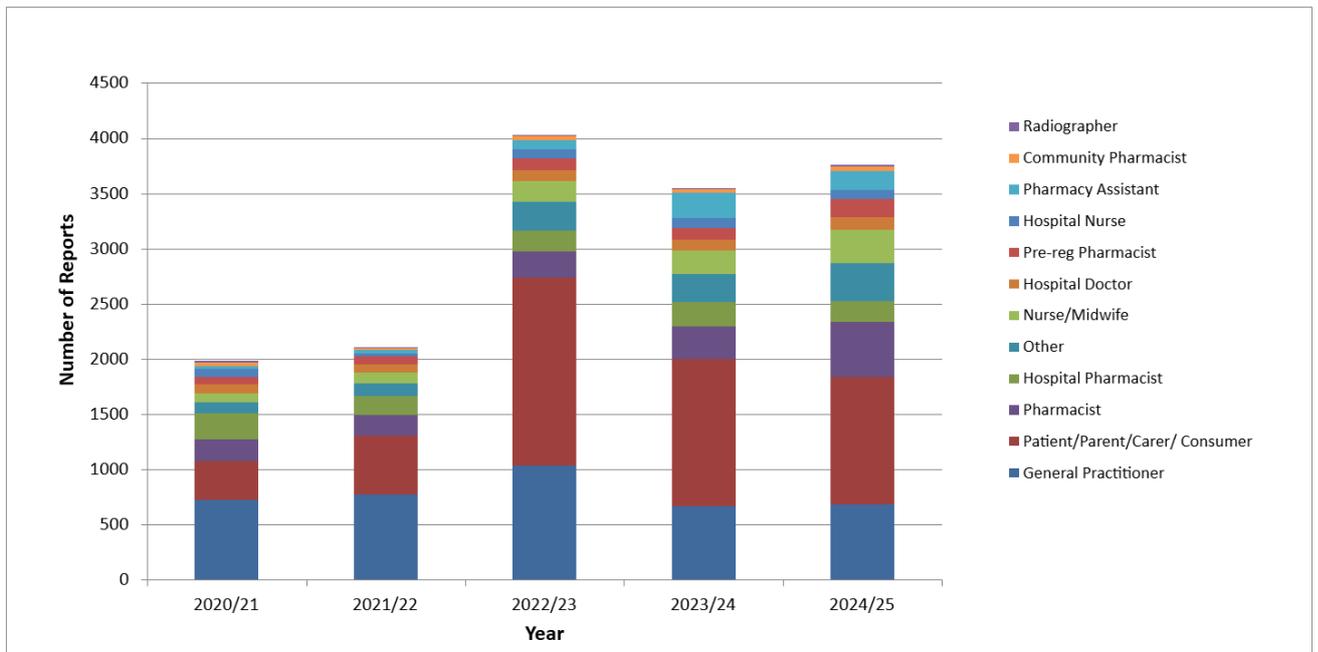


Figure 4: Number of Yellow Card reports submitted from Wales over the last 5 years by reporter qualification

* Other reporter qualifications = chiropodist, dentist, hospital health professional, medical student, other health professional, optometrist, paramedic, physician, unknown



Reporter	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Patient/Parent/Carer/Consumer	353	527	1696	1329	1159
General Practitioner	725	774	1038	667	679
Pharmacist	197	195	239	295	497
Nurse/Midwife	82	101	192	213	302
Other Health Professional	69	29	94	135	274
Hospital Pharmacist	235	171	185	224	190
Pharmacy assistant	26	28	82	222	169
Pre-registration pharmacist	69	70	101	106	167
Hospital Doctor	83	76	98	98	110
Hospital Nurse	68	29	88	95	80
Community Pharmacist	34	17	39	33	47
Physician	7	20	7	15	32
Hospital Health Professional	5	19	19	26	16
Paramedic	0	1	4	7	13
Radiographer	15	4	8	6	11
Dentist	7	2	135	6	5
Medical student	4	3	2	4	4
Optometrist	2	2	1	4	1
Chiropodist	0	0	1	2	1
Unknown	0	33	0	54	0
Coroner	1	0	0	0	0

Table 2: Number of Yellow Card reports submitted from Wales over the last 5 years by reporter qualification

c. Serious Reports

Table 3 shows the number of serious reactions reported from Wales over the last five years.

Year	Number of serious reports	Percentage of total reports	Percentage change on previous year
2024/25	1433	38	-2
2023/24	1434	40	0
2022/23	1624	40	+2
2021/22	790	38	-1
2020/21	771	39	0

Table 3: Number of serious reactions reported from Wales over the last five years



d. Fatal Reports

Table 4 shows the number of fatal reports submitted from Wales over the last five years. It is important to note that suspected ADRs are associations only and there is not necessarily a causal link between any of the medicines reported on a particular Yellow Card and the fatal outcome.

Year	Number of fatal reports	Percentage of total reports	Percentage change on previous year
2024/25	18	0.5	-0.3
2023/24	27	0.8	0.1
2022/23	29	0.7	-0.4
2021/22	23	1.1	-0.1
2020/21	23	1.2	0

Table 4: Number of fatal reports submitted from Wales over the last five years

e. Age breakdown

Table 5 and Figure 5 show the number of Yellow Card reports submitted from Wales over the last three years by patient age.

Age band	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Unknown	702	776	948
Under 2 years	40	35	10
2 - 6 years	41	33	30
7 - 12 years	43	25	29
13 - 17 years	33	41	38
18 - 24 years	132	121	115
25 -34 years	277	266	261
35 - 44 years	284	263	291
45 - 54 years	467	287	320
55 - 64 years	622	437	468
65 - 74 years	700	568	580
75 - 84 years	516	542	498
85+ years	172	147	169
Total	4029	3541	3757

Table 5: Number of Yellow Card reports submitted from Wales over the last three years by patient age

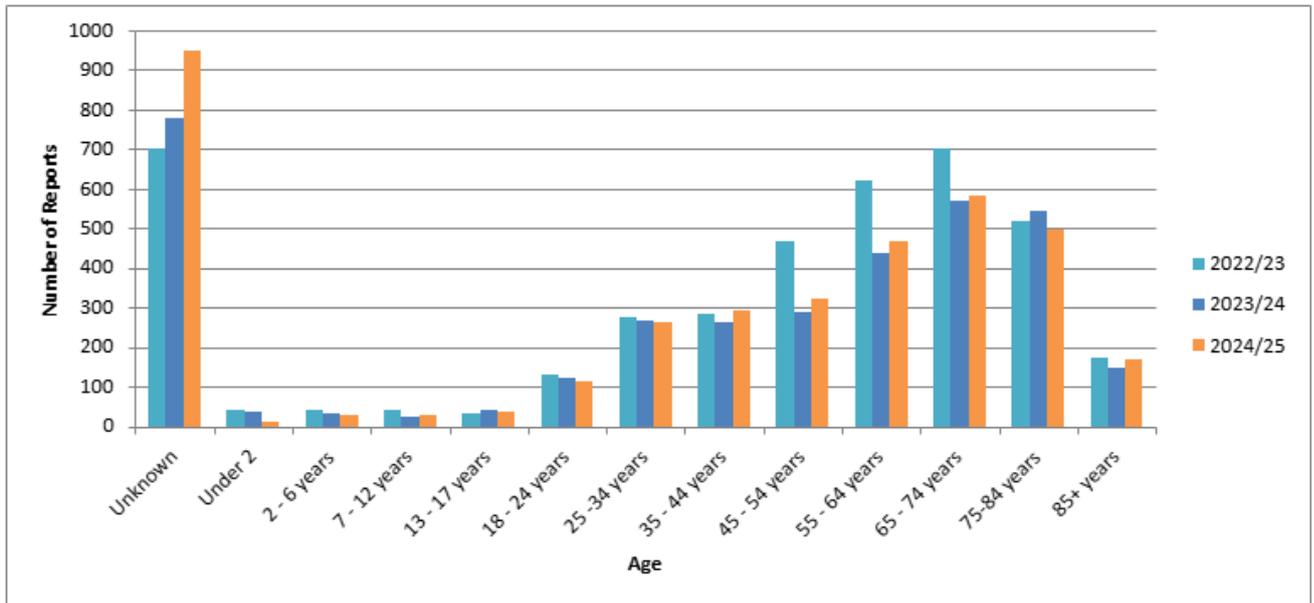


Figure 5: Number of Yellow Card reports submitted from Wales over the last three years by patient age

f. Suspected medicines

Table 6 shows the top 10 suspected medicines comparison of the last two years.

