

County Durham and Tees Valley Area Prescribing Committee

Thursday 14th July 2022
9am – 11.30 am
Held Via Microsoft Teams

Present

Name	Job Title	Membership Capacity	Organisation	Nov 2021	Mar 2022	May 2022	Jul 2022
David Russell	GP Prescribing Lead (Darlington)	Clinician	Tees Valley	✓	✓	✓	✓
Angela Dixon	Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist	Pharmacist	Tees Valley	Deborah Giles	✓	Alastair Monk	✓
Peter Foster	GP Prescribing Lead	Clinician	County Durham	Apols	X	✓	✓
Kate Huddart	Senior Pharmaceutical Advisor	Pharmacist	County Durham	✓	✓	✓	Rachel Berry
Tim Rider	GP Prescribing Lead	Clinician	North Yorks	X	X	X	X
Susan Broughton	HRW Locality Lead Pharmacist	Pharmacist	North Yorks	Chris Ranson	Chris Ranson	Susan Broughton	Chris Ranson
Rupert Smith	GP Prescribing Lead	Chair of FSG	Tees Valley	✓	✓	✓	
James Carlton	Medical Director	Clinician	County Durham	Apols	Ian Davidson (Chair)	Ian Davidson (Chair)	✓
Janet Walker	Medical Director	Clinician	Tees Valley	✓	Apols	Apols	✓
Shafie Kamaruddin	Consultant & Chair of CSTC	Clinician	CDDFT	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jamie Harris	Chief Pharmacist	Pharmacist	CDDFT	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Clinician	NTHFT				
Chris Mallon	Formulary Pharmacist	Pharmacist	NTHFT		Naheem Majid	Naheem Majid	Naheem Majid
Andy Lloyd	Consultant & Chair of D&T	Clinician	STFT	✓	✓	✓	Apols
Helen Jones	Chief Pharmacist	Pharmacist	STFT	Tracy Percival	Tracy Percival	Tracy Percival	Tracy Percival
Baxi Sinha		Clinician	TEVVFT	✓	Resigned	Resigned	Resigned
Chris Williams	Chief Pharmacist	Pharmacist	TEVVFT	✓	✓	✓	✓
Julie Birch or Tanya Johnston	GP	LMC Rep		X	X	X	Debs White
Rob Pitt	Community Pharmacist	LPC Rep – County Durham		Apols		✓	✓
Brent Foster	Community Pharmacist	LPC Rep – Tees		X	X	X	X
Claire Jones	Public Health Pharmacist	Public Health Rep	Durham Council	Apols	✓	✓	X
Chris Cunnington - Shore		Service User Rep – County Durham		✓	Apols	Apols	X
		Service User Rep - Tees		X	X	X	X
Mark Pickering	Chief Finance Officer for Tees Valley	Commissioning & Finance Rep	Tees Valley	Apols	✓	✓	Apols
Rosie England	Chief Pharmacist	NEAS	NEAS	X	X	X	X

Gavin Mankin	Principal Pharmacist Medicines Management	Professional Secretary	Regional Drug & Therapeutics Centre, Newcastle	✓	✓	✓	✓
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In attendance

Jane Ingram – RDTC Admin Support – sharing papers on screen via 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:

Kate Huddart, Andy Lloyd, Mark Pickering

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. Nominations and Appointment of new APC Chair

Following a vote by members Dr Rupert Smith was appointed as the new APC Chair.

Dr Shafie Kamaruddin will continue as the Vice-Chair.

4. Minutes and Decision Summary of the Previous APC Meeting Held on 12th May 2022

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

The decision summary of the May 2022 meeting was accepted as a true and accurate record.

5. Matters Arising Not On the Agenda

Nil.

6. Action Log

TEWV Bipolar disorder under 18s prescribing tips FINAL DRAFT for APCs

Added link to guideline on APC website, and on the formulary website. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

TEWV Dementia Care Pathway AChEI decision aid – updated RDTC

Added link to guideline on APC website, and on the formulary website. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

NICE TAs and MHRA Drug Safety Update – February & March 2022

NICE TA769 (Palforzia) and TA775 (Dapagliflozin for CKD) which where approve financial

threshold of APC decision making have now been approved by the former County Durham and Tees Valley CCG Executive Committees following the May 2022 APC.

CD&T APC Vitamins and Minerals Guidance

Added link to guideline on APC website, and on the formulary website. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

Inclisiran update

CCG MO Teams have raised awareness to primary care locally of the potential for secondary care initiation of inclisiran and the risks to primary care this might pose. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

CD&T APC Position Statement on Flash Glucose Monitoring following updated NICE guidance.

