NHS
Somerset
Clinical Commissioning Group

Minutes of the **Somerset Prescribing Forum** held in **Meeting Room 2, Wynford House, Lufton Way, Yeovil, Somerset**, on **Wednesday, 18th September 2013**

Present:	Dr Clare Barlow	Chair, Drug & Therapeutics Committee, Taunton & Somerset NHS Foundation Trust	CB
	Andrew Brown	Head of Medicines Management, Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	AB
	Dr Orla Dunn	Consultant, Public Health, Somerset County Council	OD
	Steve Du Bois	Medicines Manager, NHS Somerset CCG	SDB
	Dr Steve Edgar	GP, Somerset Local Medical Committee representative	SE
	Shaun Green (Acting Chair)	Associate Director, Head of Medicines Management, NHS Somerset CCG	SG
	Liz Harewood	Senior Pharmacist, Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	LH
	Gordon Jackson	Patient Representative	GJ
	Helen Kennedy	Pharmacy Technician, NHS Somerset CCG	SDB
	Dr Sally Knights	Chair, Drug & Therapeutics Committee, Yeovil District Hospital	SK
	Stephanie Wadham	Medicines Information / Formulary Senior Pharmacist, Yeovil NHS Foundation Trust	SW
Apologies:	Jon Beard	Chief Pharmacist, Taunton & Somerset NHS Foundation Trust	JB
	Dr Rosie Benneyworth	GP Delegate (Taunton Deane Federation), NHS Somerset CCG	RB
	Dr Andrew Dayani	Medical Director, Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	JM
	Dr Ulrike Harrower	Consultant in Public Health Medicine, Somerset County Council	
	John Martin	Chief Pharmacist, Yeovil NHS Foundation Trust	JM
	Jean Perry	Commissioning Manager, NHS Somerset CCG	JP
	Dr Iain Phillips	GP Delegate (South Somerset Healthcare Federation), NHS Somerset CCG	IP
	Dr Geoff Sharp (Chair)	GP Delegate (Central Mendip Federation), NHS Somerset CCG	GS
	Martin Taylor	Development Pharmacist, Somerset Local Pharmaceutical Committee	MT

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 SG, acting chair, welcomed all to the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES

2.1 Apologies were received from:

- Dr Rosie Benneyworth, GP Delegate (Taunton Deane Federation), NHS Somerset CCG
- Dr Ulrike Harrower, Consultant in Public Health Medicine, Somerset County Council
- John Martin, Chief Pharmacist, Yeovil NHS Foundation Trust
- Jean Perry, Commissioning Manager, NHS Somerset CCG
- Dr Iain Phillips, GP Delegate (South Somerset Healthcare Federation), NHS Somerset CCG
- Dr Geoff Sharp, GP Delegate (Central Mendip Federation), NHS Somerset CCG
- Martin Taylor, Development Pharmacist, Somerset Local Pharmaceutical Committee

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 No additional declarations of interest were made.

4 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2013

4.1 The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

5 MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Matters arising otherwise not on the agenda:

1. **Lixisnatide*:*** (Minute 5.1) A response from TST had been received: Lixisenatide has been added to the Trust's formulary. However, the TST consultant's views reflected those of YDH in that weight of available evidence would not justify a switch to lixisenatide as the first-line GLP-1 mimetic. NICE guidance on the choice of GLP-1 mimetics would be awaited for further guidance on the issue.
2. **European NOAC Patient Card**: Problems with accessing the website to edit pages had prevented upload. Carry forward.

   Action: SDB

   An electronic copy of the card had been emailed to SW as requested.
3. **NICE TA159 – Social anxiety disorder**: The guidance was on the agenda for discussion at the next SomPar MICP meeting.
4. **NICE TA283 Macular oedema (retinal vein occlusion) – ranibizumab**: Capacity issues persist in acute Trusts that are impeding full and efficient implementation. It was anticipated that issues would be resolved within the required timescale. It was noted that certain organizations were submitting Freedom of Information requests regarding commissioner and provider implementation of various aspects of NICE guidance for ranibizumab use.
5. **NICE PH45 Tobacco harm reduction**: No response yet received, however, it was noted that a study on electronic cigarettes had shown that use was as effective as other treatments to help reduction / abstinence.

   Mental health staff at somPar had been advised that they should not prescribe for patients.
6. **BD *Autoshield***®: assurance had been received from SomPar that recommendations for prescribing were equitable across inpatient and outpatient services. Complete.
7. **Standardization of LMWH dose timings**: No response had been received from TST. Carry forward.

   Action: JB

   A brief discussion on the feasibility of a change of recommended LMWH on the basis of realizing potential cost-savings concluded that implementation of such a change would have operational and safety implications. Such a change would therefore be unlikely to generate any savings and may result in a reduction of patient safety during the changeover period.

6 D&TC DECISIONS

6.1 Somerset Partnership MICP

Verbal report of the meeting of the MICP on 12 September:

- **Atomoxetine** – there was a discussion on appropriate place in therapy if any.
- **Aglomelatine** – non-formulary but use could be considered if everything else has been tried.
- **Aripiprazole** – would be discussed later on the SPF agenda

6.2 RUH

No minutes had been received.

