

Enclosure No:	8/AWMSG/0912
Agenda Item No:	12 – AWPAG update
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ALL WALES PRESCRIBING ADVISORY GROUP

**Minutes of meeting held Thursday, 19th
July 2012 at 09.30am
At the St Michael's Centre
10a Pen Y Pound, Abergavenny, NP7 5UD**

Members

Dr Tessa Lewis (Chair)	GP, Aneurin Bevan
Mrs Jane Barnard	Lay member
Mr Alan Clatworthy	Pharmacist, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg
Mr Stefan Fec	Community Pharmacist
Dr Rick Greville	Director ABPI (non-voting)
Mrs Louise Howard-Baker	Pharmacist, Betsi Cadwaladr
Mrs Sarah Isaac	Pharmacist, Hywel Dda
Dr Susannah Jacks	GP, Aneurin Bevan
Mr Usman Ali Malik	Pharmacist, Velindre
Mrs Robyn Miles	ABPI Industry Representative
Mrs Marnel Owen	Healthcare professional eligible to prescribe
Mr Jonathan Simms	Pharmacist, Aneurin Bevan
Mrs Bev Woods	Pharmacist, Cwm Taf
Dr Sean Young	GP, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg

In attendance

Mr Jamie Hayes, Director WeMeReC & AWTTTC
Ms Kath Haines, Head of Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Mrs Kate Jenkins, Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Miss Samantha Webster, Medical Writer, AWTTTC

Key of abbreviations

AWMSG	All Wales Medicines Strategy Group
AWMSGSC	All Wales Medicines Strategy Group Steering Committee
AWPAG	All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group
AWTTTC	All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre
CASPA	Comparative Analysis System for Prescribing Audit
CEPP	Clinical Effectiveness Prescribing Programme (formerly called incentive scheme)
CPW	Community Pharmacy Wales
DH	Department of Health
GP	General Practitioner
MHRA	Medicines Health and Regulatory Authority

MMPB	Medicines Management Programme Board
NMG	New Medicines Group
NICE	National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
NSAIDs	Non steroidal anti inflammatory drugs
PSU	Prescribing Support Unit
SLA	Service Level Agreement
T&FG	Task and Finish Group
UHB	University Health Board
WAPSU	Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
WG	Welsh Government
WeMeReC	Welsh Medicines Resource Centre
WIS	Welsh Informatics Service

1.0 Welcome & introduction

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members and Mr Malcolm Latham from the Wales Audit Office who would be speaking to members about the Review of GP Prescribing.

2.0 Apologies:

Mr Paul Fleming
 Dr Sue Jeffs
 Dr Hamsaraj Shetty
 Dr Mark Smithies
 Dr Ashok Rayani
 Dr Mark Walker
 Professor Roger Walker

3.0 Declarations of interest

Mrs Robyn Miles declared an interest in relation to agenda item 10, Common Ailments Formulary, and agenda item 19, the AWPAG Therapeutics Working Group minutes.

4.0 Chair's report

The Chair reported that nomination of Mrs Louise Howard Baker for the position of AWPAG Vice-Chair has been approved by AWMSG Steering Committee. She thanked members for their substantial contribution in progressing projects between the meetings and informed the meeting that it has been suggested that the number of meetings be increased to 5 per year, and that she would seek feedback later in the meeting.

5.0 Minutes of previous AWPAG meeting – April 2012

The minutes were checked for accuracy.

5.1 Matters arising

The chair outlined the response received regarding the Drugs and Therapeutics bulletin. The proposal for reactivating the National eLibrary for a trial period would be taken to their service board, and if this was agreed they would welcome the support of AWPAG/AWMSG in raising awareness.

Dates will be circulated for the National Indicators sub-group meeting (Item 20.0).

The Chair thanked members who had responded to the CEPP audit feedback request. A further email would be sent to ensure that data was available from all regions.

