

Minutes of the **Somerset Prescribing Forum** held via Microsoft Teams, on **Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022.**

Present:	Dr Clare Barlow (CB)	Chair D&TC, Somerset NHSFT
	Steve DuBois (SDB)	Chief Pharmacist, Somerset NHSFT
	Sam Morris (SM)	Medicines Manager, CCG
	Jean Perry (JP)	Contracts Manager, NHS Somerset CCG
	Andrew Prowse (AP)	Chief Pharmacist and Controlled Drugs Accountable Officer, YDH NHS FT
	Dr Carla Robinson (CR)	Public Health Registrar, Somerset County Council
	Caroline Taylor (CT)	Prescribing Technician, CCG
Apologies:	Shaun Green (SG)	Deputy Director of Clinical Effectiveness and Medicines Management, CCG
	Dr Andrew Tresidder (AT)	Chair, CCG GP Patient Safety Lead
	Antony Zorzi (AZ)	Chief Pharmacist, Acute, Somerset NHSFT

## **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND INTRODUCTIONS**

SM welcomed everyone to the Somerset Prescribing Forum Committee.

Pari Shah, Consultant Ophthalmologist, YDH was welcomed to present item 6.3.

Apologies were provided as detailed above.

## **2 REGISTER OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

- 2.1 The Somerset Prescribing Forum received the Register of Members' Interests relevant to its membership.

There were no further amendments to the Register.

The Somerset Prescribing Forum noted the Register of Members' Interests.

## **3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

- 3.1 Under the CCG's arrangements for managing conflicts of interest, any member making a declaration of interest is able to participate in the discussion of the particular agenda item concerned, where appropriate, but is excluded from the decision-making and voting process if a vote is required. In these circumstances, there must be confirmation that the meeting remains quorate in order for voting to proceed. If a conflict of interest is declared by the Chairman, the agenda item in question would be chaired by a nominated member of the Somerset Prescribing Forum.

There were no declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda.

#### **4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

- 4.1 An amendment to the draft January Minutes was requested to item 8.2. by SDB

Clarified dosage instructions via below link

[Scenario: Management | Management | Anaemia - iron deficiency | CKS | NICE](#)

**Action: CT**

#### **4.2 Review of action points**

Most items were either complete or, on the agenda.

#### **5 Matters Arising**

##### **5.1 Sativex<sup>®</sup> for the treatment of spasticity due to multiple sclerosis**

Application for shared care

Discussion from this morning's PAMM, GPs raised concerns regards limited experience & knowledge for this amongst specialists so primary care have no experience at all with such small numbers.

To keep as **RED**, with the view to change to **AMBER** in the future. To review position in 3-9 months.

Agreed to bring back to SPF via the 'Call for Items' email when requested.

#### **6 Other Issues for Discussion**

##### **6.1 Retirement of dementia drugs SCG**

MMT have been looking into retiring this old SCG. With NICE guidance is clear.

-Agreed

##### **6.2 Reducing Antipsychotic Prescribing in Dementia Toolkit**

PrescQIPP toolkit contains useful resources, accessible on Somerset CCG website.

-Noted

##### **6.3 Ozurdex for Phakic DMO**

YDH formulary proposal presented by Pari Shah.

SPF members felt it was too short notice to make any decision on this, opinion from SFT specialists requested prior to decision needed.

Agreed for Pari will communicate with SomersetFT specialists and feedback any comments to AP, to be shared with our committee.

SPF to virtually approve upon positive feedback from YDH, SomersetFT and our committee.

**ACTION: AP/ SM**

Item is not currently approved by NICE for this indication, review underway, in use in other patient cohorts.

YDH formulary proposal document emailed by CT to group after meeting  
16.03.2022 **ACTION: CT**

## **7 Other Issues for Noting**

### **7.1 Breastfeeding and medication presentation.**

#### **e-Learning for GPs Prescribing for breastfeeding mothers**

SM has developed information on safe prescribing, with input from the infant feeding teams.

-Noted

## **8 Additional Communications for Noting**

### **8.1 DHSC Monthly Supply Issues Updates**

Raised awareness of the Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) 'Medicines Supply Tool', which gives latest information on supply issues, actions to take, alternatives to use & expected resolution dates. Content provided by DHSC and CMU.

Registration for access to the website is available to UK healthcare professionals and organisations providing NHS healthcare.

