

## County Durham and Tees Valley Area Prescribing Committee

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021

9am – 10.40 am

Held Via Microsoft Teams

### Present

Name	Job Title	Membership Capacity	Organisation	Mar 2021	May 2021	Jul 2021	Sep 2021
David Russell	GP Prescribing Lead (Darlington)	Clinician	Tees Valley CCG	✓	✓	✓	✓
Angela Dixon	Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist	Pharmacist	Tees Valley CCG	✓	✓	✓	✓
Peter Foster	GP Prescribing Lead	Clinician	County Durham CCG	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kate Huddart	Senior Pharmaceutical Advisor	Pharmacist	County Durham CCG	✓	✓	✓	✓ (from Item 7) Rachel Berry until item 7.
Tim Rider	GP Prescribing Lead	Clinician	North Yorks CCG				
Susan Broughton	HRW Locality Lead Pharmacist	Pharmacist	North Yorks CCG	Chris Ranson	Chris Ranson	Chris Ranson	Chris Ranson
Rupert Smith	GP Prescribing Lead	Chair of FSG	Tees Valley CCG	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ian Davidson (Chair)	Medical Director	Clinician	County Durham CCG	✓	✓	Apols	✓
Janet Walker	Medical Director	Clinician	Tees Valley CCG	✓	✓	✓	Apols
Shafie Kamaruddin	Consultant & Chair of CSTC	Clinician	CDDFT	✓		✓	✓
Jamie Harris	Chief Pharmacist	Pharmacist	CDDFT	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Clinician	NTHFT				
Chris Mallon	Formulary Pharmacist	Pharmacist	NTHFT	✓	Apols	Confirmed happy with decisions via email	✓
Andy Lloyd	Consultant & Chair of D&T	Clinician	STFT	✓ from item 5	✓	Apols	✓
Helen Jones	Chief Pharmacist	Pharmacist	STFT	✓	✓	Tracy Percival	Tracy Percival
Baxi Sinha		Clinician	TEWVFT	✓ (left after Item 25)	Apols	✓	Apols
Chris Williams	Chief Pharmacist	Pharmacist	TEWVFT	✓	✓	✓	✓
Julie Birch or Tanya Johnston	GP	LMC Rep			Tanya Johnston	Apols	Tanya Johnston
Rob Pitt	Community Pharmacist	LPC Rep – County Durham		✓	Apols	✓	
Brent Foster	Community Pharmacist	LPC Rep – Tees					
Claire Jones	Public Health Pharmacist	Public Health Rep	Durham Council	Apols	✓	✓	✓
Chris Cunnington - Shore		Service User Rep – County Durham		✓	✓	✓	Apols
		Service User					

		Rep - Tees					
Mark Pickering	Chief Finance Officer for Tees Valley CCG	Commissioning & Finance Rep	Tees Valley CCG	Apols	✓	Apols	✓
Rosie England	Chief Pharmacist	NEAS	NEAS				
Gavin Mankin	Principal Pharmacist Medicines Management	Professional Secretary	Regional Drug & Therapeutics Centre, Newcastle	✓	✓	✓ + Dan Newsome	✓

### **In attendance**

Emily Brown – RDTC Admin Support – sharing papers via screen on MS Teams.

The meeting was quorate and remained quorate throughout.

APC members and attendees were reminded to keep detailed discussions confidential to allow free and full debate to inform unencumbered decision-making. Discretion should be used when discussing meetings with non-attendees and papers should not be shared without agreement of the chair or professional secretary to ensure confidentiality is maintained.

### **Part 1**

#### **1. Apologies for Absence:**

Janet Walker, Helen Jones, Baxi Shina, Chris Cunnington–Shore.

#### **2. Declarations of Interest**

##### **Declarations of interest:**

*The chair reminded subgroup members of their obligation to declare any interest they may have on any issue arising at committee meetings which might conflict with the business of the APC.*

*Declarations declared by members of the APC are listed in the APC's Register of Interests. The Register is available either via the professional secretary or on the APC website at:*

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

##### **Declarations of interest from sub committees:**

*None declared.*

##### **Declarations of interest from today's meeting:**

*None declared.*

#### **3. Minutes and Decision Summary of the Previous APC Meeting Held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

The decision summary of the May 2021 meeting was accepted as a true and accurate record.