Drug name	Number of reports (2023/24)	Number of reports (2024/25)
COVID-19 vaccine* ▼	707	323
Tirzepatide* ▼	0	233
Atorvastatin	78	99
Amlodipine	84	92
Shingles vaccine* ▼	137	91
Semaglutide*	69	86
Dapagliflozin	59	69
Nitrofurantoin	57	69
Sertraline	68	68
Ramipril	82	65

Table 6: Comparison of the number of Yellow Card reports submitted over the last two years for the top 10 suspected medicines in Wales.

For Table 6 only: Note that when multiple suspected medicines are submitted on a single Yellow Card report, each suspected medicine is counted individually.

* multiple brands

▼ medicine subject to additional monitoring



g. Sources of Reports

Table 7 shows a detailed breakdown of Number of Yellow Card reports submitted from Wales over the last three years by reporter type.

Reporter	2024/25		2023/24		2022/23	
	Number	% of total	Number	% of total	Number	% of total
Carer	24	0.6	1	0.0	2	0.0
Parent	42	1.1	60	1.7	81	2.0
Patient	1056	28.1	1213	34.3	1562	38.8
Consumer	37	1.0	55	1.6	51	1.3
Community Pharmacist	47	1.3	33	0.9	39	1.0
Hospital Pharmacist	190	5.1	224	6.3	185	4.6
Pharmacist	497	13.2	295	8.3	239	5.9
Pharmacy Assistant	169	4.5	222	6.3	82	2.0
Trainee Pharmacist	167	4.4	106	3.0	101	2.5
Hospital Nurse	80	2.1	95	2.7	88	2.2
Nurse	297	7.9	210	5.9	183	4.5
GP	679	18.1	667	18.8	1038	25.8
Hospital Doctor	110	2.9	98	2.8	98	2.4
Physician	32	0.9	15	0.4	7	0.2
Coroner	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Dentist	5	0.1	6	0.2	2	0.0
Midwife	5	0.1	3	0.1	9	0.2
Optometrist	1	0.0	4	0.1	1	0.0
Chiropodist	1	0.0	2	0.1	1	0.0
Paramedic	13	0.3	7	0.2	4	0.1
Radiographer	11	0.3	6	0.2	8	0.2
Hospital Healthcare Professional	153	4.1	22	0.6	19	0.5
Healthcare Assistant	14	0.4	26	0.7	10	0.2
Other Healthcare Professional	123	3.3	113	3.2	84	2.1
Medical Student	4	0.1	4	0.1	2	0.0
Unknown	0	0.0	54	1.5	133	3.3
Total	3757		3541		4029	

Table 7: Number of Yellow Card reports submitted from Wales over the last three years by reporter type



h. Type of Reports

Table 8 shows the number of reports submitted during 2024/25 from Wales by submission route.

Report Type	Number of reports (2024/25)	Percentage of total reports
Electronic Yellow Cards (EYC)	3344	87
App	275	7
GP systems	29	1
Paper	96	2.5
MiDatabank	13	0.3

Table 8: Number of reports submitted during 2024/25 from Wales by submission route

4. DISCUSSION OF YELLOW CARD DATA

An increase of 6% was observed in the number of Yellow Card reports submitted for medicinal products from Wales during 2024/25 (3757) when compared with the previous year (3539). Excluding the number of COVID-19 vaccines reports there was an increase in reports from 2832 in 2023/24 to 3405 in 2024/25. This represents an increase in 20% in reports this year.

The health board with the largest percentage increase in the number of Yellow Card reports submitted was Aneurin Bevan UHB, where there was an increase of 47% in 2024/25 compared with 2023/24. Velindre NHS Trust also saw an increase in reports by 53%. There was also an increase in reporting from last year from Betsi Cadwaladr UHB (1%), Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB (4%) and Hywel Dda UHB (3%). A decrease in reporting numbers was seen in Cardiff and Vale UHB (-4%), Powys Teaching HB (-7%) and Swansea Bay UHB (-4%).

The highest number of reports came from the Patient/Parent/Carer/Consumer group, which contributed 30% (1159) of the total number of reports received for the year. This was a decrease when compared with the previous year's total contribution (38%). The second highest reporting group was General Practitioners who contributed 18% (679) of the total number of reports received for the year. When compared with the previous year, the reports remained relatively unchanged (19%).

There was increase in reporting in vast majority of groups: Pharmacist (239 to 497, + 69%), Nurse/Midwives (213 to 302, + 42%), Other Healthcare Professional (135 to 274, + 103%), Pre-registration Pharmacist (106 to 167, + 58%), Hospital Doctor (98 to 110, + 12%), Community Pharmacist (33 to 47, + 42%), Physician (15 to 32, + 113%), Paramedic (7 to 13, + 86%) and Radiographer (6 to 11, + 83%). No change in reporting was seen in Medical Student (4 to 4, 0%).

There was a decrease in reporting from previous year in the following reporting groups: Hospital Pharmacist (224 to 190, - 15%), Pharmacy Assistant (222 to 169, - 24%), Hospital Nurse (95 to 80, - 16%), Hospital Health Professional (26 to 16, - 38%), Dentist (6 to 5, - 17%), Optometrist (4 to 1, - 75%) and Chiropodist (2 to 1, - 50%). There were no reports where the reporter's qualification was unknown (54 to 0, - 100%).

The percentage of serious suspected ADR reports submitted within Wales decreased by 2% when compared with 2023/24.

As in the previous year, the highest number of reports concerned patients in the group aged 65 - 74 years (580). There was an increase in reporting in the following age categories: 55 - 64 years



age group (437 to 468), 45 - 54 years age group (287 to 320), 35 - 44 years age group (263 to 291), 85+ years age group (147 to 169) and 7 - 12 years age group (25 to 29). There was a decrease in the number of reports across other age groups. The age of the patient was not known for 948 reports which contributed to 25% of the total reports.

The most frequently reported medicines from the YCC Wales region were vaccines, with COVID-19 vaccines contributing to 323 reports. Tirzepatide was second most frequently reported. Both included formulations that were on the list of medicines which are subject to additional monitoring (identified using an inverted black triangle ▼). Semaglutide has also made it to the top 10 list of medicines this year.

The majority (87%) of reports were submitted as EYCs. The app was used for 7% reports and only 0.3% were submitted via MiDatabank. YCC Wales will continue to advertise the availability of the app and will work with Medicines Information Teams across Wales to increase Yellow Card reporting via the MiDatabank programme.

5. PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

a. Training delivered to healthcare professionals and their respective groups

Audience type	Session type	Duration	Number of sessions	Audience numbers	Total time training
YCC Wales Medicines Safety Training Day	Conference	7 hours	1	80	7 hours
Healthcare professionals across Wales at the AWTC Best Practice Day	Information stand	2 hours	1	75	2 hours
RPS Wales Conference	Information Stand	4 hours	1	100	4 hours
DHCW TenTalk*	Meeting	1.5 hours	1	148	1.5 hours
UKMI Conference	Information Stand	7 hours	1	150	7 hours
Rare Disease Day 2025 for HCP and Patients	Information Stand	2 hours	1	Unknown	2 hours
ABUHB Women's Network Conference – ABUHB staff and Gwent Health & Social Care staff*	YC Promotional Stand	1 hour on stand (stand accessible all day)	1	50	1 hour
Community Resource team (CRT)*	MHRA YC e-learning and YC Reporting Crib Sheet provided for distribution to CRT team	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Pre-registration Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians*	YC and Training / Workshop on Reporting Incidents	1.5 hours	1	4	1.5 hours
Non-Medical Prescribers*	Lecture	2 hours	1	51	2 hours
BCUHB vaccine centre staff*	Presentation	30 min	1	25	30 min
Primary care pharmacy team BCUHB West*	Teams	10 min	1	40	10 min
Palliative care registrars from across Wales*	Teaching session	10 min	1	9	10 min
EPMA staff at CTMUHB*	Teaching session	30 min	1	5	30 min
ED Registrar's in CTMUHB on ADR's & Yellow Card	Teaching session	45 min	1	6	45 min



Audience type	Session type	Duration	Number of sessions	Audience numbers	Total time training
Senior ED staff in CTMUHB on ADR's & Yellow Card*	Teaching session	45 min	1	8	45 min
ED junior doctors in CTMUHB on ADR's & Yellow Card reporting*	Teaching session	45 min	1	12	45 min
Presentation for ED staff at CTMUHB*	Teaching session	1 hour	1	15	1 hour
Presentation for POW ED Junior Doctors, CTMUHB*	Teaching session	1 hour	1	9	1 hour
Consultant ED Training POW, CTMUHB*	Teaching session	1 hour	1	8	1 hour
F1 Junior Doctor Induction at RGH, CTMUHB*	Lecture	1 hour	1	35	1 hour
F1 Junior Doctor Induction at CTMUHB*	Lecture	1 hour	1	30	1 hour