-Noted

### **8.2 Edoxaban now first line DOAC**

-Noted

### **8.3 Dangers of Potent Topical Steroids**

Somerset CCG, MMT dermatology page updated.

-Noted

### **8.4 Inclisiran dosing and administration**

Early adopters in Somerset.

-Noted

### **8.5 NICE Type 2 Diabetes Update**

Discussed Somerset position on gliflozins.

-Noted

### **8.6 Resources to support liquid Morphine reduction**

-Noted

### **8.7 Leveller article**

Article raises concerns on small study around lipophilic statins.

Somerset CCG has worked hard supporting clinicians to both identify patients who would benefit from a statin and increasing the potency of statins we prescribe in line with evidence-based guidelines. Both of which will reduce cardiovascular events.

-Noted

## 9 Formulary Applications

- 9.1 **Seffalair Spiromax (Salmeterol xinafoate/fluticasone propionate)**, Teva UK Ltd. 12.75/100, 60 inhalations=£23.97, 12.75/202, 60 inhalations=£23.97. Licensed for treatment of individuals aged ≥12 years not adequately controlled with inhaled corticosteroids and 'as needed' inhaled short-acting β2 agonists. Suggested switch in asthmatics only  
Seretide 50/250 to Seffalair 12.5/100 -lower ICS dose and £7 per inhaler saving  
Seretide 50/500 to Seffalair 12.5/202 - lower ICS dose and £6 per inhaler saving

-Approved

**Add to formulary**

**Action: Steve Moore**

**Add to VENN diagram**

**Action: CT**

- 9.2 **Tolthen XL (Tolterodine Modified Release)**, Northumbria Pharma Ltd. 2mg x28=£6.99, 4mg x28=£6.99  
Most cost-effective brand with no price increase for at least 5 years.

-Approved

**Add to formulary.**

**Action: Steve Moore**

**Add to cost effective brands list.**

**Action: CT**

- 9.3 **Rosuvastatin hard capsules**, Ranbaxy (UK) Ltd a Sun Pharmaceutical Company.  
[5mg x 28](#)= £8.52, [10mg x 28](#)= £9.54, [20mg x 28](#)= £12.72, [40mg x28](#)= £15.12  
The pellets are licensed to be administered via nasogastric tubing making them more cost effective than liquid alternatives.

-Approved

**Add to formulary**

**Action: Steve Moore**

**Add to TLS GREEN**

**Action: ZTW**

**Add to SPECIALS guidance.**

**Action: HB**

- 9.4 **TESTOGEL 40.5mg transdermal gel in sachet**, Besins Healthcare (UK) Ltd. 30 sachets = £31.11. **This will replace the 50mg in 5g sachet.**  
Licensed for use in adults as testosterone replacement therapy for male hypogonadism when testosterone deficiency has been confirmed.

The menopause formulary and website have already been updated.

-Approved

**Update male formulary page.**

**Action: Steve Moore**

**Add to TLS GREEN**

**Action: ZTW**

## 10 DTC decisions and other reports

- 10.1 **Somerset NHS Foundation Trust Mental Health D&TC** - Last meeting 08/03/22 Minutes not received
- Discussed:  
Agreed to retire shared care for dementia drugs.
- Approved a new melatonin preparation Adaflex: for Insomnia in children and adolescents aged 6-17 years with ADHD, where sleep hygiene measures have been insufficient. Licensed and less risky in MHRA hierarchy of use. Looking at ways to move to shared care for some appropriate melatonin patients. Melatonin audit by POMH UK benchmarking audit group coming later this year. Will form a pathway for some stage in the future for the trust to apply for a change in the current traffic light status, audit results to follow in due course prior to this consideration.
- 10.2 **YDH Medicines Committee - Meeting postponed to 18/03/2022**
- 10.3 **Somerset NHSFT D&TC - Next meeting -14/05/22**
- 10.4 **Somerset Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee - Next meeting TBC**
- 10.5 **Somerset ICS Medicines Optimisation (SIMO) Committee - Last meeting 16/02/2022 draft Minutes received**
- 10.6 **RMOC function on SPS website**  
Anything relevant will be discussed at the next meeting.