ACTION

AWTTC to follow up with eLibrary regarding DTB

AWTTC to re-send CEPP audit feedback email to relevant health boards

6.0 Papers presented to AWMSG on 20th June 2012

The Chair reported that the following papers had been approved by AWMSG at their meeting in June 2012:

- CEPP National Audit - Repeat prescribing
- Warfarin monitoring
- MDS Standards

The following paper was supported by AWMSG at their meeting in March 2012; however, as one recommendation required amendment by AWPAG, final approval was given by the Chairman at AWMSG Steering Committee in July 2012:

- Guidance on prescribing for erectile dysfunction in Wales

This paper will now be provided to Welsh Government for review of the relevant Welsh Health Circular. Members recommended a review of prescribing patterns following the guidance.

ACTION

Review of prescribing data for erectile dysfunction to be considered at a future meeting

7.0 Wales Audit Office annual performance audit – Review of GP prescribing

The Chair invited Mr Malcolm Latham of the Wales Audit Office to speak to the meeting about the forthcoming review of GP prescribing to be undertaken by his office. Following his presentation, the members were invited to comment on the proposed review and several specific drug baskets.

It was proposed to consider the top 100 medicines (cost) for review against formularies at health board level. The issue of primary and secondary care prescribing was considered and discussed.

The Chairman thanked Mr Latham for his presentation and in turn Mr Latham thanked the group for their feedback.

8.0 Common Ailments Scheme Formulary

The Chair invited Mrs Fiona Woods, Director - Welsh Medicines Information Centre, to present a paper prepared as a result of the formulary meeting held on 19th June 2012. The group discussed the paper at length and made amendments as necessary. The Chair asked that any further comments be submitted to Fiona Woods and Samantha Webster. It was agreed that the amended paper will be sent for further consultation and then presented to AWPAG on 25th October 2012.

ACTION

**Consultation period to be confirmed following discussion with WG
Amended paper to be presented to AWPAG on 25th October 2012**

9.0 Antimicrobial Stewardship in Primary Care

The Chair welcomed Dr Robin Howe, Consultant Microbiologist and Wales' lead for Antimicrobial Stewardship, and Dr Naomi Stanton, RCGP Antimicrobial Clinical Champion. Members were asked to consider, following the presentations, mechanisms (in addition to the AWMSG National Indicators) to promote engagement with the antimicrobial agenda.

Dr Howe provided data that included trends in antimicrobial resistance, variations in volumes of use and resistance to different agents across hospitals. Variations in adherence to guidance for number of days of surgical prophylaxis and percentage of appropriate antimicrobial prescribing were also noted.

Mrs Howard-Baker outlined progress in supporting appropriate antimicrobial prescribing via the Wales National Prescribing Chart.

Dr Howe outlined the Department of Health approach 'Start SMART – Then focus' and the supporting tools:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_131062].

Prescribing guidance is to be developed at an All Wales level for both primary and secondary care.

Dr Stanton gave a presentation about work on the Antimicrobial Stewardship in Primary Care (ASPIC). She gave an update regarding items in development via HPA and RCGP, including a phone app for primary care guidance, a patient leaflet, a self-assessment checklist and posters. There are also audits for sore throat, earache and UTIs in development for the RCGP website. She also highlighted European Antibiotic Awareness Day (EAAD) which is marked annually on 18th November; however this year a campaign will run from 19th to 23rd November.

Members enquired about antimicrobial teaching to undergraduates and Dr Stanton outlined the respiratory case-based learning module. Education in schools can be supported via the eBug programme, and it was suggested that contact could be made with WJEC.

The group suggested linking with the community pharmacy national campaign 2013. Members recommended provision of further information on the practical implications and effective use of delayed antimicrobial prescriptions. Mr Simms offered to forward resources used in Torfaen.

All health boards have an antimicrobial stewardship group. The link with Medicines and Therapeutics Committees and degree of primary care representation varies between boards and is currently under review by Dr Howe.

The importance of an 'all practice' approach was noted, together with addressing clinician confidence and public expectation. Members were asked to prioritise areas for consideration. Inclusion of antimicrobial prescribing as a QP area of the Quality and Outcomes Framework would support this.