Table 9: Training activities delivered to healthcare professionals during 2024/25

* Activities undertaken by YCC Wales Yellow Card champions

b. Training delivered to patients and their respective groups

Audience type	Session type	Duration	Number of sessions	Audience numbers	Total time training
National Eisteddfod	Information stand	8 hours	8 (1 per day)	50 per day (approx.)	8 hours
Patient and Public Interest Group (PAPIG)	Meeting	30 min	2	25/session	60 min
HCPs and members of the public at University Hospital Llandough for #MedSafetyWeek	Information stand	5 hours	1	80 (approx.)	5 hours
HCPs and members of the public at University Hospital of Wales for #MedSafetyWeek	Information stand	5 hours	1	50 (approx.)	5 hours
World patient safety day Princess of Wales Hospital	Promotional stand	4 hours	1	-	4 hours
Medication Safety Week Royal Glamorgan Hospital	Promotional stand	4 hours	1	71	4 hours
Patients and staff Ysbyty Cwm Cynon alongside Your Medicines Your Health*	Promotional Stand	6.5 hours	1	79	6.5 hours
Promotional stand for patients and staff in Keir Hardie Health Park*	Promotional stand	4 hours	1	41	4 hours

Table 10: Training activities delivered to patients and their respective groups during 2024/25

* Activities undertaken by YCC Wales Yellow Card champions



c. Training delivered to undergraduates

Audience type	Session type	Duration	Number of sessions	Audience numbers	Total time training
3 rd year Pharmacy students – Swansea University	Workshop	2 hours	2	60	4 hours
4 th year Pharmacy students – Cardiff University	Workshop	2 hours	3	100	6 hours
1 st year Pharmacy students – Swansea University	Online Workshop	2 hours	2	100	4 hours
2 nd year Pharmacy students – Swansea University	Workshop	2 hours	2	75	4 hours
5 th year Medical Students – Cardiff University*	Lecture	1 hour	1	10	1 hour
5 th year Medical Students – Cardiff University*	Lecture	1 hour	1	20	1 hour
Pharmacy Students*	Training session	1 hour	1	7	1 hour
Trainee Pharmacist*	Presentation / Workshop	45 min	1	2	45 min
Foundation Pharmacist*	Presentation	20 min	1	4	20 min
Prescribing leads and practice pharmacists in ABUHB*	Stand on the Biobank and YC reporting	-	1	48	-
Junior/Trainee Pharmacists*	Presentation / Workshop	45 min	1	5	45 min

Table 11: Training activities delivered to undergraduates during 2024/25

* Activities undertaken by YCC Wales Yellow Card champions

d. Materials developed for YCS promotion

YCC Wales has been involved in developing a new [Medicines Safety](#) page on the Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW) website, which is accessible to all healthcare professionals across Wales. To date this page has had 143 views with an engagement rate of 68.75%.

The page features six informative videos on the following topics:

- What are ADRs (Adverse Drug Reactions)?
- Why are ADRs important?
- Key factors involved in ADRs
- The role of the Yellow Card Centre Wales
- How to report via the Yellow Card scheme
- Medicines Safety Week

YCC Wales has continued to produce bilingual posters and other promotional resources (e.g. display screen materials) to raise awareness of Yellow Card reporting amongst healthcare professionals and members of the public.



Materials were developed in support of World Patient Safety Day 2024 and #MedSafetyWeek 2024. Yellow Card promotional materials were distributed electronically to Yellow Card champions, members of the Welsh Medicines Safety Network, GP practices and Community Pharmacies across Wales.

The Yellow Card Champion's electronic resource, which provides information and resources to our champions, was regularly updated throughout the year.

YCC Wales continued to promote their animated video to raise awareness of the Yellow Card scheme to members of the public and healthcare professionals. The video is available in both Welsh and English and features the Yellow Card Centre Wales mascot. YCC Wales has also worked with Radio Glamorgan to develop a jingle to promote Yellow Card reporting. This radio jingle is regularly played on the channel.

6. PUBLICATIONS

Janus B, Hughes ML, Yellow Card Centre Wales. Community pharmacist views on ways to innovate adverse drug reaction reporting in Wales [unpublished abstract] 2025.

Huws HP, Yellow Card Centre Wales, Hughes ML. Enhancing adverse drug reaction reporting: Strategies and innovations to improve pharmacists' and other professionals' engagement [unpublished abstract] 2025.

7. YCC WEBSITE

a. Website updates

The [YCC Wales](#) site is incorporated into the All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre (AWTTC) website. A Welsh language [website](#) is also available.

The site includes:

- Information about YCC Wales
- Yellow Card reporting information for healthcare professionals
- Yellow Card reporting information for patients, carers and the public
- Information about the YCC Wales Yellow Card Champion scheme
- Links to external educational and drug safety resources
- YCC Wales promotional materials and annual reports

Information contained on the website is regularly reviewed and updated.

b. Number of website hits

During 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025 there were a total of 7,494 views, by 837 users, across all pages of the Yellow Card Centre Wales website. The most frequently viewed pages were 'Yellow Card reporting for patients, carers and the public' and 'Yellow Card reporting for healthcare professionals'.



8. RESEARCH AND ONGOING INITIATIVES

8.1 Yellow Card Champion Scheme

In November 2012 the All-Wales Chief Pharmacists Committee agreed to the implementation of the Yellow Card Hospital Champion Scheme. Whilst the scheme was initially aimed at recruiting hospital pharmacists and pharmacy technicians as Champions it has now been expanded to primary care pharmacists and other healthcare professionals, including nurses. Champions working across all sectors are invited to attend our training days.

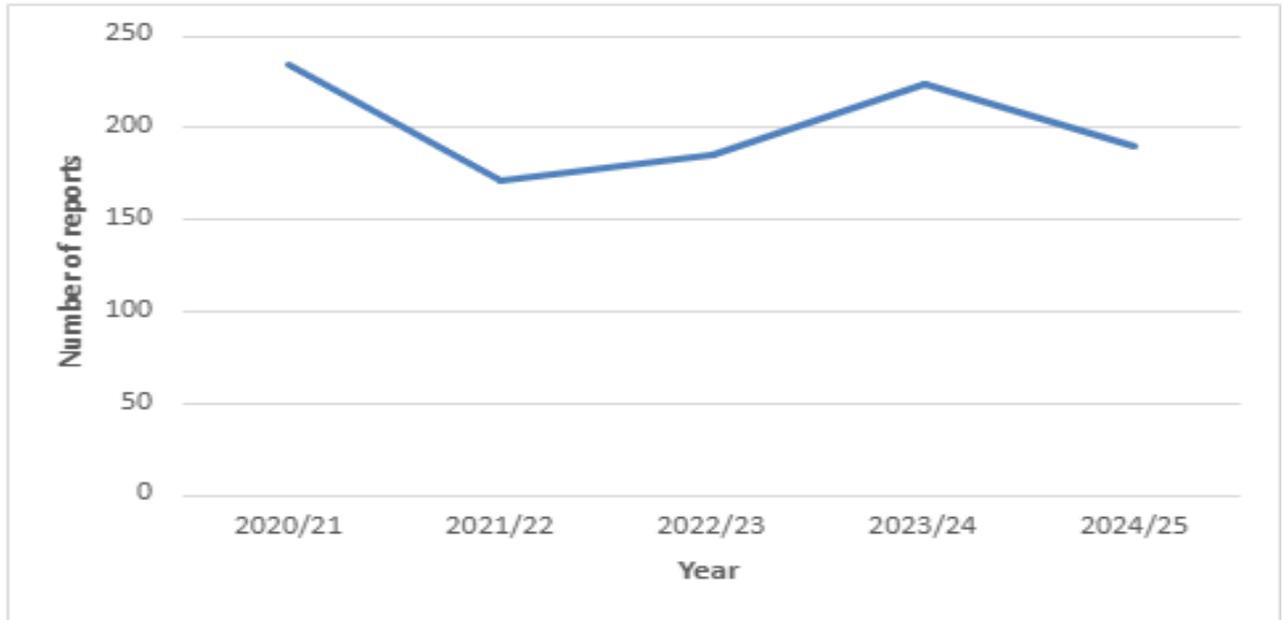


Figure 6: Number of Yellow Card reports submitted by Hospital Pharmacists in Wales over the last five years

Figure 6 shows the number of Yellow Card reports submitted by hospital pharmacists over the last five years. There has been a decrease of 0.2 % in the in the number of reports submitted when compared with the previous year (224 in 2023/24, 190 in 2024/25).