#### **4. Matters Arising Not On the Agenda**

Nil.

#### **5. Action Log**

TEWV STOMP medication pathway - draft

RDTC to arrange for link to approved version added to APC pages of NECS website and the formulary - Still to be added to external TEWV website.

TEWV Depression pathway (updated)

RDTC to arrange for link to approved version added to APC pages of NECS website and the formulary - Still to be added to external TEWV website.

TEWV Anxiety pathway (updated)

RDTC to arrange for link to approved version added to APC pages of NECS website and the formulary - Still to be added to external TEWV website.

TEWV Adult ADHD Algorithm (updated)

Link to approved version added to APC pages of NECS website and the formulary. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

TEWV Children's ADHD Algorithm (updated)

Link to approved version added to APC pages of NECS website and the formulary. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

TEWV Medication Safety – Tobacco smoking, smoking cessation & psychotropic drugs

All actions completed. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

CD&T Dapagliflozin for Heart Failure Guideline

STHFT have made the required amendments and now approved by APC Chair's Action. Link to approved version added to formulary and APC pages of NECS website. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

CD&T Guidance for Prescribing & Monitoring Post Bariatric Surgery

Link to approved version added to APC pages of NECS website. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

CD&T Gluten Free Guidance

Link to approved version added to APC pages of NECS website. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

County Durham Bladder and Bowel Formulary

Link to approved version added to APC pages of NECS website. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

GP clinical information sheet to support the prescribing and monitoring of Denosumab (Prolia®)

Link to approved version added to APC pages of NECS website and formulary website. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

Amendment to CD&D DVT Pathway

There are now wider discussions about CDDFT capacity to manage the scans and KH & ID agreed that the DVT pathway therefore no longer needs to be changed to offer a longer treatment window. ITEW CLOSED.

Updates to CD&T Respiratory Guidelines (COPD, Asthma, Paediatric Asthma)

Link to approved version added to APC pages of NECS website and formulary website. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

Ergot derived dopamine agonists SCG

Link to approved version added to APC pages of NECS website and formulary website. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

Tolcapone in Parkinson's SCG

Link to approved version added to APC pages of NECS website and formulary website. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

Monitored Dosage Systems – New Recommendation Form, Review Form and Supporting Guidance for County Durham

RDTC to arrange for approved version to be added to APC pages of NECS website as now received from County Durham CCG. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

RMOC Liothyronine Guidance

No further update due to COVID-19.

Algorithm for Blood Glucose Lowering Therapy in Adults with Type 2 Diabetes

Regional Diabetes Network are working to produce some prescribing tips on the newer agents for GPs. NICE update of type 2 diabetes guidelines underway and is expected to be published in February 2022. Draft is currently out for consultation.

Review of CD&T APC Terms of Reference

Chair written to NTFHT Medical Director to seek a clinical representative to APC, and response awaited.

Chris Mallon confirmed the representation issue has been flagged to pharmacy care group lead and subsequently escalated to care group director to discuss with the medical director a way forward as no progress been made.

Hydroxychloroquine SCG

Awaiting final RMOC South Guidance, which was out for consultation in Oct 2020. Noted ongoing work within CCGs with providers on this and that RMOC draft shared care template for hydroxychloroquine in development this summer.

Northern England Evaluation and Lipid Intensification guideline

Final version received 12.7.21 and now published on APC guidelines pages of NECS website. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

Rivaroxaban in Preventing atherothrombotic events in people with Coronary or Peripheral Artery Disease (CAD/PAD)

SK has met with CDDFT cardiology and they have no appetite to produce a guideline as see it as a primary care prescribing issue. Also not a priority area at present. Noted that other APCs struggling to implement this NICE TA with a supporting guideline. Lambeth CCG have produce a useful guideline for primary care to support implementation of this NICE TA and was agreed to discuss this with local cardiologists to consider local adoption. Lambeth CCG have as a GREEN+ drug which is same status as CD&T formulary, so expectation is that is specialist initiated for this indication.

