

Minutes of the **Somerset Prescribing Forum** held via Microsoft Teams, on  
**Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022.**

Present:	Dr Andrew Tresidder (AT)	Chair, NHS Somerset GP Patient Safety Lead
	Steve DuBois (SDB)	Associate Director of Pharmacy - Mental Health and Community Health Services, Head of Medicines Management & CD Accountable Officer, Somerset NHSFT
	Shaun Green (SG)	Deputy Director of Clinical Effectiveness and Medicines Management, NHS Somerset
	Sam Morris (SM)	Medicines Manager, NHS Somerset
	Andrew Prowse (AP)	Director of Pharmacy, Somerset NHSFT
	Dr Carla Robinson (CR)	Public Health Registrar, Somerset County Council
	Caroline Taylor (CT)	Prescribing Technician, NHS Somerset
Apologies:	Dr Clare Barlow (CB)	Chair D&TC, Somerset NHSFT
	Jean Perry (JP)	Contracts Manager, NHS Somerset

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

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 ICB'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 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

4.1 The Minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May were agreed as a correct record.

4.2 **Review of action points**

Actions are either complete or in process.

5 **Matters Arising**

-Nothing to raise

6 **Other Issues for Discussion**

-None

7 **Other Issues for Noting**

7.1 **Long term conditions guidance and recovery**

Now into an Integrated Care Board (ICB) with the focus on system recovery post-COVID.

Useful guidance, highlighting some of the areas we have been focusing on as a medicines optimisation system: respiratory, CVD, diabetes, and mental health.

Now looking at how we manage better long-term conditions and how we also do the preventative work.

-Noted

7.2 **End of year PAMM report**

Useful to note and an opportunity to flag the work the MMT carry out.

Ongoing issues around workforce recruitment highlighted.

-Noted

8 **Additional Communications for Noting**

These are items shared by the MMT with primary care colleagues, which may be of interest for trusts and the wider system.

8.1 **Prescribable Real time CGM (GlucoRX Aidex) and freestyle libre for type 1 diabetics – update**

-Noted

8.2 **Linezolid - RED drug**

-Noted

8.3 **Stop Nicorandil in ulcer patients**

-Noted

8.4 **Re-instatement of shared care for prescribing of Dementia drugs**

Somerset shared care guidance previously retired has been reinstated.

Taking forward discussions around making sure the SCG is reviewed, updating it with comments from the LMC and specialists and NICE guidelines for best practice.

-Noted

**8.5 CGM for type 2 diabetics on multiple daily insulin injections**

-Noted

**8.6 Referrals to Sleepstation**

A non-medical intervention, designed to help people who have trouble sleeping. Could prevent the initiation of medication.

-Noted

**8.7 Apixaban: DOAC patent challenge update**

Await any changes from National Guidance. Maintain the position edoxaban remains 1<sup>st</sup> line.

-Noted

**8.8 Inhaler scorecard indicators**

Ongoing work on this. Savings to be made, as financial pressures in Somerset.

-Noted

**9 Formulary Applications**

**9.1 Feraccru, Ferric Maltol caps, Norgine**

Request from YDH to change TLS from **RED** to **GREEN**

Agreed at PAMM June meeting.

Approved as **GREEN** for use in Somerset, in accordance with the SOP.

**Change TLS to **GREEN** for use in Somerset, in accordance with the SOP**

**Action: ZTW**

**Provide YDH house style templates to SM to enable adding SOP to NHS Somerset website to show joint acceptance**

**Action: AP**

**9.2 Ryeqo 40mg/1mg/0.5mg film-coated tablets, 40 mg relugolix, 1 mg estradiol (as hemihydrate), and 0.5 mg norethisterone acetate, Gedeon Richter Ltd.**

Indicated for treatment of moderate to severe symptoms of uterine fibroids in adult women of reproductive age.

Agreed by PAMM at June meeting.