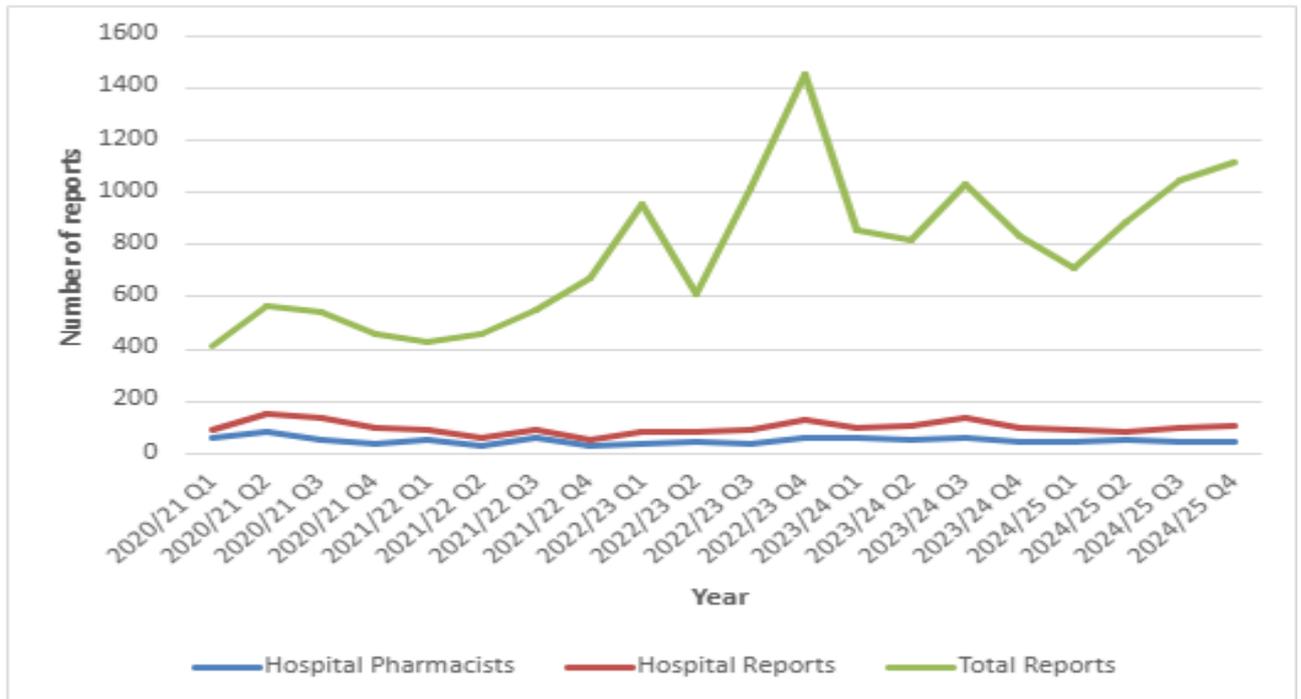


Figure 7: Number of Yellow Card reports submitted by Hospital Pharmacists, Hospital Reporters* and all reporters in Wales over the last five years

* Hospital reporter qualifications = hospital doctor, hospital nurse, hospital pharmacist, hospital healthcare professional

Figure 7 illustrates the trend in Yellow Card reports by secondary care since 2023/24. The Yellow Card Champions will continue to provide education to healthcare professionals working within primary and secondary care. YCC Wales will continue to recruit and train new Yellow Card Champions.

Hospital Electronic Prescribing and Medicines Administration (HEPMA) systems is currently being introduced to hospitals across Wales. YCC Wales has put forward a strong recommendation to Digital Health and Care Wales' Digital Medicines Transformation Team, that the systems must support integrated Yellow Card reporting. This will simplify the reporting process and encourage reporting amongst healthcare professionals working in secondary care.

YCC Wales continues to strengthen and revitalise the Yellow Card Champion scheme by having quarterly meetings with the Champions and utilising the Champions MS Teams channel. Regular updates regarding YCC Wales and MHRA workstreams were provided.

YCC Wales continues to work with members of the All-Wales Medicines Safety Network, which includes Medication Safety Officers (MSOs) and medicines management nurses, to enable them to provide encouragement and support to the Yellow Card Champions working within their Local Health Boards.

YCC Wales hosted their annual Medicine Safety Day in June 2024. See [Table 9](#) and [Annex 1](#). Yellow Card Champions, members of the All-Wales Medicines Safety Network, healthcare professionals with an interest in the safe use of medicines and colleagues who have been instrumental in the success of YCC Wales over the years were invited. The day's events included the following sessions:

- Presence, Influence and Status – Making an Impact on Medicines Safety
- Forensic Pharmacology as a source of pharmacovigilance
- An Introduction to Medicines Shortages



- EPMA is coming! What does this mean for you?
- Unveiling Medicines Safety Trends

Delegates were also invited to submit a poster demonstrating either an interesting adverse drug reaction or one that had a significant impact on their practice.

8.2 National Prescribing Indicator

In 2024/5, Yellow Card reporting continued as a National Prescribing (reporting) Indicator (NPI) in Wales. NPIs are developed annually to promote national prescribing, balancing both quality and efficacy.

The following targets were in place for 2024/25:

- GP practices - GP practices to submit one Yellow Card per 2,000 practice population.
- Health Boards - submit one Yellow Card per 2,000 Health Board population.
- Health Boards - demonstrate a 10%, or greater, increase from baseline*, for Yellow Cards submitted by secondary care.
- Health Boards - demonstrate a 25%, or greater, increase from baseline*, for Yellow Cards submitted by members of the public.
- Yellow Cards submitted in community pharmacy - no target value set.

* *Baseline: number of Yellow Cards submitted in 2023/24.*

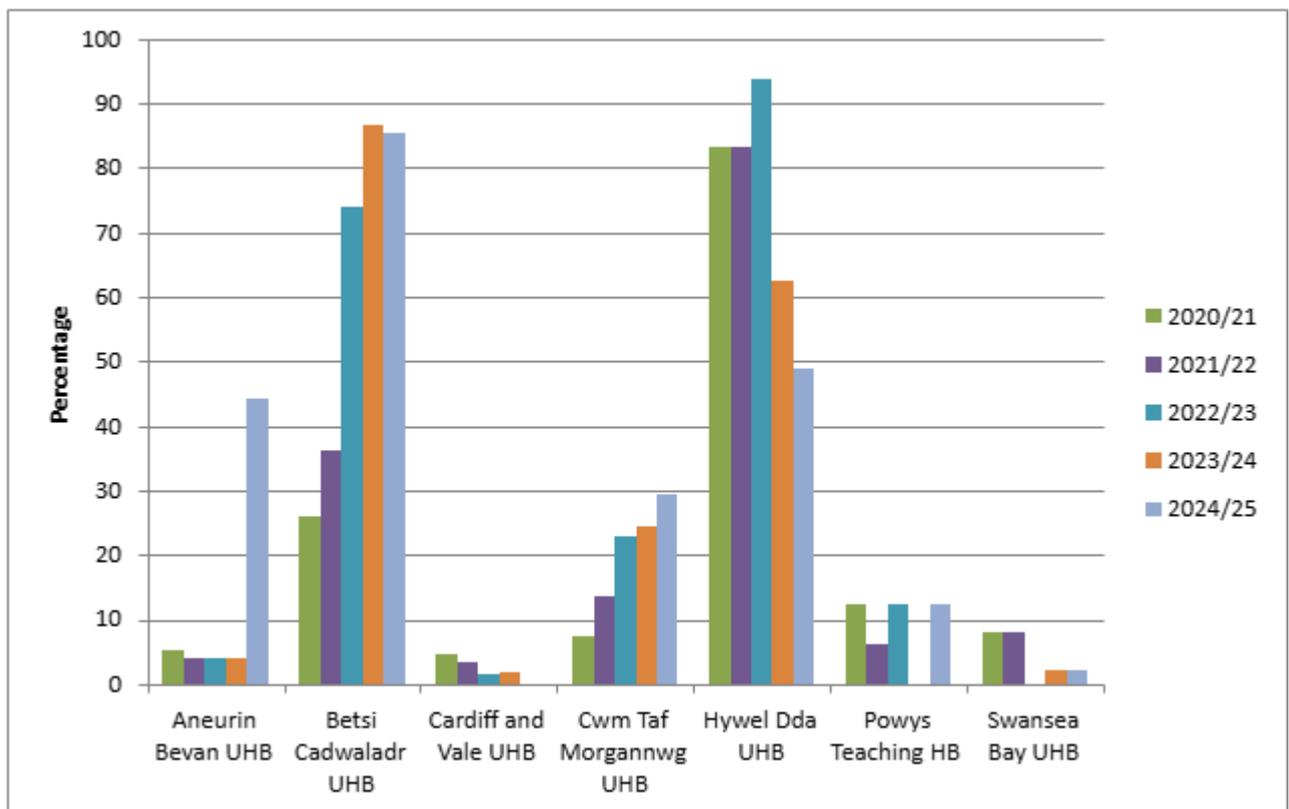


Figure 8: Percentage of practices per Health Board attaining the NPI target of 1 Yellow Card submitted per 2,000 patients, over the last five years



Figure 8 shows the percentage of GP practices achieving the target of submitting 1 Yellow Card per 2,000 patients. All health boards have practices achieving this target, except for Cardiff and Vale UHB. The percentage of practices attaining the target reduced in Betsi Cadwaladr UHB and Hywel Dda UHB. An increase was seen in the other health boards when compared with 2023/24.