**ACTION:**

- **SK to discuss Lambeth CCG Rivaroxaban in Preventing atherothrombotic events in people with Coronary or Peripheral Artery Disease (CAD/PAD) guideline with cardiology to consider local adoption.**

TEWV Citalopram & Escitalopram - maximum dose reductions & ECG algorithm

Link to approved version added to APC pages of NECS website. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

Implications of RMOC guidance on Local Shared Care Workstream

Update paper and proposal shared with other APCs in region, and agreed to wait for national RMOC SCGs to be published. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

Postcode/Interface Issues with other Formularies in Region

RDTCC to work with NuTH Formulary Pharmacist to agree RAG position for an agreed list on tertiary centre drugs, and include the other APCs/Trusts as necessary. Emailed 7.7.21 & response awaited.

**Part 2 – Mental Health**

**6. TEWV Drug & Therapeutics Committee Feedback – July 2021**

CW presented to the APC a briefing report highlighting the main issues discussed at the recent TEWV D&T.

**7. TEWV Deprescribing Guidelines – dosulepin, trimipramine, promazine**

Circulated for information. These have been reviewed by TEWV with no significant changes, and

approved at last TEWV D&T.

**ACTION:**

- **RDTCC to arrange for links to approved versions to be added to APC pages of NECS website and the formulary.**

**8. TEWV Lithium annual review checklist – an addition to our shared care guidelines - for consultation/comment**

This is an addition to the TEWV Lithium shared care guidelines and was presented to APC for consultation/comment.

**Part 3 – Formulary Issues**

**9. Appeals Against Previous APC Decisions**

Nil for this meeting.

**10. NICE TAs and MHRA Drug Safety Update – June & July 2021**

These were presented to the group and the following actions were taken by the APC:

NICE Technology Appraisal/Guidance Title and date published	Date issued	Current formulary status	Recommended action for APC
<a href="#">TA705: Atezolizumab monotherapy for untreated advanced non-small-cell lung cancer</a> Commissioning: NHSE	02/06/21	Listed as RED drug in 8.2.4	Add as a RED drug for this indication and add link to NICE TA.
<a href="#">TA706: Ozanimod for treating relapsing–remitting multiple sclerosis</a> Commissioning: NHSE	09/06/21	Not listed in 8.2.4 – Multiple sclerosis	Add as a NOT APPROVED drug for this indication and add link to NICE TA.
<a href="#">TA707: Nivolumab for previously treated unresectable advanced or recurrent oesophageal cancer</a> Commissioning: NHSE	15/06/21	Listed as RED drug in 8.2.4	Add as a RED drug for this indication and add link to NICE TA.
<a href="#">TA708: Budesonide orodispersible tablet for inducing remission of eosinophilic oesophagitis</a> Commissioning: CCG, tariff included	23/06/21	Listed as a RED drug in 1.5.2 - Treatment of eosinophilic oesophagitis in adults older than 18 years of age.6 -12 week course to be provided by secondary care i.e. for inducing remission.  Note: NICE TA did not cover maintenance treatment.	Add as a RED drug for this indication as short-term treatment course and add link to NICE TA.  Seek formulary application for maintenance treatment until then NOT APPROVED for maintenance treatment.
<a href="#">TA709: Pembrolizumab for untreated metastatic colorectal cancer with high microsatellite instability or mismatch repair deficiency</a> Commissioning: NHSE	23/06/21	Listed as RED drug in 8.1.5	Add as a RED drug for this indication and add link to NICE TA.
<a href="#">TA710: Ravulizumab for treating atypical haemolytic uraemic syndrome</a> Commissioning: NHSE	23/06/21	Listed as RED drug in 9.1.3a	Add as a RED drug for this indication and add link to NICE TA.

