

Enclosure No:	7/AWMSG/0612
Agenda Item No:	11 – AWPAG update
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ALL WALES PRESCRIBING ADVISORY GROUP

**Minutes of meeting held Thursday, 26th
April 2012 at 10.00 am
At the St Michael's Centre
10a Pen Y Pound, Abergavenny, NP7 5UD**

Members

Dr Tessa Lewis (Chair)	GP, Aneurin Bevan
Mrs Nuala Brennan	Public Health Wales
Mr Alan Clatworthy	Pharmacist, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg
Mr Stefan Fec	Community Pharmacist
Miss Sophie Harding	Pharmacist, Velindre
Mrs Louise Howard-Baker	Pharmacist, Betsi Cadwaladr
Dr Susannah Jacks	GP, Aneurin Bevan
Dr Sue Jeffs	Consultant, Aneurin Bevan
Mrs Robyn Miles	ABPI Industry Representative
Mrs Marnel Owen	Healthcare professional eligible to prescribe
Mrs Fiona Walker	Pharmacist, Cardiff & Vale
Dr Mark Walker	GP, Betsi Cadwaladr
Mrs Janette Wilkins	ABPI Industry Representative (non-voting)
Mrs Bev Woods	Pharmacist, Cwm Taf
Dr Sean Young	GP, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg

In attendance

Mrs Susan Cervetto, Senior Pharmacist, AW TTC
Mr Jamie Hayes, Director WeMeReC & AW TTC
Mrs Kate Jenkins, Welsh Analytical Prescribing Support Unit
Mrs Karen Samuels, Programme Director, AW TTC

Key of abbreviations

AWMSG	All Wales Medicines Strategy Group
AWMSGSC	All Wales Medicines Strategy Group Steering Committee
AWPAG	All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group
AW TTC	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 Mrs Bev Woods, Pharmacist representing Cwm Taf LHB and Mr Alan Clatworthy, Pharmacist representing Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University LHB. She informed the meeting that Mr Stuart Evans, representing Healthcare professionals eligible to prescribe, had resigned as a member of AWPAG. She also informed the meeting that Mrs Jane Barnard, Lay member, was currently unwell and wished her a speedy recovery on behalf of all members.

2.0 Apologies:

Professor Roger Walker
Mrs Jane Barnard
Mr Paul Fleming
Mr Rick Greville
Mrs Sarah Isaac
Dr Hamsaraj Shetty
Mr Jonathan Simms
Dr Mark Smithies
Dr Ashok Rayani

3.0 Declarations of interest

Mrs Robyn Miles declared an interest in relation to the subgroup agenda (item 26).

4.0 Chairs report

The Chair reported that she had received a nomination for the position of AWPAG Vice-Chair, Mrs Louise Howard Baker. Mrs Howard Baker accepted the nomination and this will now be taken to AWMSG Steering Committee for approval. Members were reminded of the forthcoming antimicrobial stewardship forum on 3 May and the AWTTTC meeting on 24 May. The Chair thanked members for their responses to the various documents between the meetings.

Action

Nomination to be presented to AWMSG Steering Committee on 31st May 2012

5.0 Minutes of previous AWPAG meeting – January 2012

The minutes were checked for accuracy and the following was highlighted:

Page 7, item 23.0 Dr Susanna Jacks informed the meeting that she was not part of the working group.

Action

Secretariat to amend minutes on AWTTTC website

Matters arising not on the agenda:

Mrs Nuala Brennan asked for an update regarding the publication of the Analgesics Patient Information Leaflet. The Chair informed the group that the progress of the document had been pursued with the media company. It was agreed that the word version would be made available on the AWMSG website if the media version was not available in 2 weeks.

Action

AWTTTC to follow up with media again and place on website

6.0 Papers presented to AWMSG on 21st March 2012

The Chair reported that the following papers had been supported by AWMSG at their meeting in March 2011:

6.1 CEPP National Audit: Patient safety – lithium prescribing

Mrs Fiona Walker gave a brief update and informed the meeting that the recommendation to adopt as a national audit had been accepted by AWMSG.

6.2 CEPP National Audit: - Towards more appropriate management of depression in a primary care setting

Dr Sean Young gave a brief update and informed members that, following some minor amendments the audit will be adopted as a national audit following sign off by the Chairman of AWMSG. The Chair then asked representatives from those LHBs present for an update on audits included in 2012/13 schemes. Several regions are planning on including the repeat prescribing audit.