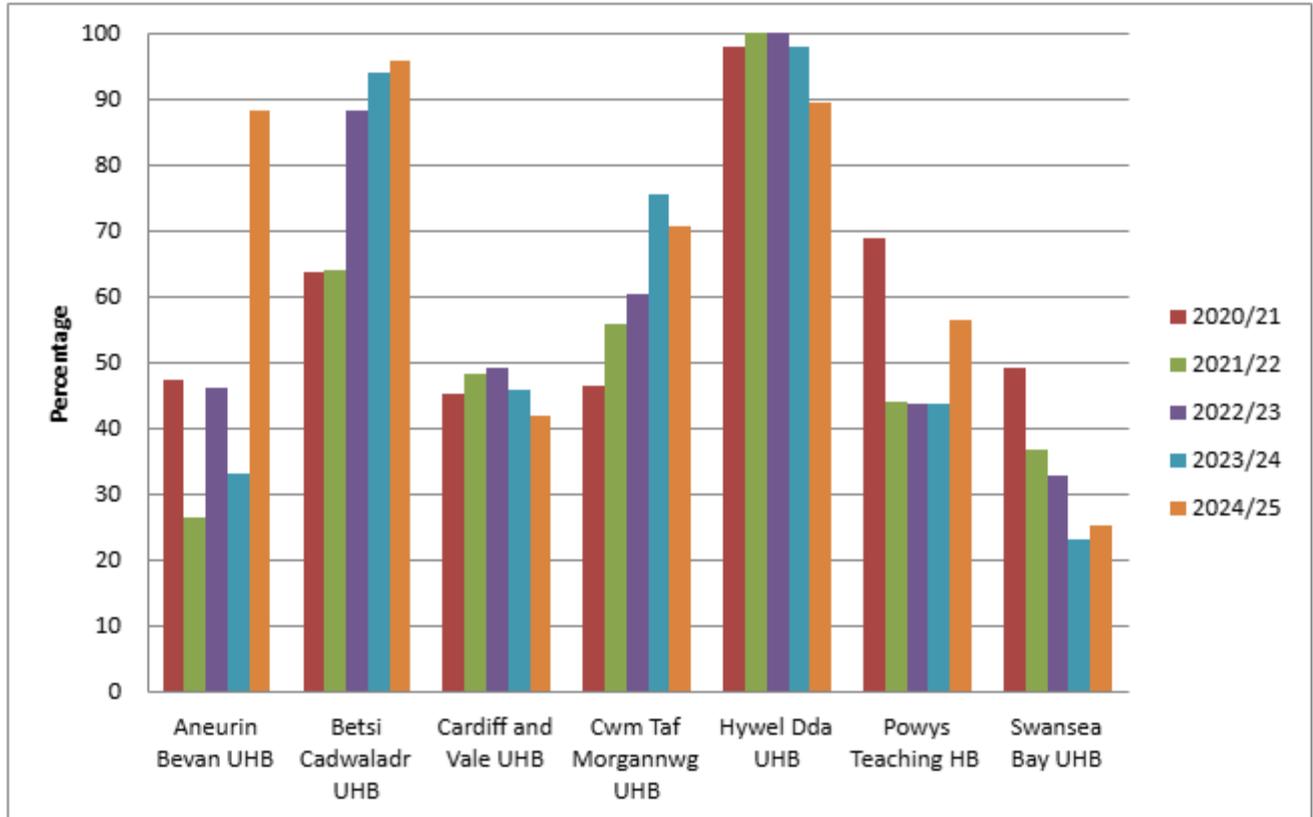


Figure 9: Percentage of GP practices in each Health Board submitting a Yellow Card over the last 5 years

Figure 9 shows the percentage of GP practices who have submitted at least one Yellow Card. Practice level data is published on a quarterly basis by the Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit (WAPSU) on the [Server for Prescribing Information Reporting and Analysis \(SPIRA\) NPI dashboard](#). This dashboard is available for all Health Boards to view and can be used to target those practices who have not submitted a Yellow Card and to offer additional training and support. YCC Wales also continues to work with local Yellow Card Champions throughout Wales.

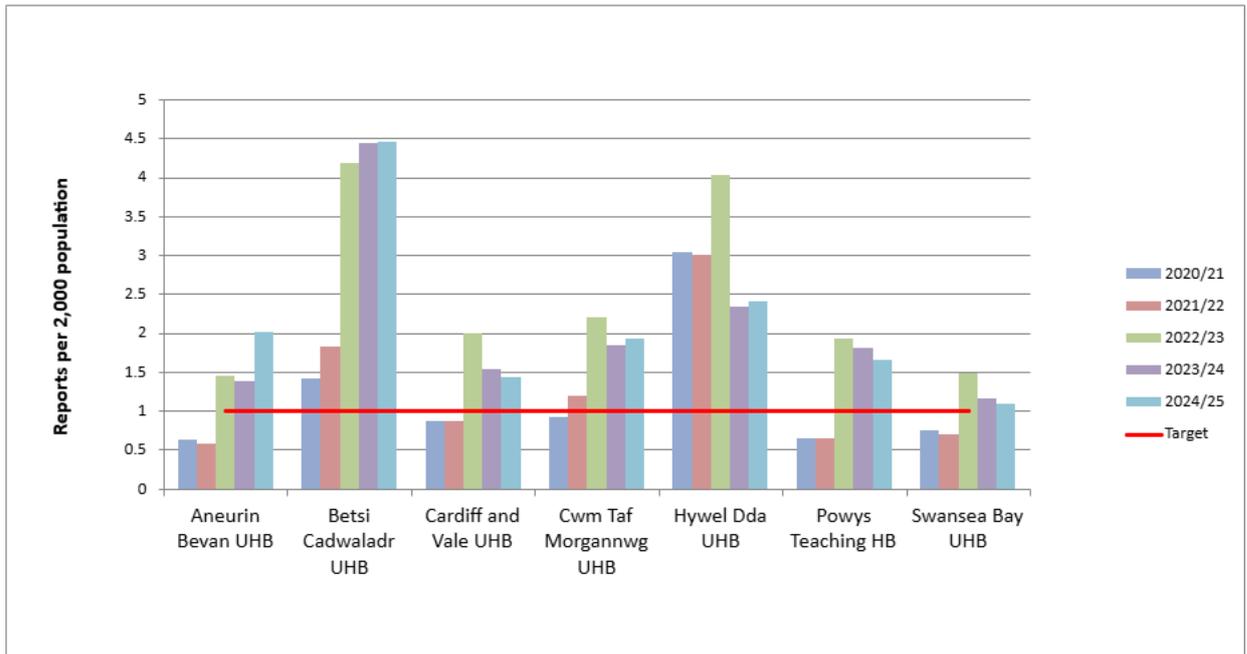


Figure 10: Number of Yellow Card reports per 2,000 patient population submitted per Health Board over the last 5 years

Figure 10 shows the performance of each Health Board against the target to submit in excess of one Yellow Card per 2,000 Health Board population. All seven Health Boards achieved the target but Aneurin Bevan UHB, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB, Hywel Dda UHB saw an increase in reporting rate. A decline in reporting was seen in the other three health boards when compared with 2023/24.

