When compared with the previous year, Cwm Taf Morgannwg’s performance **IMPROVED**.

Out of the 7 health boards, Cwm Taf Morgannwg is ranked:

- **% change from last year**: 4th
- **Current overall performance**: 7th

**Tramadol**

While there is a recognised place in pain management for tramadol, there are concerns regarding the risks associated with dependence, diversion, misuse and adverse drug reactions. The aim of this measure is to promote a prudent approach to prescribing tramadol, taking into account the risks and benefits, and to encourage timely review.
Both gabapentin and pregabalin have the propensity to cause depression of the central nervous system, and when used in combination with other depressants they can cause drowsiness, sedation, respiratory failure and death. The aim of this measure is to encourage the appropriate use and review of gabapentin and pregabalin in primary care, minimising the potential for dependence, diversion, misuse and adverse drug reactions.

Out of the 7 health boards, Cwm Taf Morgannwg is ranked:

- % change from last year: 4th
- Current overall performance: 7th

The widespread and often excessive use of antimicrobials is one of the main factors contributing to the increasing emergence of antimicrobial resistance. The aim of this measure is to encourage the appropriate prescribing of all antibiotics in primary care.

Out of the 7 health boards, Cwm Taf Morgannwg is ranked:

- % change from last year: 5th
- Current overall performance: 7th
The use of the broad spectrum antibiotics known as 4C antimicrobials (co-amoxiclav, cephalosporins, clindamycin and fluoroquinolones) when narrow spectrum antibiotics remain effective increases the risk of healthcare associated infections (e.g. Clostridioides difficile, meticillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus and resistant urinary tract infections). The aim of this measure is to reduce variation and overall prescribing of 4C antimicrobials in primary care.

Out of the 7 health boards, Cwm Taf Morgannwg is ranked:
% change from last year: 5th
Current overall performance: 7th

A series of ‘Low value for prescribing’ papers endorsed by the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group recommend decreased prescribing of a range of items considered as not suitable for routine prescribing; whether they are items of low clinical effectiveness or items where more cost-effective alternatives are available. The data below displays the difference in spend (per 1,000 patients) on items listed within Paper 1 and Paper 2 of this series.

Out of the 7 health boards, Cwm Taf Morgannwg achieved a decrease in spend on items of 9.4% in 2019–2020.

Cwm Taf Morgannwg is ranked:
% reduction in spend in 2019-2020: 7th
Total spend per 1,000 patients: 6th
Primary care

Patient Safety Indicator*

Patients aged ≥ 65 years old prescribed antipsychotics

Antipsychotics should be avoided in patients with dementia unless the person is at risk of harming themselves or others, or experiencing agitation, hallucinations or delusions that are causing them severe distress. Patients identified by this indicator should be reviewed and/or monitored as appropriate.

Number of patients ≥ 65 years old prescribed an antipsychotic - Quarterly trend up to March 2020

Comparing number of patients identified, quarters March 2020 vs March 2019

Cwm Taf Morgannwg’s performance IMPROVED

Number of patients identified decreased by 1.3%

Out of the 6 health boards†, Cwm Taf Morgannwg is ranked:

% change from March 2019: 3rd
Current overall performance: 5th

Primary care

Patient Safety Indicator*

Patients with asthma prescribed a beta-blocker

Beta-blockers should be avoided in patients with asthma due to the potential to precipitate bronchospasm. Patients identified by this indicator should be reviewed and/or monitored as appropriate.

