

Area Prescribing Committee Annual Report 2018-2019

Chairman's Report

This is the last annual report of the Area Prescribing Committee in its current format which has now been in existence for the past seven years. During the next year it will merge with Tees Medicines Governance Group to form one APC covering County Durham and Tees Valley.

It is hoped the new APC will continue to be well attended by representatives from all member organisations who to work together to address their shared agenda.

It is hoped to establish the new APC as a position of influence and authority on medicine related issues throughout the local health economy.



Dr Ian Davidson
Medical Director, 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 & Sedgefield 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.necsu.nhs.uk/committees/durham-darlington-committees/>

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

<http://medicines.necsu.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 2018 and March 2019 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:

- ADHD adults (May 2018)
- ADHD Children & Young People (May 2018)
- COPD (May 2018)
- Type 2 Diabetes Guidelines (May 2018 updated)
- Asthma (July 2018 updated)
- Erectile Dysfunction (Sept 2018 updated)
- Emollient Prescribing (Sept 2018 updated)
- CMPA & Lactose Intolerance (Sept 2018)
- Osteoporosis (Nov 2018)
- Paediatric Asthma Guidelines (May 2019)
- Gluten-free Prescribing (March 2019 updated)

Shared Care Guidelines:

- Atomoxetine (July 2018 updated)
- Methylphenidate (July 2018 updated)
- Lisdexamfetamine (July 2018 updated)
- Guanfacine (July 2018)
- Valproate (Sept 2018)
- Paliperidone LAI (July 2018)
- Aripiprazole LAI (July 2018)
- Azathioprine (Sept 2018 updated)
- 6-Mercaptopurine (May 2018 updated)
- Ciclosporin (Sept 2018 updated)
- Mycophenolate (May 2019 updated)
- Hydroxycarbamide (Sept 2018)
- Melatonin (Jan 2019)

Other:

Area Prescribing Committee

Annual Report

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- CD&D Drug Monitoring Document –reviewed and updated
- Patient Decision Aids Resource
- Continence formulary
- Trimipramine de-prescribing guidance
- Dosulepin de-prescribing guidance
- Wound care formulary
- DNP list (updated)
- Grey List (updated)
- County Durham Homely Remedies Policy for nursing homes

New Drug Applications Considered

- Brivaracetam – approved May 2018
- Glycopyrronium bromide 2mg/5ml oral solution – approved May 2018
- Ceftazidime/Avibactam – approved May 2018
- Ceftobiprole – approved May 2018
- Insulin Aspart (Fiasp®) – approved July 2018
- Plenvu® - approved Nov 2018
- Insulin Lispro Sanofi biosimilar – approved Jan 2019
- Ovitrelle® injection – approved May 2019
- Methoxyflurane – approved May 2019
- Kyleena® IUD – approved May 2019

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 2017-18 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, RMOC and NTAG recommendations 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
- NE&C CCG Prescribing Forum
- NTAG
- Regional Medicines Optimisation Committee (North)

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

To merge with Tees Medicines Governance Group to form one APC covering County Durham and Tees Valley, and to continue to maintain an effective Area Prescribing Committee that proactively delivers safe and efficient use of medicines within County Durham and Tees.