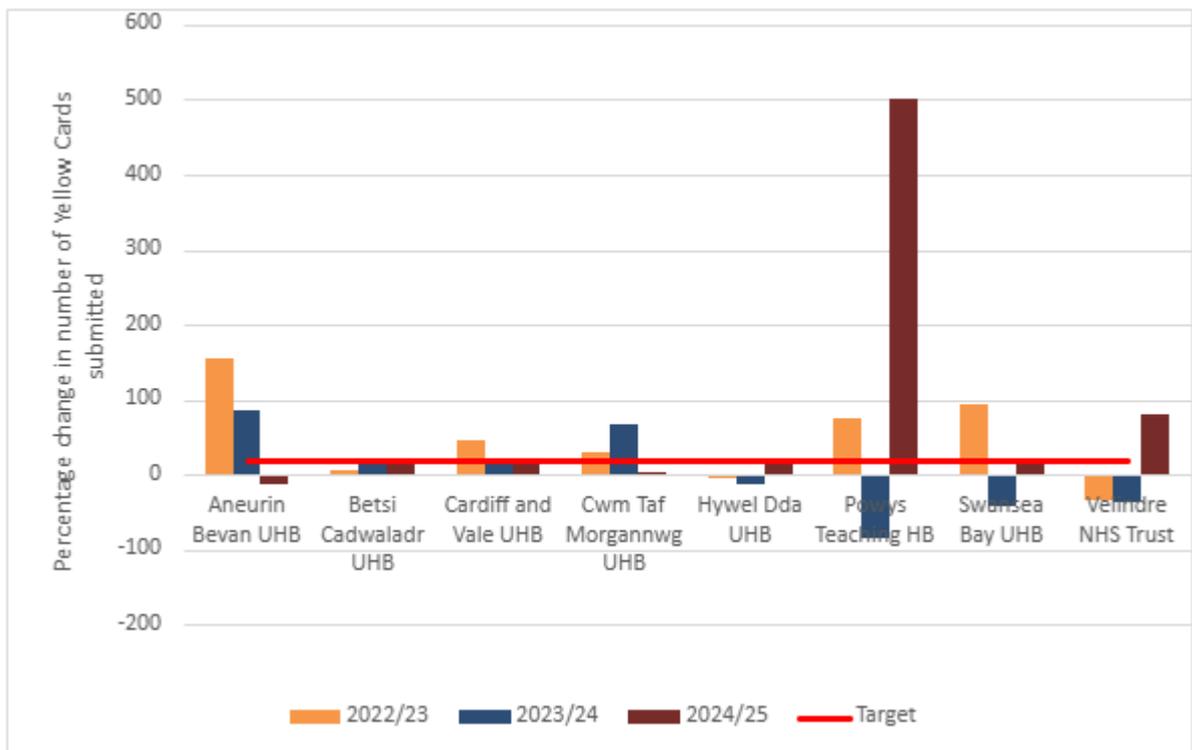


Figure 11: Performance of each Health Board/NHS Trust against the NPI Secondary Care Target demonstrate a 10%, or greater, increase from baseline, for Yellow Cards submitted by secondary care)



Figure 11 shows the performance of each Health Board/NHS Trust against the secondary care target.

The performance target for each health board is to demonstrate a 10% or greater, increase from baseline in the number of Yellow Cards submitted by secondary care.

Betsi Cadwaladr UHB, Powys Teaching HB and Velindre NHS Trust achieved the target to increase Yellow Card reporting by 10% in secondary care. Powys Teaching UHB saw the largest percentage increase from baseline (+500%). Aneurin Bevan UHB saw the largest percentage decrease (-13%) from baseline. YCC Wales are working with colleagues, including Yellow Card Champions and MSOs, in all Health Boards to improve reporting in secondary care.

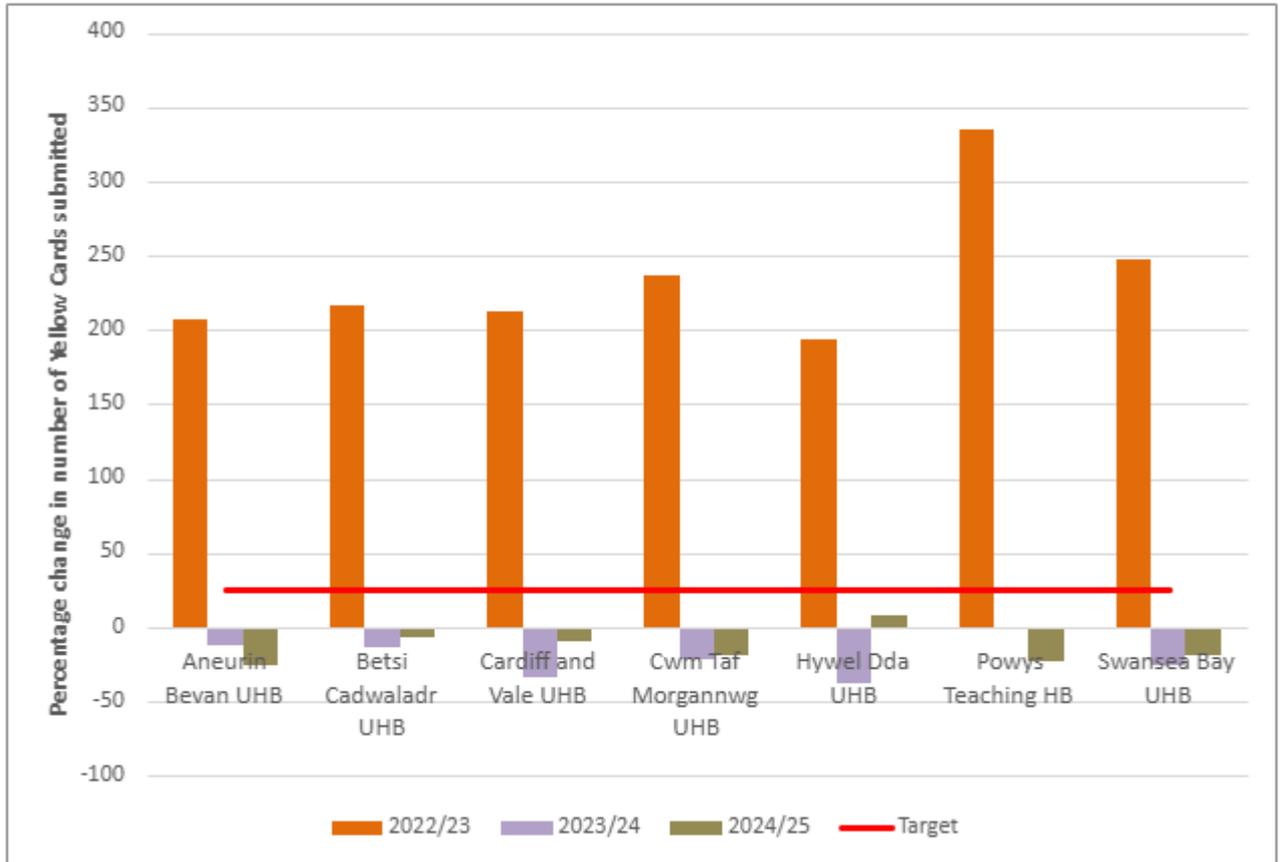


Figure 12: Performance of each Health Board against the NPI Public Target (demonstrate a 25%, or greater, increase from baseline, for Yellow Cards submitted by members of the public)

Figure 12 shows the performance of each Health Board against the target for reports from members of the public.

The performance target for each health board is to demonstrate a 25% or greater, increase from base in the number of Yellow Cards submitted by members of the public.

No health board achieved the target to increase Yellow Card reporting by 25% by members of the public. Member of the public reporting rates decreased in all health boards except for Hywel Dda UHB. The highest percentage decrease (-25%) was seen in Aneurin Bevan UHB.