Approved version circulated. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

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

NTAG at their June 2022 meeting supported regional adoption of the updated NICE type 2 diabetes guidelines. This has been approved by the ICB Executive from a finance perspective this week and a meeting is being arranged with Diabetes Network on implementation.

Review of CD&T APC Terms of Reference

No further update available on identifying clinical representation from NTHFT to APC. NTHFT are in the process of appointing a new Chief Pharmacist.

Hydroxychloroquine SCG

The national shared care guideline was published on the 8th July 2022. Early discussions are underway to discuss how to implement/adopt the national SCG across the NENC.

Vitamin B12 Guideline

RS continuing to look at updating previous Tees Vitamin B12 guideline for use across CD&T and a working group is being arranged to meet in September 2022.

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

STHFT are still awaiting an application to use THC:CBD spray (Sativex®) in line with NICE NG144 from their neurologists.

TEWV Risperidone LAI SCG

Added link to guideline on APC website, and on the formulary website. ITEM NOW CLOSED.

TEWV Anxiety Guidelines – updated

RDTG to add link to updated TEWV Anxiety Guidelines on APC website, and on the formulary website. RDTG Apr 2022 Not yet published on TEWV website.

Cinacalcet SCG – reviewed

Awaiting sign off from NY CCG before adding approved version to be added to APC pages of NECS website.

DOACs formulary position following national procurement

Regional decision aid approved at June 2022 NTAG to support clinicians in choosing the most appropriate DOAC for a particular patient.

7. Review of APC Terms of Reference and Membership (incl Trust Finance representation)

The APC reviewed its Terms of Reference and Membership now that CCGs have been replaced by the NENC ICB as of 1st July 2022.

The ICB structures around medicines optimisation are still to be finalised.

For now, APC to continue as is until more is known of ICB medicines structure and decision making around medicines including any delegated authority to the APC. Both Janet Walker and James Carlton will attend APC from the ICB medical directorate covering Tees Valley and

County Durham respectively so they can take APC decision back to place and ICB as necessary in the interim.

Part 2 – Mental Health

8. TEWV Drug & Therapeutics Committee Feedback – May 2022

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

9. TEWV Prescribing drugs with potential to prolong QTc

A new treatment guideline from TEWV for prescribing drugs with potential to prolong QTc was presented to the APC for comment. The document is intended for use by both TEWV staff and primary care.

The document was supported by the APC subject to a clear summary being added for GPs.

ACTION:

- RDTC to add link to guideline on APC website once approved by TEWV D&T, and on the formulary website.

Part 3 – Formulary Issues

10. Appeals Against Previous APC Decisions

Nil for this meeting.

11. NICE TAs and MHRA Drug Safety Update – April & May 2022

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

NICE Technology Appraisal/Guidance Title and date published	Date issued	Current formulary status	Recommended action for APC
TA783: Daratumumab monotherapy for treating relapsed and refractory multiple myeloma Commissioner: NHSE	13/04/22	Listed as RED drug in chapter 8.1.5	Add to formulary as a red drug in this indication, with link to TA783.
TA784: Niraparib for maintenance treatment of relapsed, platinum-sensitive ovarian, fallopian tube and peritoneal cancer Commissioning: NHSE	20/04/2022	Listed as RED drug in chapter 8.2.4	Add to formulary as a red drug in this indication, with link to TA784.
TA785: Nivolumab with cabozantinib for untreated advanced renal cell carcinoma (terminated appraisal) Commissioning: NHSE	20/04/2022	Listed as RED drug in chapter 8.2.4	No action.
TA786: Tucatinib with trastuzumab and capecitabine for treating HER2-positive advanced breast cancer after 2 or more anti-HER2 therapies Commissioning: NHSE	27/04/2022	Not currently listed.	Add to formulary as a red drug in this indication, with link to TA786.
TA787: Venetoclax with low dose cytarabine for untreated acute myeloid leukaemia when intensive chemotherapy is unsuitable Commissioning: NHSE	27/04/2022	Listed as RED drug in chapter 8.1.5	Add to formulary as a red drug in this indication, with link to TA787.
HST19: Elosulfase alfa for treating mucopolysaccharidosis type 4A Commissioning: NHSE	20/04/22	Not currently listed.	Add to formulary as a red drug in this indication, with link to HST19. Remove any links to HST2.
TA788: Avelumab for maintenance treatment of locally advanced or metastatic urothelial cancer after platinum-based chemotherapy Commissioning: NHSE	11/05/22	GREEN drug in chapter 8.2.3	Add to formulary as a red drug in this indication, with link to TA788.