The Chair and members welcomed the tools, support materials and planned educational events and thanked Drs Howe and Stanton for their presentations.

ACTION

Jonathan Simms to provide 'delayed prescribing' resources to members

Recommendations to be considered via Dr Howe and ASPIC group

Members to support local implementation and uptake of resources outlined

10.0 CEPP Audit 2013/14 – Antibiotics

The Chair provided background to the antibiotic audit for 2013/14 and invited comment on the EMIS audits. The Chair invited Dr Sean Young to present the paper and the results of his audit which had been piloted locally. The group reviewed the findings, noting the variations between clinicians and accompanying evidence commentary. Practicalities of implementation were considered and whether a toolkit of antimicrobial prescribing criteria would be appropriate. Members supported the availability of all the cited criteria. Respiratory disease should be prioritised when the subgroup consider other available audit tools.

The development of EMIS web antibiotic search and report tools was welcomed; however, it was noted that EMIS web would not be universally available. EMIS will be one of 2 suppliers available to primary care and roll-out is planned for 2013. Members to forward further comment on the EMIS template details to Dr Lewis

The Chair thanked Dr Young for his work and sought volunteers for a working group to join the ASPIC group to finalise the antibiotic audit for 2013/14. Dr Sean Young, Mrs Sarah Isaac and Mrs Jane Barnard offered their services.

ACTION

TL to respond to EMIS

Subgroup to finalise the antibiotic audit criteria for 2013/14 and present to AWPAG on 25th October 2012

11.0 Promoting rational contraceptive prescribing

The group noted the changes to the enclosure following AWMSG Steering Committee. No further changes were advised. AWTTTC suggested that awareness of the document was assessed 3 months after publication and dissemination.

ACTION

To be considered by AWMSG September 2012

AWTTTC to assess awareness following dissemination

12.0 Paediatric steroid replacement therapy card

The group were informed that the enclosure had been updated following consultation. No further changes were proposed.

ACTION

To be considered by AWMSG September 2012

13.0 28-day prescribing

Stefan Fec presented a paper outlining the evidence relating to 28-day prescribing with a view to promoting a geographically consistent, evidence-based approach. Members were asked to comment on the paper and discussed the details. Minor amendments were suggested.

ACTION

Updated document (tracked changes) to be agreed electronically with AWPAG members

Provisionally to AWMSG October 2012 (SF)

14.0 All Wales advice on the role of new oral anticoagulants for prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in people with atrial fibrillation

The paper had been prepared following a multiprofessional collaborative meeting held on 3 July 2012. The AWPAG paper had been shared with industry colleagues prior to the meeting. A Ian Clatworthy presented background information. The group addressed each section of advice in detail and agreed changes to the original document.

ACTION

AWTTTC to ensure that collaborative group receive industry responses with updated document

Updated draft to be sent electronically to AWPAG, collaborative group and industry August 2012, AWMSG Sept/Oct 2012

15.0 Medicines Management survey responses

The Chair gave brief feedback regarding the responses to the Medicines Management Survey. As the issues were likely to fall under the considerations of the Wales Audit Office, no further work was proposed until their report is complete.

16.0 Consideration of future work programme items:

The following proposals were noted:

16.1 Gluten-free prescribing (update)

16.2 NEWT guidelines

22.0 Update on statin template

The Chair informed the meeting that the updated template is now available on the AWMSG website.

23.0 AWPAG Therapeutics Working Group

The Chair informed the meeting that the Terms of Reference for the AWPAG Therapeutics Working Group had been agreed by AWMSG Steering Committee. The minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2012 were presented for information. There were no issues of note.

24.0 National Medicines Management Board

There were no issues of note.

25.0 All Wales Chief Pharmacists Committee

There were no issues of note.

26.0 Any other business

There being no further business the meeting closed at 16.05pm

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday, 25th October 2012 at St Michaels Centre, Abergavenny