<a href="#">TA711: Guselkumab for treating active psoriatic arthritis after inadequate response to DMARDs</a> <b>Commissioning: CCG, tariff excluded</b>	30/06/21	Not listed in 10.1.3	Add as a RED drug for this indication and add link to NICE TA.
<a href="#">TA712: Enzalutamide for treating hormone-sensitive metastatic prostate cancer</a> <b>Commissioning: NHSE</b>	07/07/21	Listed as RED drug in chapter 8.3.4.2	Add as a RED drug for this indication and add link to NICE TA.
<a href="#">TA713: Nivolumab for advanced non-squamous non-small-cell lung cancer after chemotherapy</a> <b>Commissioning: NHSE</b>	07/07/21	Listed as RED drug in 8.2.4	Add as a RED drug for this indication and add link to NICE TA.
<a href="#">TA714: Dasatinib for treating Philadelphia-chromosome-positive acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (terminated appraisal)</a> <b>Commissioning: NHSE</b>	14/07/21	Listed as RED drug in chapter 8.1.5	Add as a NOT APPROVED drug for this indication and add link to NICE TA.
<a href="#">TA715: Adalimumab, etanercept, infliximab and abatacept for treating moderate rheumatoid arthritis after conventional DMARDs have failed</a> <b>Commissioning: CCG, tariff excluded</b>	14/07/21	Listed as RED drugs in chapter 10.1.3  Filgotinib NICE TA came out in February 2021.	Add as a RED drugs for this indication and add link to NICE TA. <i>Note given the potential financial implications this will need approval from CCG Finance/Exec committees plus contracting teams before adding to formulary.</i>
<a href="#">TA716: Nivolumab with ipilimumab for previously treated metastatic colorectal cancer with high microsatellite instability or mismatch repair deficiency</a> <b>Commissioning: NHSE</b>	28/07/21	Listed as RED drugs in chapter 8.1.5	Add as a RED drugs for this indication and add link to NICE TA.
<a href="#">TA717: Duvelisib for treating relapsed follicular lymphoma after 2 or more systemic therapies (terminated appraisal)</a> <b>Commissioning: NHSE</b>	21/07/21	Not listed in chapter 8.1.5	Add as a NOT APPROVED drug for this indication and add link to NICE TA.
<a href="#">TA718: Ixekizumab for treating axial spondyloarthritis</a> <b>Commissioning: CCG, tariff excluded</b>	21/07/21	Listed as RED drug in chapter 10.1.3	Add as a RED drug for this indication and add link to NICE TA.
<a href="#">TA719: Secukinumab for treating non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis</a> <b>Commissioning: CCG, tariff excluded</b>	21/07/21	Listed as RED drug in chapter 10.1.3	Add as a RED drug for this indication and add link to NICE TA.
<a href="#">NG198: Acne vulgaris: management</a>	25/06/21	All relevant drugs on formulary except Treclin® gel, Duac® 3% gel and Duac Once Daily® 5% gel in 13.6.1	Add Treclin® gel, Duac® gel and Duac Once Daily® gel as GREEN drugs.

<a href="#">NG199: Clostridioides difficile infection: antimicrobial prescribing</a>	23/06/21	All relevant drugs on formulary as AMBER SR (vancomycin oral, fidaxomicin). Bezolotoxumab = NOT APPROVED (not recommended by NICE)	For information.
<b>Drug Safety Advice</b>	<b>Date issued</b>	<b>Current formulary status</b>	<b>Recommended action for APC</b>
<a href="#">CDK4/6 inhibitors (abemaciclib ▼, palbociclib ▼, ribociclib ▼): reports of interstitial lung disease and pneumonitis, including severe cases</a>	17/06/21	Listed as RED drugs in 8.1.5	Add link to MHRA DSU.
<a href="#">Atezolizumab (Tecentriq ▼) and other immune-stimulatory anti-cancer drugs: risk of severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs)</a>	17/06/21	Listed as RED drug in 8.2.4	Add link to MHRA DSU.
<a href="#">Letters and medicine recalls sent to healthcare professionals in May 2021</a>	17/06/21	-	For information only.
<a href="#">Chloramphenicol eye drops containing borax or boric acid buffers: use in children younger than 2 years</a>	07/07/21	Listed as GREEN drug in 11.3.1	Add link to MHRA DSU.
<a href="#">Oral retinoid medicines (isotretinoin ▼, alitretinoin ▼, and acitretin ▼): temporary monitoring advice during coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic</a>	07/07/21	Listed as RED drugs.	Add link to MHRA DSU.
<a href="#">Letters and medicine recalls sent to healthcare professionals in June 2021</a>		-	For information only.
<b>Requested formulary amendments</b>	<b>BNF Chapter</b>	<b>Reasoning</b>	<b>Recommended action for APC</b>
Lacri-lube eye ointment – to delete from formulary as discontinued	11.8.1	To delete from formulary as discontinued.	To delete from formulary as discontinued.
Symtuza® –(Darunavir 800mg/cobicistat 150mg/emtricitabine 200mg/tenofovir alafenamide 10mg)	5.3.1	Requested for management of HIV as per national guidelines and NHSE commissioning policy.	Add as RED drug.
<b>New Formulary Applications</b>	<b>BNF Chapter</b>	<b>Reasoning</b>	<b>Recommended action for APC</b>
<b>Misoprostol 25microgram tablets</b> <b>Commissioning: CCG, in tariff</b>	7.1.1	Request for induction of labour only for use with the policy : Intra-uterine death, Pregnancy Loss & Termination of Pregnancy for Major Fetal Abnormality from 16+0 weeks; and Stillbirth  This is a recently licensed product. Previously the 200microgram tablets were used “off label”. This will allow accurate dosing using a licenced preparation.	Approve as a RED drug.
<b>NTAG Recommendations</b>	<b>Date issued</b>	<b>Current formulary status</b>	<b>Recommended action for APC</b>
Perampanel (Fycompa®) for Partial-onset (focal) epilepsy – updated recommendation to include license extension in children under 12 years old.	08/06/21	Listed as AMBER SI in 4.8.1	Add link to updated NTAG recommendation.