The group discussed the collation of information on audits promoted by health boards 2012/13. It was agreed that AWTTTC would facilitate this and bring the results to the next meeting

Action

Health Boards to submit 2012/13 CEPP structures and medicines management audit topics to AWTTTC once finalised. AWTTTC to collate June 2012

6.3 Guidance on prescribing for erectile dysfunction

The Chair informed the meeting that 2 of the 3 recommendations had been accepted by AWMSG. Clarification of the terminology for the third recommendation had been requested.

Action

AWPAG to review the wording outside of the meeting

7.0 Paediatric steroid card

The Chair invited Dr Rebekah Pryce, Paediatric Consultant, Singleton Hospital to present the proposal for a Paediatric Steroid Card for patients receiving replacement therapy. Following a short presentation the group discussed which stakeholders should be considered for consultation and user testing. Dr Pryce informed the meeting that the Wales Ambulance Service Trust, The Brecon Group and the Wales Endocrine and Diabetes Society had already been consulted during the development of the card.

The group discussed the content of the card and it was recommended that the title be changed to reflect the fact that it is for use by patients receiving replacement therapy rather than patients on high dose inhaled steroids. Other minor amendments were highlighted and Dr Pryce agreed to take these forward. A number of members agreed to form a Task & Finish group.

Action

Task & Finish group (LHB, MO, JW and RM) to assist in finalising the consultation and background information.

Updated paper to be sent for consultation, ready for AWPAG July 2012

8.0 CEPP National Audit- Repeat prescribing Audit

Dr Susanna Jacks presented the updated audit designed to improve the quality of repeat prescribing policies and systems. The paper was discussed in detail, in particular it was agreed to retain the method of data collection in GP practices. Minor amendments were agreed.

Action

Amended paper to AWMSG on 20th June 2012

9.0 Anticoagulation monitoring - Warfarin

The Chair presented the updated paper promoting the safe and effective monitoring of warfarin therapy in Wales. The paper had been sent for consultation and changes made where applicable. Members reviewed the consultation responses and discussed the associated work streams.

Action

Paper to AWMSG on 20th June 2012

10.0 MDS Standards

Dr Susanna Jacks gave a brief update to the paper and following discussion by the group, minor amendments were made. The multiprofessional background to the document was noted. It was suggested that this paper could be used as the basis for a multi-disciplinary audit. Mr Stefan Fec informed the group that a template for an assessment form was available on the PCC website @ <http://www.pcc.nhs.uk/98.php>

Action

Amended paper to AWMSG on 20th June 2012

11.0 CEPP – Local comparators

The Chair invited Mrs Kate Jenkins to present an updated paper for local comparators which will be available for both local and national comparative measurement as necessary in accordance with local prioritisation. The Chair reiterated that these are local comparators and should not be confused with the national indicators. It was noted that supporting educational materials will be available for the Yellow card reporting comparator.

Action

WAPSU to update comparator paper and circulate to health board Chief Pharmacists & Medicines and Therapeutics Committees

12.0 Promoting rational contraceptive prescribing

The Chair thanked Mrs Nuala Brennan for her coordination of this work and invited her to present the updated prescribing guidelines for initiating contraception in primary care and the associated local comparators. Minor amendments were agreed to the flow chart and the local comparator agreed.

Action

AWTTC to send word formatted document to NB to make amendments

Paper to be circulated electronically for comment by AWPAG members prior to AWMSG 18th July 2012

13.0 Drug monitoring and shared care

Dr Sean Young outlined how current shared care arrangements have enabled good progress on the development of safer prescribing practices but that the focus has been on ensuring a good understanding of monitoring requirements, so that they may be carried out to a high standard. The focus on monitoring has created new issues relating to medicines management, particularly for those patients who, for various reasons, are harder to engage in the process. Processes now need to be reviewed to focus on good practice relating to the management of medication and the patient, rather than purely focusing on adherence to monitoring. The AWMSG list of medicines which require clear commissioning arrangements was also briefly considered.

Action

To be progressed via the AWPAG therapeutics working group (formerly, Interface Pharmacist Group)

14.0 28 Day prescribing

The Chair informed the meeting that AWPAG have been requested by Welsh Government, via AWMSG, to consider the rationale behind 28 day prescribing. Mr Stefan Fec informed the meeting of work carried out as part of the Community Pharmacy Wales Waste Medicines project in 2010. A task and finish group was identified to take the work forward agreed to be involved.