TA789: Tepotinib for treating advanced non-small-cell lung cancer with MET gene alterations Commissioning: NHSE	18/05/22	Not currently listed in chapter 8.1.5	Add to formulary as a red drug in this indication, with link to TA789.
TA791: Romosozumab for treating severe osteoporosis Commissioning: ICS/CCG	25/05/22	Not currently listed in Chapter 6.6.2.2	Add to formulary as a red drug in this indication, with link to TA791.
HST20: Selumetinib for treating symptomatic and inoperable plexiform neurofibromas associated with type 1 neurofibromatosis in children aged 3 and over Commissioning: NHSE	05/05/22	Not currently listed in chapter 8.1.5	Add to formulary as a red drug in this indication, with link to HST 20.
Drug Safety Advice	Date issued	Current formulary status	Recommended action for APC
Pregabalin (Lyrica): findings of safety study on risks during pregnancy	19/04/2022	GREEN drug in chapter 4.7.3 GREEN+ drug in chapter 4.8.1	Add link to MHRA advice to formulary against all pregabalin entries.
Denosumab 60mg (Prolia): should not be used in patients under 18 years due to the risk of serious hypercalcaemia	17/05/22	GREEN+ drug in chapter 6.6.2.2.	Add link to MHRA advice to formulary.
Requested formulary amendments	BNF Chapter	Reasoning	Recommended action for APC
Denosumab Xgeva® Injection Commissioning: CCG, tariff included	6.6.2.2	Been asked to you confirm the formulary status of Xgeva 120mg/1.7ml (denosumab). License: o Prevention of skeletal related events (pathological fracture, radiation to bone, spinal cord compression or surgery to bone) in adults with advanced malignancies involving bone OR Treatment of adults and skeletally mature adolescents with giant cell tumour of bone that is unresectable or where surgical resection is likely to result in severe morbidity. Confirmed treated as in tariff RED drug by Trusts.	Add Xgeva® to the formulary as RED drug.

<p>Topical-testosterone-for-management-of-Low-libido-in-menopausal-women</p> <p>Commissioning: CCG, tariff included</p>		<p>Suggestion at FSG meeting in Feb 2022 to consider adopting North Yorkshire & York APC guidance for Topical-testosterone-for-management-of-Low-libido-in-menopausal-women in County Durham & Tees Valley in lieu of local formulary application.</p> <p>NICE Guideline NG23 Menopause: diagnosis and management, published in November 2015 states: Consider testosterone supplementation for menopausal women with low sexual desire if HRT alone is not effective</p>	<p>Add Testim gel and Totstran 2% to formulary as GREEN drugs.</p>
<p>Lixisenatide</p> <p>Commissioning: CCG, tariff included</p>		<p>To update the formulary to reflect the Discontinuation of Lixisenatide starter packs and 10microgram strength as of June 2022. Only the 20microgram strength remains available for existing patients.</p> <p>No new patients should be started on lixisenatide</p> <p>Currently lixisenatide is the first choice GLP1 on the formulary and this should be changed to</p>	<p>To remove lixisenatide from formulary for new patients. To remain on the formulary for existing patients only.</p> <p>To list of GLP1s equally</p>

It was noted that the following NICE TAs have cost impact above the delegated authority of the APC so will be subject to contracting agreement between Trusts and the ICB:

- TA791: Romosozumab for treating severe osteoporosis

ACTION:

- **JW/JC to take NICE TA791 to ICB for contracting final sign off.**
- **RDTC to update the online formulary with the approved changes.**

12. New Drug Applications

Nil this month.

13. NTAG Update

An update on the June 2022 NTAG meeting was given. The formulary will reflect the latest NTAG recommendations.

- Budesonide orodispersible for Maintenance Treatment of Eosinophilic Oesophagitis – to add to formulary as AMBER specialist initiation drug and to remain RED when used for induction of remission as per NICE TA.
- Position Statement on Biosimilars (new)
- Flash Glucose Recommendation (updated) – currently with NENC Value Based Commissioning Group for VBC policy to be updated.
- i-Port Advance® Recommendation (updated) – currently with NENC Value Based Commissioning Group for VBC policy to be updated.
- SGLT2i Top tips in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus - updated version approved by NTAG adopted by the APC.
- SGLT2i Top tips in Heart Failure - new document approved by NTAG adopted by the

APC.

- SGLT2i Top tips in Chronic Kidney Disease - new document approved by NTAG adopted by the APC.
- NENC Decision Aid for DOACs in AF - new document produced by NTAG and Cardiac Network to support prescribers in choosing the most appropriate DOAC for a particular patient adopted by the APC.
- NTAG Annual Report 2021/22 - received for information.
- NTAG Workplan - received for information.