Transanal Irrigation Systems (TAIs) for neurogenic bowel dysfunction, chronic constipation, and chronic faecal incontinence – updated to replace Peristeen with Peristeen Plus as Peristeen discontinued by manufacturer.	08/06/21	Not listed on formulary.	CD&T TAI guideline includes a list of products that will need updating.
Infliximab Subcutaneous (Remsima®) – reviewed and no change to recommendation that is an option during Covid-19 Pandemic. To be reviewed in 6 months.	08/06/21	Listed as RED drug in 1.5.3, 10.1.3 and 13.5.3	For information.
Dupilumab and Omalizumab for chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps - updated to note that not recommended as NICE TA terminated.	08/06/21	Listed as NOT APPROVED drugs for this indication in 3.4.2	For information.
Transcutaneous vagus nerve stimulation for treatment of cluster headache and migraine – updated to reflect change in funding arrangements. Now CCG commissioned and funded.	08/06/21	Not listed on formulary.	For information.

**ACTION:**

- **RDTC to update the online formulary with the approved changes.**
- **AD to provide costing impact for TA715 to go to CCGs for this TA to receive CCG financial/contracting approval as potentially approved threshold for APC delegated decision making.**
- **MP to liaise with financial/contracting in CD&TV CCGs re TA715.**

**11. New Drug Applications**

Misoprostol 25 microgram tablets

Discussed under Item 10.

**12. NTAG Update**

Nil this month. Formulary updates required following June 2021 NTAG meeting discussed under Item 10.

**13. RMOC Update**

RMOC Shared-Care Consultations

The APC noted the current shared care consultations on the RMOC website and members/stakeholder organisations were asked to submit any comments on particular shared care guidelines directly to RMOC, in particular for DMARDs.

**14. CDDFT CSTC Update**

Last meeting was cancelled. APC noted risks around retinal screening for hydroxychloroquine and ongoing work outside of APC on this. CDDFT switching patients to an alternative DMARD where possible

**15. NTHFT D&T Update**

Clinicians have asked about using Empagliflozin for treating chronic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction and APC agreed that should wait for NICE TA which is due in February 2022. When it received NICE TA approval agreed to update the Dapagliflozin in HF guideline to include Empagliflozin too.

**16. STHFT D&T Update**

A verbal update on the September 2021 D&T meeting was given.

**17. Primary Care Prescribing Committee Updates**

County Durham CCG – a verbal update was given  
Tees Valley CCG – a verbal update was given.

**Part 4 – Shared Care and Guidelines (non-Mental Health)**



**18. CD&T Do Not Prescribe/Grey List – updated**

The existing County Durham and Tees Do Not Prescribe and Grey List approved in September 2020 has a review date of September 2021.

