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| Enclosure No: | 6/AWMSG/1212 |
| Agenda Item No: | 10 – AWPAG Update |
| Author: | All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group |
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ALL WALES PRESCRIBING ADVISORY GROUP

**Minutes of meeting held
Thursday, 25th October 2012 commencing 9.30 am
At the St Michael's Centre
10a Pen Y Pound, Abergavenny, NP7 5UD**

Members

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| Dr Tessa Lewis (Chair) | GP, Aneurin Bevan |
| Mrs Jane Barnard | Lay member |
| Mr Alan Clatworthy | Pharmacist, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg |
| Ms Clare Clement | Pharmacist, Cardiff and Vale |
| Ms Sian Evans | Public Health Wales |
| Mr Stefan Fec | Community Pharmacist |
| Mr Paul Fleming | British Generic Manufacturers (non-voting) |
| Dr Rick Greville | Director ABPI (non-voting) |
| Miss Sophie Harding | Pharmacist, Velindre |
| Mrs Louise Howard-Baker | Pharmacist, Betsi Cadwaladr |
| Mrs Sarah Isaac | Pharmacist, Hywel Dda |
| Dr Susannah Jacks | GP, Aneurin Bevan |
| Mrs Robyn Miles | ABPI Industry Representative |
| Mr Jonathan Simms | Pharmacist, Aneurin Bevan |
| Dr Mark Walker | GP, Betsi Cadwaladr |
| Mrs Bev Woods | Pharmacist, Cwm Taf |

In attendance

Mr Jamie Hayes, Director WeMeReC / AWTTTC
Mrs Karen Samuels, AWTTTC
Mrs Ruth Lang, AWTTTC
Mrs Susan Cervetto, AWTTTC
Mrs Kate Jenkins, WAPSU / AWTTTC
Miss Samantha Webster, Medical Writer, AWTTTC
Miss Christine Collier, Medical Writer, AWTTTC

Key of abbreviations

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| AWMSG | All Wales Medicines Strategy Group |
| AWMSGSC | All Wales Medicines Strategy Group Steering Committee |
| AWPAG | All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group |
| AWTTC | All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre |
| CASPA | Comparative Analysis System for Prescribing Audit |
| CEPP | Clinical Effectiveness Prescribing Programme (formerly called incentive scheme) |

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|---------|---|
| 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, in particular Ms Clare Clement who was deputising for Ms Fiona Walker, Pharmacist Member, Cardiff and Vale UHB.

2.0 Apologies:

Mrs Marnel Owen
 Dr Ashok Rayani
 Professor Roger Walker
 Dr Sean Young

3.0 Declarations of interest

Mrs Robyn Miles declared an interest in respiratory medicines with respect to the CEPP audit structures.

4.0 Minutes of previous AWPAG meeting – July 2012

The minutes were checked for accuracy.

4.1 Matters arising

4.1.1 Antibiotic Audit

The Chair gave a brief update regarding the proposed 2013–2014 national antibiotic audit. Mr Jamie Hayes informed the group that Dr Sean Young had presented the audit to the Antimicrobial Stewardship Forum on Wednesday 24th October 2012. It was noted that there were difficulties in finalising the CEPP audit as the HPA/EMIS audit is yet to be finalised, and would probably not be available by Antibiotic Awareness Day 18th November. The CEPP audit was well-received at the Antimicrobial Stewardship Forum. Working group to convene in November and updated audit to be presented to AWPAG in January.

ACTION

AWTTC to arrange working group meeting

4.1.2 Common ailments scheme formulary

The Chair informed the group that a subgroup meeting will be held on 9 November 2012 to progress this work. It was agreed that consultation with industry would be appropriate prior to further consideration by AWPAG.

5.0 Update on papers endorsed by AWMSG

The Chair gave a verbal update of the following papers endorsed by AWMSG and available on the AWMSG website:

5.1 All Wales Prescribing Guidelines: Initiating contraception in primary care

There was a request for the published guidelines to be dated.

ACTION

AWTTC to update AWMSG document and website

5.2 All Wales paediatric steroid replacement card

Members requested clarification on how the card would be made available. It was agreed that it should only be available electronically via the AWMSG website in PDF format so as to prevent changes being made locally.

ACTION

AWTTC to protect online document to prevent changes being made before printing

5.3 All Wales Guidance – prescribing for erectile dysfunction

There were no further comments.

6.0 Feedback on papers presented to AWMSG on 17 October 2012

The Chair reported that the following papers had been endorsed by AWMSG at their meeting on 17 October 2012, subject to minor modifications:

- All Wales advice on the role of oral anticoagulants for the prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in people with atrial fibrillation
- Low molecular weight heparin prophylaxis in pregnancy

Members were informed that the documents were in the process of being updated and finalised in light of discussions at AWMSG. The papers will be available on the AWMSG website once the minutes of the meeting had been signed off by the Chair. The planned phase two of the oral anticoagulant document (relating to NICE TA for apixaban) was noted. The group did not anticipate the need to develop or extend national guidance for indications other than atrial fibrillation.

The Cardiff stroke risk assessment document was discussed and the need for an All Wales version was raised. Mrs Louise Howard-Baker and Mr Alan Clatworthy agreed to take this forward. The monitoring of prescribing and ADRs was considered.