14. RMOC Update

Still awaiting first meeting of new RMOC North East & Yorkshire Committee.

The national Shared Care templates for 19 drugs have now been signed off and published by NHSE. Initial discussions have started in the NENC on how to adopt/implement these and will be discussed further at September 2022 APC.

15. CDDFT CSTC Update

Verbal update given. No issues to raise that impact on primary/secondary care interface.

16. NTHFT D&T Update

Verbal update given. Awaiting to appoint new D&T Chair and next meeting is in 2 weeks' time.

17. STHFT D&T Update

A verbal update on the July 2022 D&T meeting was given.

18. 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)

19. Management of Hypomagnesaemia in Adults in Primary Care – updated APC guidance

This guidance was due a review. It has been reformatted and reference checked with minor changes.

The APC approved the updated guideline subject to clarification around timing of monitoring.

ACTION:

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

20. Northern England Evaluation and Lipid Intensification Guideline (updated)

The new regional guidance including the use of inclisiran was adopted by the APC.

ACTION:

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

21. Calculating Renal Function of DOACs – new APC guidance

An APC position statement was presented to and approved by the APC subject to clarifying wording around which GP systems are affected.

The APC recognises that current Creatinine Clearance (CrCl) calculators embedded within GP IT systems do not give a reliable estimate of CrCl for the adjustment of DOAC doses and should not be used. The APC recommends the use of the MD+CALC Cockcroft-Gault equation.

ACTION:

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

Part 5 – Other Items of Business

22. Update on Valproate Safe Prescribing for GP practices

An update from the APC to primary care in County Durham and Tees Valley to provide reassurance that this issue is actively being looked at was presented to and approved by the APC.

It was noted that CDDFT and NTHFT do not initiate new patients on valproate containing medicines.

It was agreed to contact Newcastle hospitals to add their contact details and information on how they handle enquires from GPs regarding ARAF forms.

ACTION:

- **RB to contact Newcastle hospitals to add their contact details and information on how they handle enquires from GPs regarding ARAF forms prior to circulating final approved version of document to primary care in County Durham and Tees Valley.**

23. Overprescribing / Deprescribing

No update for this meeting.

24. Ongoing Issue Around Transfer of Shared Care Drugs

The APC discussed at length a number of ongoing issues that have been raised within County Durham around the transfer of shared care drugs.

After discussion it was felt that at present that there is not a widespread issue across the APC patch. Data in both place areas with specific examples of the issues raised will be reviewed to reassess this view. Durham will continue some internal work. The APC agreed to review this again in two months' time. A working group could be set up to look at the issue if needed and also look at local implementation of the national shared care guidelines which have just been published.

With regard to the eighteen national shared care guidelines that have just been published the APC supported looking at adoption/implementation across the NENC as a whole, possibly beginning with the DMARDs as these local SCGs are overdue review and sodium valproate as this is a pressing safety issue. It was felt the adult ADHD drugs and lithium could wait until local SCGs came up for review as these local SCGs have all recently been reviewed.

Part 6 – Standing Items (for information only)

25. Formulary Steering Group Minutes – April 2022

For information.

26. TEWV D&T Minutes – March 2022

For information.

27. CDDFT Clinical Standards and Therapeutics Committee Minutes – since October 2021

Not yet available.

28. North Tees & Hartlepool Hospitals D&T Minutes – since July 2021

Not yet available.

29. South Tees Hospitals D&T Minutes – January + March 2022+May 2022

For information.

30. RDTC Horizon Scanning – May & June 2022

For information.

31. NTAG Minutes – February 2022

For information.

32. NENC Prescribing Forum Minutes – April 2022

For information.

33. South Tyneside & Sunderland APC Minutes – June 2022

For information.

Chairman's Action

- TEWV Dementia care pathway AChEI decision aid Paediatric Asthma and Adult COPD Guidelines – final version with suggested amendments from May 2022 APC approved.

Any Other Business

Metformin sachets

Approved for addition to the formulary as a GREEN drug as more cost effective than oral liquid.

CMDU Capacity Issues

The APC noted the current capacity issues within local CMDU units. It noted the ongoing discussions within County Durham and Tees, and with the ICB to put in place some extra capacity particularly to triage patients to assess their need and eligibility for COVID antivirals. The APC also discussed the appetite from primary care to provide a CMDU service in the longer term.

Date and time of next meeting:

Thursday 8th September 2022, 9am – 11.30am, virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams tele/videoconference – details to be circulated.