6.3 TST

Verbal report of the meeting of the D&TC on 6 September:

- ***Forceval Soluble***® - approved to extend use to patients with an NG tube at risk of re-feeding syndrome in line with NICE CG32.
- ***Aquamax***® **cream** – the cream was trialed by Cancer Services and found to be well tolerated. In the light of the positive in-house trial and the MHRA warning of the harms of SLS-containing Aqueous Cream the previous decision of the D&TC was reversed. *Aquamax*® was approved and aqueous cream would be made non-formulary.

  SW and AB were asked to take the proposal back to their respective Trusts for consideration.

  Action: SW, AB

- **Lixisenatide** – discussed earlier during the SPF.
- **Fidaxomicin** – approved for use in accordance with the Public Health England guidance on the management of *Clostridium difficile*.
- **Lisdexamfetamine** - to be discussed later on the SPF agenda.
- **Fosfomycin IV** (unlicensed) – approved for septicaemia or resistant respiratory tract infections caused by multi-resistant bacteria.

6.4 Weston

No minutes of the most recent meeting had been received.

6.5 **YDH**

Verbal report of issues discussed relevant to the Forum at the meeting of the D&TC on 24 July:

- NICE Technology Appraisal Guidance published since the previous D&TC was accepted.
- **Lisdexamfetamine** – conditionally approved for a small number of patients.
- **Fidaxomicin** - approved for use in accordance with the Public Health England guidance on the management of *Clostridium difficile*.
- **Diclofenac** – Emergency Department use would be terminated following the MHRA safety alert.
- **Codeine** – use in the Emergency Department and in Paediatrics was to be reviewed and alternatives sought for pain relief for children following the MHRA safety update.

7 NICE

7.1 A summary of the NICE guidance published in July, August and September was presented to the Forum for information.

7.2 **NICE CG167 Myocardial infarction with ST-segment elevation (Jul-13)**

No major changes to current practice were noted.

7.3 **NICE CG168 Varicose veins in the legs**

The guidance had CCG commissioning implications.

7.4 **NICE TA292 Bipolar disorder (adolescents) – aripriprazole (Jul-13)**

Questions were asked as to how treatment could be stopped after 12 weeks. A suggested solution was that the prescribing of the first 12 weeks of treatment should stay within the specialist service. AB was asked to raise the issue within his Trust.

Action: AB

7.5 **NICE TA293 Thrombocytopenia - eltrombopag (Jul-13)**

It was unsure at this stage if commissioning was the responsibility of CCGs or NHS England Specialist Commissioning. YDH was starting to see use.

7.6 **NICE TA294 Macular degeneration (wet-age-related) – aflibercept (1st line) (Jul-13)**

Use for this indication was already approved pre-NICE. Somerset is reported to be the third-largest user in the country.

7.7 **NICE TA295 Breast cancer (HER2 negative, oestrogen receptor positive, locally advanced or metastatic) - everolimus (with an aromatase inhibitor) (Jul-13)**

Guidance was positive.

7.8 **NICE CG 169 Acute kidney injury (Aug-13)**

The guidance had formulary implications.

7.9 **NICE CG170 Autism - management of autism in children and young people (Aug-13)**

SomPar were considering how best to implement this guidance.

7.10 **NICE CG171 Urinary incontinence in women (Sep-13)**

The formulary to reflect the guidance previously when draft guidance had been published. Three drugs were proposed as first-line options based on cost-effectiveness. AB would share with the primary care interface.

7.11 **NICE Quality Standards**

A list of the NICE Quality Standards published in July, August, and September was presented to the Forum for information only. Where appropriate SG has raised with relevant specialists.

Evidence Summaries: new medicines

7.12 **NICE ESNM23 Gouty arthritis: canakinumab (Jul-13)**

At this stage YDH was not intending to use canakinumab.

7.13 **NICE ESNM24 Type 1 diabetes: insulin degludec (Sep-13)**

NICE ESNM25 Type 2 diabetes: insulin degludec (Sep-13)

Insulin degludec is non-formulary: named-patient requests only.

Evidence Summaries: unlicensed / off-label medicines

7.14 **NICE ESUOM17 Multidrug resistant urinary tract infections: fosfomycin**

Use was already approved in Somerset (amber).

7.15 **NICE ESUOM18: Promoting tolerance of enteral feeds in children and young people: domperidone (Jul-13)**

Presented for information only.

NICE Good Practice Guidance

7.16 **NICE GPG2 Patient Group Directions (Aug-13)**

The GPG was presented to the forum for information. Guidance may affect how Trusts and the CCG develop and authorise PGDs.

NICE Horizon Scanning

7.17 **NICE Consultations**

NICE Forward Planning Schedule (Aug-13)

Summary of forthcoming NICE ESNM and ESUOM

A list of the current NICE Guideline consultations, the NICE Forward Planning Schedule (Aug-13 edition), and a list of the forthcoming ESNM and ESUOM were presented to the Forum for information.