ACTION

AWTTC to approach Alison Thomas and Yellow Card lead

LH-B/AC to develop All Wales risk assessment chart for January AWPAG

Members discussed the implementation of AWMSG guidance and suggestions were sought on how it should be disseminated to the service. The use of WeMeReC email list directly to GPs was supported. It was agreed to consider implementation (and barriers to implementation) of recently published AWMSG/AWPAG documents at the January AWPAG meeting, with completion of a proforma prior to the meeting by members/health boards to identify action taken locally.

ACTION

AWTTC to contact health boards to obtain information on uptake of guidance

AWPAG January 2013 agenda item – review of implementation

7.0 National Prescribing Indicators 2013–2014

The Chair welcomed Mrs Kate Jenkins and thanked WAPSU for the comprehensive supporting documents and subgroup members for their detailed considerations. Kate Jenkins provided the background to the National Prescribing Indicators for 2013–2014 and highlighted issues raised at the subgroup meeting. The group then discussed each of the indicators as proposed in the documentation, reviewing the subgroup recommendations, details of the text and supporting materials.

ACTION

**Paper to be updated prior to consultation Nov 2012
AWMSG (provisionally Dec 2012)**

8.0 Local comparators 2013–2014

Mrs Kate Jenkins presented the proposed local comparators for 2013–2014. All of the comparators presented were discussed and agreed by the group with some minor amendments.

ACTION

**WAPSU to update document and arrange industry consultation before January
AWPAG meeting**

9.0 CEPP/QOF responses 2012–2013

The group discussed the CEPP audits being undertaken within NHS Wales and use of the AWMSG National Audits. Health board notification prior to the 2012 audit release was recognised, but earlier notification is needed. It was agreed that further discussion would be scheduled for the next AWPAG meeting in January 2013, including exploration of links with undergraduates, GP registrars and F1/F2 doctors.

ACTION

Audit implementation and 2013–2014 CEPP summary document to AWPAG Jan 2013

10.0 Update to WHC (2003) 73 – Roles and Structure of Prescribing Committees

Mrs Karen Samuels presented a proposal to update the WHC (2003) 73, setting out the roles and structures of prescribing committees. Guidance available and under development from national agencies was noted and the group agreed that an update is required. Members suggested further consultation would be required with members of the AWPAG Therapeutics Working Group and the All Wales Chief Pharmacists Committee. It was suggested that AWTTTC undertake a preliminary update of the document, which would be progressed with these groups and with reference to NICE and Wales Audit Office work when available.

ACTION

**JS/KS to seek the views of the Chief Pharmacists on 20 November 2012
AWTTTC to undertake preliminary update and seek views of the AWPAG
Therapeutics Working Group**

11.0 Gluten-free prescribing – update

The Chair welcomed the author, Julie Nedin, and invited her to present the updated guidelines for prescribing gluten-free products. This was discussed at length and the formulary updates were supported. Amendments were suggested to the text. Self care and sign-posting of supermarket products was highlighted. JN agreed to update the document with Dr Susanna Jacks in light of the discussion and a two-week consultation undertaken. If consultation comments are uncontroversial, members to agree the final document electronically prior to AWMSG.

ACTION

AWTTTC to liaise with JN and SJ on consultation document

12.0 28-day prescribing consultation responses

The group discussed the consultation responses received; in particular the comments from GPC Wales regarding the use of targets, the synchronisation by pharmacies of tablet quantities and the need to encourage once-monthly submissions for repeat prescriptions; the recommendation for pharmacies to synchronise tablet quantities was not considered by the group to be practical at this stage but once-monthly ordering was promoted. There is no intention to make the 28-day basket of medicines an AWMSG

National Prescribing Indicator. The role of repeat dispensing (batch prescribing) was discussed in detail. Amendments to the paper were recommended and agreed.

ACTION

AWTTC to liaise with lead to make amendments

Members to review updated document electronically, prior to AWMSG

13.0 DoH Consultation - UK 5 Yr Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy & Action Plan

Chair asked members to submit responses to this consultation via AWTTC.

14.0 NEWT guidelines for administration of medication to patients with enteral feeding tubes or swallowing difficulties

Louise Howard-Baker provided the background and demonstration of the electronic guidelines and asked that members raise awareness of this online resource. It was noted that the website is updated continually and options for access were discussed.

15.0 AWPAG Therapeutics Working Group (previously Interface Pharmacists Group)

There were no points of note from this group.

16.0 Medicines Management Programme Board meeting

There were no points of note from this group.

17.0 All Wales Chief Pharmacists Committee

There were no points of note from this group.

18.0 GMC report – investigating prescribing errors in general practice

The Chair sought comment from the group. Factors contributing to errors included [training], distractions and a failure to fully utilise existing IT solutions for safer prescribing. The report made a number of recommendations for improving the safety of prescribing including 'promoting the effective use of clinical computer systems for safe prescribing'. Members considered that communication could be improved between IT development and AWPAG and proposed inviting a representative to a future meeting. Members to identify unresolved issues. It was agreed that a link to the full report should be placed on the AWMSG website to enable wider dissemination within NHS Wales.

ACTION

AWTTC to update AWMSG website

AWTTC to consider AWPAG agenda item

19.0 Call for new members

Mrs Ruth Lang drew members' attention to the 'Call for new AWMSG and subgroup members' and asked the group to circulate this amongst their colleagues. It was noted that nominations would also be sought via Medicines and Therapeutics Committees. Any nominations should be made to AWTTC by 30 November 2012.

20.0 Any other business

There being no further business, the meeting closed.

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 17 January 2013 at St Michaels Centre, Abergavenny