## **Part 2 – Items for Information or Noting**

- 11 **NICE Guidance Feb & March**  
-Noted
- 12 **NICE Technology Appraisals**
- 12.1 **[TA761] Osimertinib for adjuvant treatment of EGFR mutation-positive non-small-cell lung cancer after complete tumour resection-New**  
Within the Cancer Drugs Fund  
-Approved  
**NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS RED Drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.2 **[TA599] Sodium zirconium cyclosilicate for treating hyperkalaemia - Updated**  
January 2022:Changes were made to recommendations 1.1 and 1.2 because sodium zirconium cyclosilicate is now available in both primary and secondary care.  
This has been acted upon by Trusts  
-Noted

- Add NICE update link to TLS remain RED Drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.3 **[TA765] Venetoclax with azacitidine for untreated acute myeloid leukaemia when intensive chemotherapy is unsuitable-New**  
 -Approved  
**NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS RED Drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.4 **[TA764] Fremanezumab for preventing migraine-New**  
 -Approved  
**CCG Commissioned. Add to TLS RED Drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.5 **[TA763] Daratumumab in combination for untreated multiple myeloma when a stem cell transplant is suitable- New**  
 -Approved  
**NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS RED Drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.6 **[TA762] Olaparib for treating BRCA mutation-positive HER2-negative metastatic breast cancer after chemotherapy (terminated appraisal)**  
 -Noted  
 Add to TLS Terminated Appraisal **Action: ZTW**
- 12.7 **[TA771] Daratumumab with bortezomib, melphalan and prednisone for untreated multiple myeloma (terminated appraisal)**  
 -Noted  
 Add to TLS Terminated Appraisal **Action: ZTW**
- 12.8 **[TA770] Pembrolizumab with carboplatin and paclitaxel for untreated metastatic squamous non-small-cell lung cancer- New**  
 -Approved  
**NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS RED** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.9 **[TA772] Pembrolizumab for treating relapsed or refractory classical Hodgkin lymphoma after stem cell transplant or at least 2 previous therapies – New**  
 -Approved  
**NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS RED** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.10 **[TA778] Pegcetacoplan for treating paroxysmal nocturnal haemoglobinuria -New**  
 -Approved  
**NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS RED** **Action: ZTW**

- 12.11 **[TA777] Solriamfetol for treating excessive daytime sleepiness caused by obstructive sleep apnoea- New**  
 -Noted  
**Add to TLS Not Recommended. Action: ZTW**
- 12.12 **[TA776] Pitolisant hydrochloride for treating excessive daytime sleepiness caused by obstructive sleep apnoea - New**  
 -Noted  
**Add to TLS Not Recommended Action: ZTW**
- 12.13 **[TA775] Dapagliflozin for treating chronic kidney disease - New**  
 -Approved  
**CCG Commissioned.**  
**Add to formulary. Action: Steve Moore**  
**Add to TLS GREEN Action: ZTW**
- 12.14 **[TA774] Lenalidomide for relapsed or refractory mantle cell lymphoma (terminated appraisal) - New**  
 -Noted  
**Add to TLS Terminated Appraisal Action: ZTW**
- 12.15 **[TA773] Empagliflozin for treating chronic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction - New**  
 -Approved  
**CCG Commissioned.**  
**Add to formulary. Action: Steve Moore**  
**Add to TLS GREEN Action: ZTW**
- 12.16 **[TA766] Pembrolizumab for adjuvant treatment of completely resected stage 3 melanoma - New**  
 -Approved  
**NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS RED Action: ZTW**
- 12.17 **[TA767] Ponesimod for treating relapsing–remitting multiple sclerosis- New**  
 -Approved  
**NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS RED Action: ZTW**

- 12.18 **[TA768] Upadacitinib for treating active psoriatic arthritis after inadequate response to DMARDs-New**  
 -Approved  
**CCG Commissioned. Add to TLS RED Drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.19 **[TA769] Palforzia for treating peanut allergy in children and young people -New**  
 -Approved  
 It is expected to be provided in allergy clinics within NHS hospital trusts  
**CCG Commissioned. Add to TLS RED** **Action: ZTW**
- 13 NICE Clinical Guidance**
- 13.1 **[NG81] Glaucoma: diagnosis and management -Update**  
 -Noted  
**Review NICE guidance and update any relevant CCG guidance.**  
**Action: MMT**
- 13.2 **[NG191] COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing COVID-19 -Updated**  
 -Noted
- 13.3 **[NG28] Type 2 diabetes in adults: management- Update**  
 In February 2022, we reviewed the evidence and made new recommendations on drug treatment for adults with type 2 diabetes. See [update information](#) for more details.  
 -Noted  
**Review NICE guidance and update any relevant CCG guidance.**  
**Action: Steve Moore**
- 13.4 **[NG212] Mental wellbeing at work-New**  
 This guideline covers how to create the right conditions for mental wellbeing at work. It aims to promote a supportive and inclusive work environment, including training and support for managers and helping people who have or are at risk of poor mental health.  
 -Noted
- 13.5 **[MTG67] Prontosan for treating acute and chronic wounds - New**  
 Prontosan is not recommended for treating acute wounds because the evidence is very limited.  
 -Noted  
**Add to TLS Not Recommended** **Action: ZTW**