Number of patients with asthma prescribed a beta-blocker - Quarterly trend up to March 2020

Comparing number of patients identified, quarters March 2020 vs March 2019

Cwm Taf Morgannwg’s performance DETERIORATED

Number of patients identified increased by 1.4%

Out of the 6 health boards†, Cwm Taf Morgannwg is ranked:

% change from March 2019: 1st
Current overall performance: 3rd

* Patient Safety Indicators will not pick up instances where a patient has been reviewed and prescribing has been found to be appropriate.
† 2018-2019 Powys reporting has been omitted due to technical difficulties with data extraction from one GP practice. For this reason, Powys has been omitted from the health board rankings for this Patient Safety Indicator.
Patient Safety Indicator*
 Patients aged ≥ 75 years old with an AEC score of ≥ 3 for items on active repeat

Risk of adverse clinical outcomes in older people prescribed anticholinergic medications increases with increasing anticholinergic exposure. Patients identified by this indicator should be reviewed for a possible reduction in anticholinergic burden; helping to minimise potential medication-related risks.

Comparing number of patients identified, quarters March 2020 vs March 2019
Cwm Taf Morgannwg’s performance DETERIORATED
Number of patients identified increased by 6.1%

Comparing number of patients as a % of patients ≥ 75 years old, quarters March 2020 vs March 2019
Out of the 6 health boards†, Cwm Taf Morgannwg is ranked:
% change from March 2019: 6th Current overall performance: 4th

Primary care
Patient Safety Indicator*
Female patients aged 14–45 years old with a prescription for sodium valproate

Due to the high risk of malformations and developmental problems associated with exposure of babies to valproate medicines, they must no longer be used in women or girls able to have children unless they have a Pregnancy Prevention Programme in place. Patients identified by this indicator should be reviewed.

Comparing number of patients identified, quarters March 2020 vs June 2019
Cwm Taf Morgannwg’s performance IMPROVED
Number of patients identified decreased by 9.9%

Comparing number of patients as a % of female patients aged 14–45 years old, quarters March 2020 vs June 2019
Out of the 7 health boards, Cwm Taf Morgannwg is ranked:
% change from March 2019: 4th Current overall performance: 2nd

* Patient Safety Indicators will not pick up instances where a patient has been reviewed and prescribing has been found to be appropriate.
† 2018-2019 Powys reporting has been omitted due to technical difficulties with data extraction from one GP practice. For this reason, Powys has been omitted from the health board rankings for this Patient Safety Indicator.
The New Treatment Fund requires the seven health boards to make recommended medicines available as soon as is reasonably practicable and certainly within 60 days of AWMSG/NICE approval. The data below displays the proportion of medicines made available on formulary within 60 days and the average time (in days) until their inclusion, following AWMSG/NICE approval.

Out of the 7 health boards, Cwm Taf Morgannwg is ranked:
- % of medicines on formulary within 60 days: 2nd (joint)
- Average time to inclusion of medicines on formulary: 3rd

A biosimilar medicine is a biological medicine that is developed to be highly similar and clinically equivalent to an existing biological medicine. The aim of this measure is to increase the appropriate use of cost-efficient biological medicines, including biosimilar medicines.

When compared with the previous year, Cwm Taf Morgannwg’s performance IMPROVED.

Out of the 6 health boards*, Cwm Taf Morgannwg is ranked:
- % change from last year: 4th
- Current overall performance: 6th

*Powys is not included in this measure.

Please note: These data are extracted via a central mapping of individual items. This is reviewed on a regular basis and therefore differences may exist between various data sets.

Access to medicines

The New Treatment Fund requires the seven health boards to make recommended medicines available as soon as is reasonably practicable and certainly within 60 days of AWMSG/NICE approval. The data below displays the proportion of medicines made available on formulary within 60 days and the average time (in days) until their inclusion, following AWMSG/NICE approval.

Out of the 7 health boards, Cwm Taf Morgannwg is ranked:
- % of medicines on formulary within 60 days: 2nd (joint)
- Average time to inclusion of medicines on formulary: 3rd

Primary and secondary care

Best value biological medicines

A biosimilar medicine is a biological medicine that is developed to be highly similar and clinically equivalent to an existing biological medicine. The aim of this measure is to increase the appropriate use of cost-efficient biological medicines, including biosimilar medicines.