Approved

**Add to TLS **RED****

**Action: ZTW**

**9.3 ClinOptic™ HA 0.1% and 0.21% sodium hyaluronate, P/F, ADAPt Pharma. 10ml £4.15**

- Indicated for the relief of mild dry eye symptoms and contact lens irritation.  
 Agreed by PAMM at June meeting.  
 Approved  
**Add to formulary** **Action: EK**
- 9.4 **Rebrikel, Buprenorphine transdermal patches, Zentiva, Controlled Drug.**  
 Agreed by PAMM at June meeting.  
 Approved  
**Add to formulary** **Action: EK**  
**Add to scorecard project positive list** **Action: EW**
- 9.5 **Opiodur, Fentanyl transdermal patches, Zentiva, Controlled Drug.**  
 Agreed by PAMM at June meeting.  
 Approved  
**Add to formulary** **Action: EK**  
**Add to scorecard project positive list** **Action: EW**
- 9.6 **Klisyri, ▼ Tirbanibulin 10mg/g ointment**  
 Request from YDH as **GREEN** drug.  
 Agreed by PAMM at June meeting  
 Approved  
**Add to formulary** **Action: EK**  
**Add to TLS GREEN** **Action: ZTW**
- 9.7 **Trimbow (beclomethasone/formoterol glycopyrronium) pMDI 172 micrograms/5 micrograms/9 micrograms pressurised inhalation, solution**  
 Approved (not as a preferred product)  
**Add to formulary** **Action: EK**
- 9.8 **Dexcom One Continuous Glucose Monitoring system rtCGM**  
 Dexcom One approved as second line for adults and children 14+ and first line for younger age group 4-14 years.  
 GlucoRx Aidex remains first line rtCGM for diabetics 14yrs and above  
**Add to formulary** **Action: EK**  
**Add to TLS GREEN** **Action: ZTW**
- 9.9 **Tamsulosin 400mcg/ Dutasteride 500mcg capsules, generic**  
 Cost-effective combination product. Better for environment reducing carbon-footprint as less packaging, and reduces patients tablet burden.  
 Approved  
**Add dutasteride 500mcg to formulary**  
**Add tamsulosin 400mcg/dutasteride 500mcg capsules combination product to formulary** **Action: EK**

9.10 **Empagliflozin for Heart Failure (HF)**

Indicated in adults for the treatment of symptomatic chronic HF with preserved ejection fraction.

Approved this extended use

**Add to formulary**

**Action: EK**

9.11 **Ranibizumab (Ongavia) ▼ 10 mg/ml solution for injection**

MHRA have granted a licence for Ongavia® ▼ (ranibizumab), a biosimilar to Lucentis®, for the treatment of (wet) age-related macular degeneration (AMD) and several other eye diseases, such as diabetic macular oedema and proliferative diabetic retinopathy. AMD is a leading cause of blindness for working age adults with uncontrolled diabetes.

AP to take to trust D&TC. Already liaised with ophthalmologists who have agreed to this switch.

**Approved· Add to TLS RED drug.**

**Action: ZTW**

9.12 **Epival CR 300 mg & 500mg prolonged-release tablets ▼ (prolonged release sodium valproate)\_Gerot Lannach UK Limited**

Licensed for both epilepsy and bipolar disorder.

Discussions held with trust epilepsy nurse specialist, no objections to this becoming a formulary product.

Approved

**Add to formulary**

**Action: EK**

**Add to TLS AMBER drug**

**Action: ZTW**

**10 DTC decisions and other reports**

10.1 **Somerset NHS Foundation Trust Mental Health D&TC** - Last meeting 07/06/22 verbal update given

- MAOIs discussed. Trust is seeing an increase in referrals from GPs.
- The group are happy with the benzodiazepine tapering documents which have been produced by the MMT.
- Flagged the chlordiazepoxide (Librium®) warning around contraception in men and women.

10.2 **YDH Medicines Committee** – last meeting 13/07/22

Verbal update given

- The trust has rationalised the heparin products they use
- SM raised whether a discussion has taken place around the issuing of Covid treatments i.e., antivirals, and the trust process for checking if a patient is pregnant or breastfeeding. AP informed that the guidance used is based on the National Guidance.

Capacity allowing, SM to feedback further on the covid documents for consideration.

- 10.3 **Somerset NHSFT D&TC** - Last meeting -14/05/22  
-Nothing to note
- 10.4 **Somerset Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee** - Next meeting TBC
- 10.5 **Somerset ICS Medicines Optimisation (SIMO) Committee** - Last meeting 15/06/2022 draft Minutes received
- Discussions took place around discharge. An internal audit has picked up some of the solutions that potentially need to be investigated and some of the concerns from a primary care perspective.
  - Business case for more pharmacy resource to enable pharmacy to be involved in discharge process.
- 10.6 **Regional Medicines Optimisation Committee (Southwest)** - Last meeting 08/06/2022
- AT unable to attend but agenda shared with group
  - Item on repurposing of medication which is a national issue.