- 13.6 **[NG213] Disabled children and young people up to 25 with severe complex needs: integrated service delivery and organisation across health, social care and education - New**  
-Noted
- 13.7 **SIGN 164: Eating Disorders**  
Discussed at this morning's PAMM, to share across the Trusts  
-Noted  
**Review document for medication related guidance and update CCG guidance where appropriate. Action: MMT**
- 13.8 **[NG91] Otitis media (acute): antimicrobial prescribing-Updated**  
Otigo® 40 mg/10 mg/g ear drops (phenazone and lidocaine) are already on Somerset formulary.  
-Noted
- 14 Specialist Commissioning**  
-Bring back to May's meeting
- 15 Risk review and management**
- 15.1 **Risk review and Management - COVID 19**  
-Noted  
**Trusts to add discharge summaries to their risk registers Action:AZ &AP**
- 16 Safety Items, NPSA Alerts and Signals**
- 16.1 **MHRA Drug Safety Update Jan & Feb**  
-Noted
- 16.2 **Paclitaxel formulations (conventional and nab-paclitaxel): caution required due to potential for medication error**  
-Noted
- 16.3 **Brolucizumab (Beovu ▼): risk of intraocular inflammation and retinal vascular occlusion increased with short dosing intervals**  
-Noted
- 16.4 **Ivacaftor, tezacaftor, elexacaftor (Kaftrio ▼) in combination with ivacaftor (Kalydeco): risk of serious liver injury; updated advice on liver function testing**  
-Noted

- 16.5 **Hydroxychloroquine, chloroquine: increased risk of cardiovascular events when used with macrolide antibiotics; reminder of psychiatric reactions**  
Eclipse Live searches for macrolides available for primary care  
-Noted
- 16.6 **COVID-19 antivirals: reporting to the UK COVID-19 Antivirals Pregnancy Registry**  
Paternal use as well as maternal  
-Noted
- 16.7 **MHRA: Open consultation: Proposal to make Gina 10 microgram vaginal tablets (Estradiol) available from pharmacies**  
Proposal to make it available from pharmacies for vaginal atrophy in over 50's when not had period for at least one year.  
  
PAMM had mixed views on this when discussed at last month's meeting. How will pharmacists distinguish between thrush or atrophy? (Currently pharmacists unable to sell clotrimazole to over 60s due to the possibility of mistaking thrush symptoms for atrophy).  
-Noted
- 16.8 **NIHR Alert: People with the skin condition, hidradenitis suppurativa, need earlier diagnoses, more treatment options and wider support**  
CCG website updated  
-Noted
- 16.9 **NIHR Alert: Giving the progestogen only pill along with emergency contraception encouraged women to use long-term contraception**  
-Noted
- 16.10 **NIHR Alert: Are you sure you are allergic to penicillin? Professionals and patients are urged to double-check**  
Commentaries are provided on research exploring patients' and physicians' views on penicillin allergy, which concluded both need to be more aware of the negative consequences of having penicillin allergy incorrectly included in medical notes.  
  
Being raised nationally the need for different classification and coding on EMIS  
-Noted
- 16.11 **Voluntary recall of Abbott Alimentum and EleCare allergy formulae - FSA**  
MMT sent email out to primary care to remind of formulary options available.  
-Noted

**17 High-Cost Drugs**

Bring back to May meeting

**18 Any Other Business**

18.1 -Nothing raised

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

11<sup>th</sup> May

**MEETING DATES FOR 2022**

13<sup>th</sup> July

14<sup>th</sup> September

16<sup>th</sup> November