The following updates/changes are proposed:

- Part 1 & 2 – no changes as no changes to NHSE guidance since last approved.
- Part 3
  - Atropine tablets – remove as not listed in formulary
  - Cannabis extract (Sativex®) – remove as now approved for MS spasticity
  - Ibandronic acid (Bonviva®) – remove as now added to formulary
  - Liraglutide (Saxenda) for obesity – remove as now NICE TA approved and on formulary
  - Lurasidone – may need removing if approved by NTAG in Sept 2021.
  - Fulvestrant – remove as formulary status changed July 2021.
  - Hydrocortisone sodium phosphate (Efcortisol®) – remove as formulary status changed July 2021.
  - Ulpristal acetate 5mg (Esmya®) – add to DNP list as not approved on the formulary.

These updates were approved by the APC.

**ACTION:**

- **RDTC to arrange for approved version to be added to APC pages of NECS website.**
- **RDTC to update the online formulary with the approved changes.**

**19. County Durham & Darlington Primary Care DVT Pathway – amendment re number of scans**

The APC was made made aware of an issue of potential ambiguity within the County Durham & Darlington Primary Care DVT Pathway documentation

The front page of the DVT Pathway Investigation Proforma correctly states that a patient who has a Wells Score of 2 points or more (i.e. DVT likely) requires two scans, and those with a Wells Score of 1 point or less (i.e. DVT unlikely) just requires the one scan. However the back page of the document could be construed by some clinicians as suggesting that all patients require a second scan. The County Durham and Darlington DVT Pathway Information document could also be similarly misconstrued.

It was agreed to correct this ambiguity in these documents and notify GP practices in County Durham and Darlington of the update.

**ACTION:**

- **DR to correct the ambiguity in these documents and send them to be updated on GP Teamnet**
- **RDTC to arrange for approved version to be added to APC pages of NECS website.**
- **KH/AD to notify GP practice in County Durham and Darlington of the update.**

**Part 5 – Other Items of Business**

**20. CD&T Guidelines on Defining RAG Status – updated**

These guidelines were approved in September 2019 with a review date of September 2021. The updated version was approved by the APC.

The changes are as follows:

- **AMBER SI/SR (Green+ category) - to split this into two categories AMBER SI and AMBER SR for further clarity. Amber SI requires the first medication supply to be given by secondary care, but it was discussed and agreed that further work was required to define exactly the difference between AMBER SI and AMBER SR. It was suggested that AMBER SI drugs may require a review by the specialist following initiation of the drug**

before discharge to GP.

- Make reference to Shared Care for Medicines Guidance – A Standard Approach (RMOC) – 19th March 2021
- In RED drug definition delete: Medicines Rejected by NICE – these should be Black by default
- In RED drug definition delete: Medicines Where a Suitable Licensed Alternative is Available – to avoid any ambiguity/confusion as all prescribers should be prescribing licensed products where available including secondary care.
- Highlighted that NOT APPROVED (Black) drugs annotated as purple on formulary website due to IT constraints.

It was also agreed to specify under the AMBER SC category that the patient remains under the care of the specialist and is not fully discharged to the GP.

**ACTION:**

- **RDTc to arrange for approved version to be added to APC pages of NECS website, and the formulary website.**
- **RDTc to bring list of AMBER SI/SR drugs to November 2021 APC to aid discussion on further defining the difference between AMBER SI and AMBER SR drugs.**

**21. CD&T APC Declarations of Interest Policy – due for review.**

This policy was approved in September 2019 with a review date of September 2021. The APC agreed that no changes are required and extended the review date for a further 2 years. The APC also noted annual Declarations of Interest Forms were now due for all members and the RDTc will circulate an email to the membership requesting their completion prior to the next APC meeting.

**ACTION:**

- **RDTc to arrange for approved version to be added to APC pages of NECS website.**

**Part 6 – Standing Items (for information only)**

**22. Formulary Steering Group Minutes – June 2021**

For information.

**23. TEWV D&T Minutes – May 2021**

Not yet available.

**24. CDDFT Clinical Standards and Therapeutics Committee Minutes – since April 2021**

Not yet available.