## Part 2 – Items for Information or Noting

- 11 **NICE Guidance May & June**  
-Noted
- 12 **NICE Technology Appraisals**
- 12.1 **[TA788] Avelumab for maintenance treatment of locally advanced or metastatic urothelial cancer after platinum-based chemotherapy** -New  
-Approved  
**NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS RED Drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.2 **[TA789] Tepotinib for treating advanced non-small-cell lung cancer with MET gene alterations** -New  
-Approved  
**NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS RED Drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.3 **[TA791] Romosozumab for treating severe osteoporosis** -New  
Request to look at this early. Approved virtually pre-meeting.  
Added Romosozumab to formulary for commissioned use from 01/06/2022.  
**ICS commissioned. Providers are NHS hospital trusts and primary care providers.**  
**Add to TLS RED drug-12 months treatment as per NICE TA791 with PAS and process in place to ensure no prescriptions past 12 months.**  
**Action: ZTW**

- 12.4 **[TA790] TYRX Absorbable Antibacterial Envelope for preventing infection from cardiac implantable electronic devices (terminated appraisal)**
- 12.5 **[TA792] Filgotinib for treating moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis** - New
- Approved  
ICS Commissioned. Add to TLS **RED** Drug Action: ZTW
- 12.6 **[TA795] Ibrutinib for treating Waldenstrom's macroglobulinaemia** -New
- Add to TLS Not Recommended Action: ZTW
- 12.7 **[TA794] Diroximel fumarate for treating relapsing–remitting multiple sclerosis** - New
- Approved  
NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS **RED** Drug Action: ZTW
- 12.8 **[TA793] Anifrolumab for treating active autoantibody-positive systemic lupus erythematosus (terminated appraisal)**
- Noted
- 12.9 **[TA797] Enfortumab vedotin for previously treated locally advanced or metastatic urothelial cancer (terminated appraisal)**
- Noted
- 12.10 **[TA796] Venetoclax for treating chronic lymphocytic leukaemia** -New
- Approved  
NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS **RED** Drug Action: ZTW
- 12.11 **[TA798] Durvalumab for maintenance treatment of unresectable non-small-cell lung cancer after platinum-based chemoradiation** - New
- Approved  
NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS **RED** Drug Action: ZTW
- 12.12 **[TA800] Faricimab for treating wet age-related macular degeneration** - New
- Approved  
ICS Commissioned. Add to TLS **RED** Drug Action: ZTW
- 12.13 **[TA799] Faricimab for treating diabetic macular oedema** -New

- Approved  
**ICS Commissioned. Add to TLS RED Drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.14 **[TA801] Pembrolizumab plus chemotherapy for untreated, triple-negative, locally recurrent unresectable or metastatic breast cancer** -  
 New  
 -Approved  
**NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS RED Drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.15 **[TA802] Cemiplimab for treating advanced cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma** - New  
 -Approved  
**NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS RED Drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.16 **[TA804] Teduglutide for treating short bowel syndrome** - New  
 -Approved  
**NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS RED Drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.17 **See item 12.22**
- 12.18 **[HST21] Setmelanotide for treating obesity caused by LEPR or POMC deficiency** -New  
 -Noted
- 12.19 **TA10765 (In development) Semaglutide for managing overweight and obesity [ID3850]**  
 Bringing early to SPF. Will be licensed for diabetic and non-diabetic patients. Discussions had, place as RED drug. Open to moving to AMBER with a shared care once pathway in place.  
 Nominal (existing in name only) approval given based upon the FAD
- 12.20 **[TA808] Fenfluramine for treating seizures associated with Dravet syndrome** - New  
 -Approved  
**NHSE Commissioned. Add to TLS RED drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.21 **TA10856 (In development) Upadacitinib, abrocitinib and tralokinumab for dermatitis**  
 Conditional approval given rather than approval  
 Bring back to September's meeting to review once TA issued by NICE  
**Action: CT**