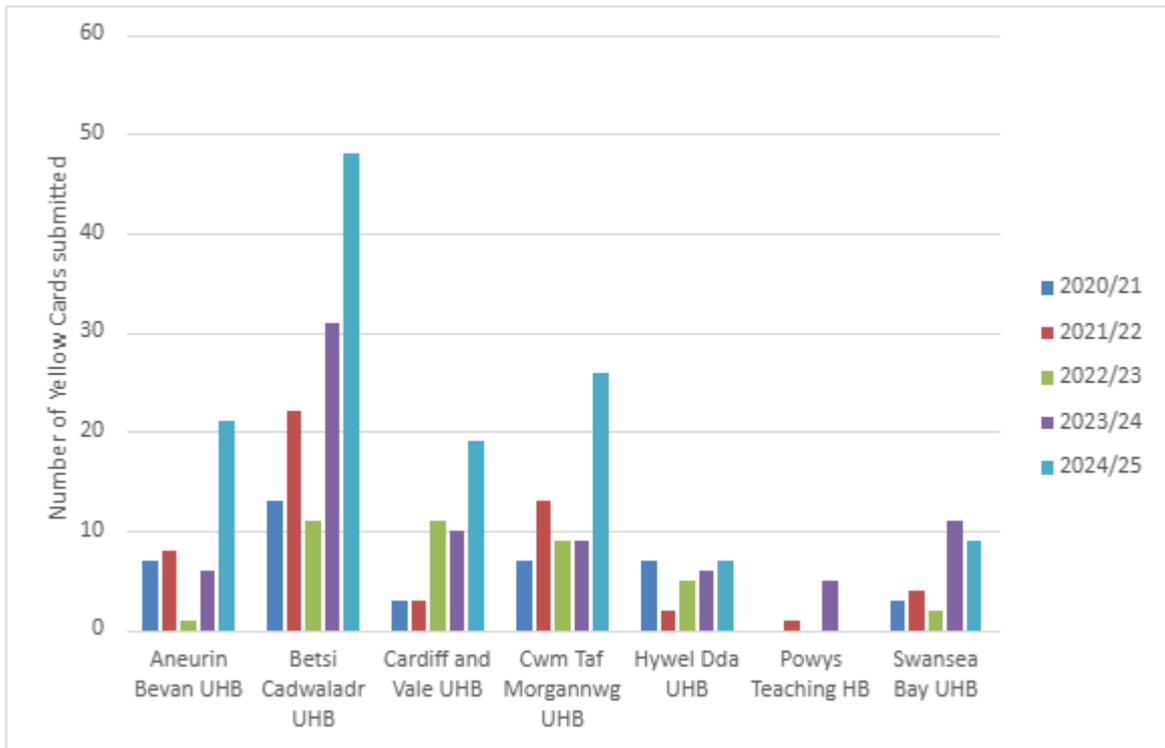


Figure 13: Number of Yellow Cards submitted by Community Pharmacy in each Health Board

Figure 13 shows the performance of each Health Board against the Community Pharmacy NPI. No target was set for the number of Yellow Cards submitted by community pharmacies. An increase was seen in the number of reports submitted from community pharmacies from all health boards except for Swansea Bay UHB and Powys Teaching HB.

8.3 Social Media

Posts are published to encourage Yellow Card reporting amongst healthcare professionals and members of the public. In order to increase awareness of the Yellow Card scheme and encourage Yellow Card reporting amongst members of the public and healthcare professionals, YCC Wales contributed to a number of social media campaigns.

X

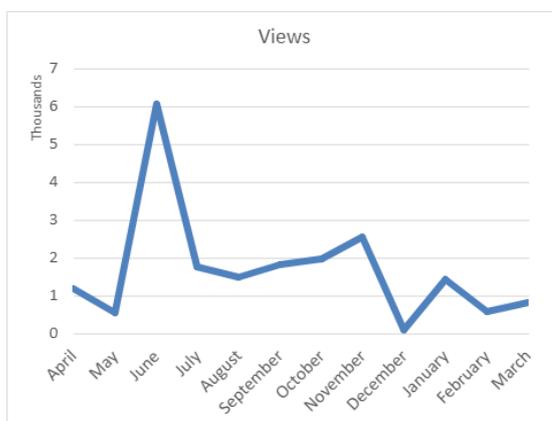


Figure 14: Number of monthly X views during 2024/25

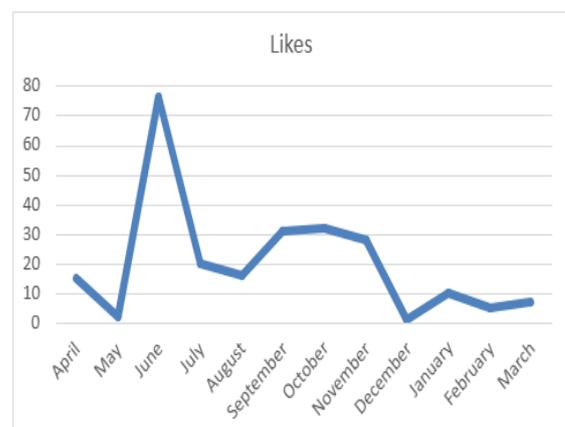


Figure 15: Number of monthly X likes during 2024/25



Figures 14 and 15 illustrate the numbers of monthly X views and likes. The months of June, September and November 2024 had higher numbers of views and likes compared with other months. These coincided with the, YCC Wales Medicines Safety Day (June 2024), World Patient Safety Day (September 2024) and #MedSafetyWeek (November 2024).

To date YCC Wales has 443 followers. It is hoped that this number will increase further over the next year.

Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn

The current Facebook page following is 140. Since 01/10/2024 till 31/04/25, the page has had 1,048 views with highest peak in November coinciding with #MedSafetyWeek. YCC Wales are hopeful that the following will increase over the next year.

YCC Wales' Instagram page, aims to spread the word wider about the Yellow Card scheme and the importance of reporting ADRs. To date YCC Wales has 89 followers but hopes to make further use of this platform and increase their following over the next year.

In the last quarter, we launched our official LinkedIn page to highlight our efforts in promoting Yellow Card reporting. Through this platform, we aim to raise awareness of medicine safety and encourage robust reporting practices among healthcare professionals and patient organisations.



9. CONCLUSIONS

The 2024/25 YCC Wales Annual Report highlights a significant shift in Yellow Card reporting trends in Wales, with an overall increase in reports. This is potentially due to reporting focus has returned to a broader range of medicines post pandemic, reflected in the significant increase in non-COVID vaccine reports.

Substantial progress was made in diversifying the sources of reports, with notable increases in submissions from a range of healthcare professionals. This broadened engagement highlights the success of ongoing efforts to promote the Yellow Card scheme beyond traditional reporter groups, particularly in a challenging post-pandemic environment.

YCC Wales will continue to promote the availability of the Yellow Card app and collaborate with the Welsh Medicines Advice Teams across Wales to increase reporting through the MiDatabank programme. These initiatives, alongside sustained promotional efforts, are expected to further enhance the accessibility and visibility of Yellow Card reporting.

Our strategy for 2025/26 will be to:

- Increase awareness of the Yellow Card scheme and reporting rates amongst members of the public through patient centred initiatives e.g. visits to public events throughout Wales.
- Increase awareness of the Yellow Card scheme and reporting rates amongst healthcare professionals.
- Raise awareness of electronic reporting methods in primary and secondary care such as Mi Databank, SystemOne and the Yellow Card mobile application.
- Establish formal teaching of nursing undergraduates.
- Continue to raise awareness of the National Prescribing (reporting) Indicator amongst primary and secondary care organisations and provide appropriate support.
- Continue to improve communication and engagement of Yellow Card Champions and Welsh MSOs by utilising platforms for team working such as Microsoft Teams.
- Increase activity on social media to reach a wider audience.
- YCC Wales in conjunction with Cardiff University will be piloting the requirement for students in their final year of medicine to complete a Yellow Card report and submit this to the MHRA.



10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

YCC Wales acknowledges the contribution made by the following individuals during 2024/25 in helping us to promote and develop our current initiatives:

Secondary Care Yellow Card Champions

Alana Edmunds, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Alexander Reed, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Alexander Sean Plaister, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Amanda Halloway, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Andrea Griffiths, Cardiff and Vale UHB
Andrew Davies, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Ann Pearson, Swansea Bay UHB
Anne-Marie Montoto, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Anwen Richards, Hywel Dda UHB
Ben Price, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Beth Perry, Powys THB
Bethan Owen, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Caroline Norris, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Cerys Sessini, Hywel Dda UHB
Charlotte Curliss, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Charlotte Hay, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Christine Meader, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Ciara Griffiths, Hywel Dda UHB
Courtney Nicholas, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Delyth Atherton, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Edward Jones, Swansea Bay UHB
Elena Edwards, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Ellen Crowley, Swansea Bay UHB
Eryl Smeethe, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Ffion Pursglove, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Fflur Christodoulou, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Fiona John, Hywel Dda UHB
Gemma Taylor, Cardiff and Vale UHB
Gipsy George, Cardiff and Vale UHB
Glesni Owen, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Hannah Mahoney, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Hannah Thompson, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Hayley Saunders, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Helen Morteo, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Jackie Jones, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Janet Thomas, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Jasmine Ingram, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Jennifer Bristow, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Jenny Haughey, Hywel Dda UHB
Jo Israel, Hywel Dda UHB
Judith Harding, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Julius Chua, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Karen Watkins, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Katherine White, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Kelly Jones, Swansea Bay UHB
Laura Ellis-Mosley, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Laura Humphrey, Hywel Dda UHB
Lisa Morris, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Llinos Strange, Hywel Dda UHB
Llio Jones, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Lowri Jones, Hywel Dda UHB
Lowri Thomas, Cardiff and Vale UHB
Marianna Howes, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Marisa Webber, Hywel Dda UHB
Megane de Wolff, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Michelle Bell, Cardiff and Vale UHB
Nia Sainsbury, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Petra Francis, Hywel Dda UHB
Rachel Aylward-Clark, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Rafia Jamil, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Rebecca Coleman, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Rhian Jenkins, Hywel Dda UHB
Robert Weller, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Ruth Hull, Velindre University NHS Trust
Sali Morgan, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Sean Thomas, Hywel Dda UHB
Sharon Eyre, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Susan Newport, Powys THB
Suzanne Kenyon, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Tracy Roberts, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB



Primary Care Yellow Card Champions

Abbie Thomas, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Aimee Miles, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Amy Reynolds, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Cara Bruton, Powys THB
Charlotte Watts, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Elizabeth Hallett, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Elly Thomas, Cardiff and Vale UHB
Elly Thomas, Cardiff and Vale UHB
Hywel Jones, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Jacob Mackenzie, Velindre University NHS Trust
Lauren Davies, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Matt Hicks, Powys THB
Rebecca Tomlinson, Powys THB
Rhian Eleri Jones, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Rhian Rees, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Sally Western, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Sarah Ferguson, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Sarah Mahmud, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Sarah Oliver, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Sarah Watkins, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Sharon Edwards, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Sharon Edwards, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Sharon Edwards, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Suzie Hemming, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Tina Birkby, Aneurin Bevan UHB
Trudy Anderton, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Verity Morris, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB

Medication Safety Officers

Angharad Pooley, Swansea Bay UHB
Hannah Leggett, Hywel Dda UHB
Huw Carson, Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Jenna Walker, Cardiff and Vale UHB

Judith Green, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
Claire Jones, Powys Teaching HB
Rebecca Dent, Velindre NHS Trust
Rhian Lloyd-Evans, Aneurin Bevan UHB

All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre

David Lewis
Jessica Morgan
Laura Phillips

Anne Coles
Laura Taylor
Ruth Lang

Welsh Medicines Advice Service - Cardiff

Abigail Manning
Anna Burgess
Diane Skillern



11. ANNEX 1 – Event programme.

 YCC WALES MEDICINES SAFETY DAY 2024 		
EVENT PROGRAMME 25TH JUNE 2024		
9:30	Registration & Refreshments	
10:00	Welcome & Introductions	Dr Alison Thomas Medical Director, Yellow Card Centre Wales
10:10	Presence, Influence & Status – Making an Impact on Medicines Safety	Jamie Hayes Director, Welsh Medicines Resource Centre
10:50	Forensic Pharmacology as a source of pharmacovigilance?	Professor James Coulson Cardiff University
11:30	Coffee	
11:50	An introduction to medicines shortages	Anne Hinchliffe National Contingency Planning Pharmacist, NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership Manon Owen Integrated Medicines Directorate Pharmacist, CAVUHB
12:30	MHRA update	Hannah Rees Associate Signal Assessor, Safety and Surveillance, MHRA
13:00	Lunch & Poster Judging	
14:00	Poster prize giving	Alana Adams Chair of YCC Wales Advisory Group Principal Pharmacist and Medicines Governance Lead, CAVUHB
14:15	EPMA is coming! What does this mean for you?	Ann Slee External Advisor to the DHCW Service Transformation Programme James Goddard DHCW Hospital e-prescribing lead
15:15	Coffee	
15:30	National Poisons Information Service – Unveiling Medicines Safety Trends	Dr Laurence Gray Consultant Clinical Pharmacologist, CAVUHB Ella Edwards and Nathaniel Keymer Specialists in Poisons Information, National Poisons Information Service
16:15	Closing Statement	Dr Alison Thomas Medical Director, Yellow Card Centre Wales



12. ANNEX 2 – Progress report summary against objectives.

General Objectives	Performance measures and targets	Progress at end of year
1. Education To educate and inform stakeholders including healthcare professionals and patients about the Yellow Card Scheme	1.1. To develop and update on-going training programmes for students, including undergraduates and postgraduates, and all healthcare professional stakeholders, including GPs, community pharmacists, hospital pharmacists, hospital doctors and hospital nurses	Training presentations maintained this year. All workshops and lectures for undergraduate students updated.
	1.2. To provide at least 15 lectures, workshops or other events per year, to educate students and healthcare professionals about ADRs, medications errors, pharmacovigilance and the Yellow Card Scheme	Exceeded
	1.3. To maintain regular contact and support local Medication Safety Officers (MSOs) within YCC region to increase awareness levels of Yellow Card Scheme and reporting rates	Worked with local and national MSO throughout year. YCC Wales has a regular agenda item at Welsh Medicines Safety Network monthly meetings.
	1.4. To maintain and expand current network of stakeholders	New YC Champions recruited.
2. Patient Reporting To increase patient awareness of Yellow Card reporting and help drive an increase in patient reporting	2.1 To engage with community pharmacists to increase patient awareness of Yellow Card reporting	Ongoing.
	2.2. To engage or make contact with five local patient groups per financial year, including giving presentations and talks	Achieved.
	2.3. To develop and maintain strategy programmes which can include talks, for sharing information such as Yellow Card data, case studies and reporting trends with stakeholders including local patient groups, hospital pharmacists and GPs to promote patient awareness of patient Yellow Card reporting	Continued to support and expand YC Champion role throughout Wales. NPI data shared quarterly with relevant stakeholders including primary care leads.
3. External / Stakeholder communications To communicate information about the Yellow Card Scheme to stakeholders	3.1. To develop and maintain the YCC website, ensuring that they contain easily accessible information on the reporting of ADRs	Website content updated as required.
	3.2. To ensure that the YCC websites contain accessible links to agreed Yellow Card partners	Completed.
	3.3. YCCs that wish to communicate information to stakeholders through educational material on their websites are to develop and update these training and resource materials accordingly on their websites, including promoting e-learning modules where e-learning modules are available	YCC Wales website updated throughout.
	3.4. YCCs to promote and disseminate safety messages from MHRA to YCC stakeholders as required, such as drug safety updates, pharmacovigilance issue, and e-learning modules	Information regularly disseminated to YC Champions, MSOs and local networks via YCC Wales.
	3.5. To monitor the number of hits on YCC websites	Achieved.



General Objectives	Performance measures and targets	Progress at end of year
4. Facilitation To raise awareness and encourage facilitation of direct ADR reporting from healthcare systems	4.1. Raise awareness of electronic reporting methods in primary and secondary care such as Mi Databank, SystmOne and the Yellow Card mobile application	SOP in place for submitting reports via MiDatabank. YC reporting via Mi Databank encouraged at WMAS and numbers of reports fed-back. Electronic reporting via Vision and Emis web.
	4.2. To identify potential local contacts for further development in this area	Continued contact with DHCW, local IT department and digital / ePMA leads.
	4.3. To provide input to the MHRA on strategy and development of the Yellow Card Information Standard for the GP System of Choice	Completed via quarterly meetings and AGM.
5. Internal communications To communicate with the MHRA on a regular basis regarding Yellow Card Strategy and ADR reporting from the YCC regions	5.1. Annual report - YCCs to produce an annual report describing their activities over the past year. The report should be produced and sent to the MHRA within three months of receipt of annual Yellow Card data from the MHRA	Completed.
	5.2. Quarterly Teleconference - To participate in a quarterly teleconference between the YCCs and MHRA to discuss progress and share information	Completed.
	5.3. Yellow Card Strategy – To provide views and input into the Yellow Card Strategy	Completed.
	5.4. YCCs to provide further information and updates on research and education strategies	Completed.
6. Analysis To analyse quarterly supply of Yellow Card data and identify targets for improvement	6.1. To identify local areas of low Yellow Card reporting by analysing Yellow Card quarterly data	Working with Yellow Card Champions and MSOs in HBs to encourage reporting.
	6.2. To promote the Yellow Card Scheme with the intent of increasing reporting in these areas of low Yellow Card reporting	Recruited new Champions.
	6.3. To identify low reporting groups and engage with them to promote the Yellow Card Scheme with the intent of increasing reporting	Completed.
	6.4. To provide MHRA with updates on any other actions taken with the quarterly statistics	Completed.



YCC Wales

Yellow Card Centre Wales
Canolfan Cerdyn Melyn Cymru

For further information visit:

[YCCWales.org](https://www.yccwales.org)

or e-mail:

YCCWales@wales.nhs.uk