

Area Prescribing Committee Annual Report 2016 - 2017

Chairman's Report

The Area Prescribing Committee has now been established for six years.

It continues to be well attended by representatives from all member organisations who to work together to address their shared agenda.

It has an established position of influence and authority on medicine related issues throughout the local health economy.



Dr Ian Davidson
Director of Quality and Safety
North Durham CCG
Area Prescribing Committee Chair

Meeting Attendance

The County Durham and Darlington APC serves the following participating organisations:

- NHS Darlington CCG
- North Durham CCG
- NHS Durham Dales, Easington & Sedgfield CCG
- County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (CDDFT)
- Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV)
- County Durham Local Authority
- Darlington Local Authority

Membership of the APC comprises a wide variety of professional, clinical, commissioning, managerial and organisational backgrounds. A full list of members is published on the County Durham & Darlington APC webpage at:

<http://medicines.necu.nhs.uk/committees/durham-darlington-committees/>

The full terms of reference of the committee can be found on the same website:

<http://medicines.necu.nhs.uk/committees/durham-darlington-committees/>

The committee meets in Durham on a bi-monthly basis, with meetings occurring on the first Thursday of every other month between April 2016 and March 2017 the Committee met six times.

All APC and its sub-group members complete a Declarations of Interest Form on an annual basis and update the chair on any potential conflicts of interest at each meeting.

Ratified Documents

Guidelines:

- Erectile Dysfunction (May 2016)
- Regional Antimicrobial Guidelines for Primary Care (May 2016)
- Type 2 Diabetes Guidelines (May/Nov 2016)
- FATS7 Lipid Management (July 2016)
- Local Drug Monitoring Guidelines (Sep 2016)
- ADHD Treatment Algorithm (Nov 2016)
- Management of Chronic Constipation (Nov 2016)
- Sacubitril/Vasartan Pathway (Jan 2017)
- COPD (Jan 2017)
- Magnesium Supplements in Primary Care (Mar 2017)
- Blood Glucose Testing (Mar 2017)

Shared Care Guidelines:

- Riluzole (May 2016)
- Lisdexamfetamine (January 2017)

Other:

- APC Guidelines Checklist
- Local guidance on Letrozole & DEXA scans
- Do Not Prescribe List (Sep 2016)
- Grey List (Nov 2016)
- Patient Decision Aids Resource (Sep 2016)
- Ciclosporin eye drops leaflet for GPs
- Nutilis Clear Thickener Switch Guideline
- TEWV Transfer of Prescribing Document

New Drug Applications Considered

- Nefopam – removed from formulary May 2016
- Invicorp® - not approved May 2016

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- Nutilis Clear Thickener – approved May 2016
- Guanfacine – approved May 2016
- Ciclosporin 0.1% eye drops – approved July 2016
- Pivmecillinam – approved July 2016
- Prednisolone 30mg tablets – not approved July 2016
- Grazax – approved Sept 2016
- Alendronate 70mg effervescent – not approved Sep 2016
- Alliance Calcium Syrup – approved Nov 2016
- Enstilar® Cutaneous foam – approved Nov 2016
- Ivermectin cream 1% - approved Nov 2016
- Insulin Degludec 100iu/ml – approved Jan 2017
- Spiriva Respimat® - approved Jan 2017
- Tiotropium Braltus® - approved Jan 2017
- Spiolto Respima®t – approved Jan 2017

Subgroups

Formulary Subgroup

The formulary subgroup comprises of representatives from each of the local CCGs, TEWV, CDDFT and the Regional Drug and Therapeutics Centre. It has met on alternate months throughout 2015-16 to progress the work of the group and the APC.

It continues to develop and maintain the joint County Durham & Darlington Formulary which can be found at: <http://formulary.cdd.nhs.uk/>

With the support of the RDTC regular horizon scanning is undertaken, and compliance with NICE Technology Appraisals and Northern Treatment Advisory Group recommendation is ensured. The group also updates the formulary with MHRA Drug Safety Updates as necessary.

Associated Committees

The APC has close links with other committees in order to foster an integrated approach to developing guidance and advice on medicines related issues. These groups include:

- Local Primary Care Prescribing Groups
- CDDFT Clinical Standards & Therapeutics Committee
- TEWV Drug & Therapeutics Committee
- Local High Cost Drugs Subgroup

Communication

The North of England Commissioning Support Unit, Medicines Optimisation Website contains a section for the APC:

<http://medicines.necsu.nhs.uk/committees/durham-darlington-committees/>

<http://medicines.necsu.nhs.uk/guidelines/durham-darlington-guidelines/>

The website was developed to improve communication and make key documents more accessible to stakeholders and has open access for prescribing guidelines, APC minutes and key documents. All prescribing guidelines, shared care guidelines and prescribing memos ratified by the committee are available on the website.

APC decisions and feedback is a standing agenda item on TEWV's Drug and Therapeutics Committee agenda. Prescribing decisions and agreements are disseminated throughout TEWV via the Safe and Effective Medicines Bulletins.

Plans for the future

- Regional Medicine Optimisation Committees - The APC chair is contributing to discussions on these proposals and the APC role may change if and when these proposals progress from April 2017.
- To continue to maintain an effective Area Prescribing Committee that proactively delivers safe and efficient use of medicines within the County Durham and Darlington health economy.