Action

AWTTC to support literature search

Task & Finish group (SJa, SF, LHB and MW) to take the work forward

Draft paper to be presented to AWPAG July 2012

15.0 Access Drugs and Therapeutics Bulletin

Mrs Fiona Walker informed the group that the NHS Wales E Library subscription to Clinical Evidence and the Drugs and Therapeutic Bulletin is due to end on March 31 2012 and that due to low usage figures, it is proposed that this contract is not renewed to allow other 'Point of Care' tools to be considered. There were concerns about the level of consultation by HOWIS regarding the cancellation of the contract. The group agreed that this was an important publication and that many prescribers would not have been aware of the on-line resource. AWPAG recommend its reinstatement.

Action

Individuals to respond at: <http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/878/news/42274>

Chair to submit a request for reinstatement via AWTTTC

16.0 Dabigatran prescribing in Wales

The Chair informed the meeting that AWPAG have been asked to consider whether national guidance on the prescribing of dabigatran should be produced. The group acknowledged that several health boards have already developed comprehensive local guidance. The group agreed that there is a need for national guidance to reduce the risk of regional variation in availability. Particular consideration should be given to the time in therapeutic range and responsibility for the initiation of treatment. The group recommended that stroke, haematology and cardiovascular groups be consulted.

AC, L H-B, MW agreed to be involved.

Action

Draft paper to be presented to AWPAG July 2012

17.0 Update on statin template

Mrs Sue Cervetto informed the meeting that the statin template had originally been removed from the AWMSG website to update it into a lipid therapy guideline, however NICE are currently reviewing their lipid therapy guidance and that outcome is awaited. The updated template and consultation responses were considered. Template is to be finalised in light of comments.

Action

To be re published on AWMSG Website

18.0 National Indicators – Summary for prescribers

The Chair presented a summary document which could be used to inform all NHS Wales prescribers of the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG) national prescribing indicators for 2012/13. It includes brief supporting information and links for each indicator. The document was supported for dissemination to all prescribers in primary care and hospital.

Action

AWTTTC to disseminate through health board Chief Pharmacists and Medicines and Therapeutic Committees

19.0 PPI Educational Pack

The PPI Educational Pack was sent to members prior to the meeting for comment. The pack was not discussed in detail and members were asked to submit any further comments to AWTTTC. The provision of lifestyle advice was discussed. A key point summary was suggested and Dr Sean Young agreed to support WAPSU with this.

Action

SY to liaise with WAPSU to provide key point summary

Consideration of future work programme items:

20.0 CEPP Audit 2013/14 – National Indicators

The Chair sought volunteers to re-form the sub-group to consider the National Prescribing Indicators for 2013/14. Dr Sue Jeffs, Stefan Fec and Dr Sean Young agreed to join the group.

Action

AWTTTC to set date for meeting

21.0 CEPP Audit 2013/14 – Antibiotics

The Chair presented a paper proposing the development of an antibiotic audit for 2013/14. This recommendation follows from a meeting between the Antimicrobial Stewardship Forum and AWTTTC and subsequent presentation to DARHAI. Dr Young outlined a practice pilot of a section of the audit which identified significant variation between clinicians. The proposal was discussed briefly and agreed. It was noted that this does not preclude the development of other audits if these are forthcoming.

Action

Antimicrobial audit to be progressed by SY/TL

22.0 Minor Ailments Formulary

The Chair informed the meeting that AWPAG have been requested by Welsh Government, via AWMSG, to produce an All Wales Formulary for minor ailments. She asked for volunteers to take this project forward and Mrs Nuala Brennan, Mr Stefan Fec and Dr Susanna Jacks provisionally agreed to develop the work. It was agreed to email the full scope and project proposal to members and once this has been considered any other members wishing to volunteer to contribute to the project should notify the Chair.

Action

Chair to confirm full scope of work and forward to members for consideration

23.0 Formulary and Interface Pharmacists

The Chair informed the meeting that the Formulary and Interface Pharmacists Group had reconvened under the new title “AWPAG Therapeutics Working Group” and they had held their first meeting on 20th April 2012.

24.0 National Medicines Management Board

There was no representation from the All Wales Chief Pharmacists Committee and no issues of note.

25.0 All Wales Chief Pharmacists Committee

There was no representation from the All Wales Chief Pharmacists Committee. It was agreed to share the meeting notes of the group with the committee.

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, 19th July 2012 at the St Michaels Centre, Abergavenny