**25. North Tees & Hartlepool Hospitals D&T Minutes – since May 2021**

Not yet available.

**26. South Tees Hospitals D&T Minutes – July 2021**

For information.

**27. RDTc Horizon Scanning – July & August 2021**

For information.

**28. NTAG Minutes – June 2021**

Not yet available.

**29. NE&C CCG Prescribing Forum Minutes – June 2021**

For information.

**30. NEAS Medicines Group Minutes – since November 2019**

Not yet available.

**31. South Tyneside & Sunderland APC Minutes – August 2021**

For information.

**32. TEWV Medicines Optimisation Annual Report 20-21**

For information.

**Chairman's Action**

- Dapagliflozin for Heart Failure Prescribing Guide – final version approved
- Tees Methotrexate SCG – updated to include dermatology
- Tees Rheumatology SCGs – extension of review date
- County Durham MDS Guidance – final version approved

**Any Other Business**

County Durham & Tees Valley APC Meeting Dates 2022

Circulated for information.

Vitamin B12 Guideline

The APC noted that South Tyneside & Sunderland APC have recently approved a Vitamin B12 guideline and the need for something similar in CD&T was discussed. Tees did used to have a vitamin B12 guideline and it was agreed to look at updating this for use across CD&T.

**ACTION:**

- **AD/RS to look at updating previous Tees Vitamin B12 guideline for use across CD&T.**

NICE TA723 – Bimekizumab for Treating Moderate to Severe Plaque Psoriasis

This NICE TA was issued on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 with a 30 day implementation period.

Bimekizumab is recommended as an option for treating plaque psoriasis in adults, only if:

- the disease is severe, as defined by a total Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) of 10 or more and a Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI) of more than 10 and
- the disease has not responded to other systemic treatments, including ciclosporin, methotrexate and phototherapy, or these options are contraindicated or not tolerated and
- the company provides the drug according to the commercial arrangement.

NICE do not expect this guidance to have a significant impact on resources; that is, the resource impact of implementing the recommendations in England will be less than £5 million per year in England (or approximately £9,000 per 100,000 population, based on a population for England of 56.3m people). This is because the technology is a further treatment option and is available at a similar price.

The APC agreed to add this indication to the formulary as a RED drug.

**ACTION:**

- **RDTC to update the online formulary with the approved change.**

LMC Letter re: General Guidelines For The Use Of Hormone Treatment In Gender Dysphoria

The APC received the letter from the regional LMC re the regional guidelines on gender dysphoria management, which were ratified by APCs across the North East & North Cumbria earlier this year.

The APC noted that this letter has been forward to NHSEI as the responsible commissioner for gender dysphoria to respond to the LMC. This because the letter is really about commissioning arrangements for gender dysphoria prescribing.

Letter re Prescribing of THC:CBD spray (Sativex®) in line with NICE NG144

The APC noted the letter dated 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 sent to Trusts and CCGs re Prescribing of THC:CBD spray (Sativex®) in line with NICE NG144 by the England Chief Pharmaceutical Officer.

The formulary currently reflects NG144, and shared care is place using North of Tyne APC and Sunderland shared care guidelines. It was agreed to confirm what the current situation was in STHFT around the prescribing of Sativex® in line with NICE NG144.

**ACTION:**

- **AL to confirm what the current situation was in STHFT around the prescribing of Sativex® in line with NICE NG144 and if they have a shared care guideline in place.**

Inclisiran for treating primary hypercholesterolaemia or mixed dyslipidaemia

The APC noted that this NICE TA is due in October 2021 and is expected to have a 30 day implementation period. It will have significant commissioning implications for primary care. Local Trusts indicated that they expect it to be used as RED drug first to enable specialists to gain experience of use, and could possibly be supplied via homecare.

Prescribing UK and Shared Care

Issues around Prescribing UK and requests to GPs to be prescribe shared care drugs were raised. It is was noted that the RDTC is producing an FAQ style document on Private Providers and Shared Care drugs which is currently with RMOC to consider adopting nationally. This document may address some of the issues that were raised.

**Date and time of next meeting:**

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021, 9am – 11.30am, virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams tele/videoconference – details to be circulated.