8 FORMULARY APPLICATIONS

8.1 **Lisdexamfetamine**

Place in the treatment for ADHD would be discussed jointly between SomPar, TST, and YDH specialists and the CCG at a forthcoming one-off meeting.

8.2 ***Fencino*® (fentanyl) Transdermal Patches**

PAMM had approved *Fencino*® brand of fentanyl patches as an alternative to *Matrifen*® as a preferred brand where adhesion was a problem. The manufacturer had demonstrated *Fencino*® had superior adhesion in certain situations.

8.3 ***Insuman*® and *Apidra*® Insulin**

Insuman® (human isophane insulin) and *Apidra*® (insulin glulisine) had been approved for use by the PAMM.

9 PBR EXCLUDED DRUG MONITORING

9.1 The data was not yet ready for presentation. The agreed process appeared not to be working. SG would raise with the Secondary Care Commissioning Team within the CCG.

Action: SG

10 DRUG SAFETY

10.1 **MHRA Drug Safety Update July 2013 (Volume 6, Issue 12)**

The update was presented to the group for information. Of particular note were:

- Codeine for analgesia: restricted use in children because of reports of morphine toxicity

- Retigabine (*Trobalt*®▼): indication restricted to last-line use, and new monitoring requirements after reports of pigment changes in ocular tissue, skin, lips, or nails
- Ondansetron for intravenous use: dose-dependent QT interval prolongation—new posology

10.2 **MHRA Drug Safety Update August 2013 (Volume 7, Issue 1)**

The update was presented to the group for information. Of particular note were:

- Intravenous iron and serious hypersensitivity reactions: new strengthened recommendations to manage and minimise risk
- Caffeine for apnoea of prematurity: all products to be named and prescribed as caffeine citrate
- Nitrofurantoin: reminder on precautions for use, especially renal impairment in (elderly) patients
- Oral ketoconazole: do not prescribe or use for fungal infections – risk of liver injury outweighs benefits
- Metoclopramide: risk of neurological adverse effects – restricted dose and duration of use

10.3 **MHRA Drug Safety Update September 2013 (Volume 7, Issue 2)**

The update was presented to the group for information. Of particular note were:

- Filgrastrim and pegfilgrastim: risk if potentially life-threatening capillary leak syndrome
- Panitumumab: importance of establishing wildtype *RAS*(*KRAS* and *NRAS*) status before treatment of metastatic colorectal cancer
- Intravenous iron and serious hypersensitivity reactions: clarification of advice on new recommendations regarding initial test dose

11 NHS ENGLAND SPECIALIST COMMISSIONING

11.1 Some changes in the Cancer Drug Fund cohort drugs had been noted. The cohort drugs list was now being updated every one or two months.

11.2 It was noted that Value Based Pricing was theoretically expected to start at the beginning of April 2014.

12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 **Royal Pharmaceutical Society: *Improving Patient Outcomes – The better use of multi-compartment compliance aids* (Jul-13)**

The RPS guidance was presented for the Forum for informatiom.

TST reported that assessment of patients for the suitability of compliance aids was conducted by Pharmacists. SW would provide feedback on the YDH process at the next meeting.

Action: SW

12.2 **Tamoxifen**

It was noted that there may be an increase in Tamoxifen prescribing following the NICE guidance for familial breast cancer

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

- Wednesday 13 November 2013

Venue: Wynford House, Lufton Way, Yeovil BA22 8HR between 2.30pm and 5pm

Meeting ended.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIONS

NO.	SUBJECT	OUTSTANDING RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION LEAD
ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10 JULY 2013			
1	**Declarations of interest**	Members were asked to notify the Prescribing Forum secretary (SDB) of any standing declarations of interest, which could be held on record.	**All / SDB** (on going)
3	**European NOAC Patient Card: Primary Care Use**	The PDF of the card to be uploaded on the Medicines Management webpages.	**SDB** 18-Sep-13
5	**NICE TA159- Social anxiety disorder**	LH asked to bring back relevant issues from guidance if needed.	**LH / AB** 18-Sep-13
6	**NICE TA283 Macular oedema (retinal vein occlusion) - ranibizumab**	JB to update Forum on TST capacity issues.	**JB** 18-Sep-13
7	**NICE TA283 Macular oedema (retinal vein occlusion) - ranibizumab**	To update Forum on YDH position / progress against implementation.	**SW / JM / SK** 18-Sep-13
8	**NICE TA287 Pulmonary embolism and recurrent venous thromboembolism – rivaroxaban**	GS to discuss with the CCG Cardiology lead with a view to tasking the Cardiology programme group with drawing up a Somerset-wide policy / guidance on treatment duration for SPF approval	**GS** 13-Nov-13
9	**NICE PH45 Tobacco Harm Reduction**	Stewart Brock to be asked to identify relevant prescribing issues in the guidance that need to be considered by the Forum.	**OD** 18-Sep-13
10	**BD *Autoshield*®**	Somerset Partnership to confirm that BD *Autoshield*® use applies to community hospital inpatient situations and to nursing care provided by community teams	**LH / AB** 18-Sep-13
11	**Standardisation of LMWH dose timings**	JB to seek advice of Haematologists on receommended timings of dose administration.	**JB** 18-Sep-13