- 12.22 **[TA805] Icosapent ethyl with statin therapy for reducing the risk of cardiovascular events in people with raised triglycerides** -New  
 Approved for patient's fitting the NICE criteria  
**Commissioned by ICS. Providers are primary care and NHS hospital trusts. Add to TLS GREEN Drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.23 **[TA806] Belimumab for treating lupus nephritis (terminated appraisal)**  
 -Noted
- 12.24 **[TA807] Roxadustat for treating symptomatic anaemia in chronic kidney disease** -New  
**Released on meeting day**  
 Approved  
**Commissioned by ICS. Add to TLS RED drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 12.25 **[TA803] Risankizumab for treating active psoriatic arthritis after inadequate response to DMARDs** - New  
**Released on meeting day**  
 Approved  
**Commissioned by ICS. Add to TLS RED drug** **Action: ZTW**
- 13 NICE Clinical Guidance**
- 13.1 **[NG218] Vaccine uptake in the general population** -New  
 Good to have a clear written document.  
 CR will put forward to the Public Health vaccinating lead.  
 -Noted
- 13.2 **[NG191] COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing COVID-19** -Update  
 -Noted
- 13.3 **[MTG70] Sleepio to treat insomnia and insomnia symptoms** -New  
 Aid for primary care to signpost patients.  
 -Noted
- 13.4 **[NG216] Social work with adults experiencing complex needs** -New  
 Guidance forwarded to the mental health and social care teams in Somerset.  
 -Noted
- 13.5 **[NG219] Gout: diagnosis and management** - New  
 -Reviewed

**Add NICE guidance link to formulary Chapter 10.1 – Drugs used in  
Rheumatic Disease and Gout**

**Action: EK**

- 13.6 **[NG25] Preterm labour and birth** - Updated  
-Noted
- 13.7 **[NG221] Reducing sexually transmitted infections** -New  
SWISH offer online home STI testing which includes chlamydia, gonorrhoea, HIV and syphilis.  
SWISH to review guidance  
-Noted
- 13.8 **[NG220] Multiple sclerosis in adults: management** - New  
SM is looking at the anticholinergic burden of bladder drugs and the need for support with bladder symptoms for MS patients. Important that we treat these patients holistically.  
Ensure that specialists and GPs review bladder drugs appropriately for effectiveness and on-going need with the option for drug holidays.  
-Noted
- 13.9 **[NG200] COVID-19 rapid guideline: vaccine-induced immune thrombocytopenia and thrombosis (VITT)** - Update  
-Noted
- 13.10 **[NG222] Depression in adults: treatment and management** - New  
**Review guidance and ensure formulary is up to date.** **Action: EK**  
**Take to mental health** **Action: SDB**  
-Noted
- 13.11 **[NG17] Type 1 diabetes in adults: diagnosis and management** -Update  
-Noted
- 13.12 **[NG18] Diabetes (type 1 and type 2) in children and young people: diagnosis and management** -Update  
-Noted
- 13.13 **[NG28] Type 2 diabetes in adults: management** -Update  
-Noted

13.14 **[NG223] Social, emotional and mental wellbeing in primary and secondary education** -New

Guidance passed onto the Education Team  
-Noted

13.15 **[CG191] Pneumonia in adults: diagnosis and management** - Update

Guideline reinstated, temporarily withdrawn May 2020 because of COVID-19 pandemic, plans to update.

-Noted

**14 Specialist Commissioning**

14.1 Brought back from Mays meeting

As a system wide approach develops, raising awareness to this committee that certain specialist commissioning conditions and drugs will get delegated back to us.

Somerset decision not to have Blueteq (NHS England's standard electronic contractual prior approval system, covering a range of high-cost drugs excluded from tariff).

NHSE will not pay for drugs unless all the right boxes on the Blueteq form have been ticked.

If we get specialist commissioning drugs back, do we have the expertise at this committee or any committee to look at them and how they are being used?

A business plan will be needed. Do we wait until April 2023?

Currently, no communication received from NHSE around specialist commissioning circulars.

**15 Risk review and management**

15.1 **Risk review and Management - COVID 19**

-Nothing to note

NICE approved Icosapent ethyl which will bring a high-cost burden.

**16 Safety Items, NPSA Alerts and Signals**

16.1 **MHRA Drug Safety Update May & June**

-Noted

16.2 **Recall of Accupro (quinapril hydrochloride)**

-Noted

16.3 **Xagrid (anagrelide-hydrochloride) risk of thrombosis if treatment discontinued abruptly**

-Noted

16.4 **Denosumab 60mg (Prolia): should not be used in patients under 18 years due to the risk of serious hypercalcaemia**

-Noted

16.5 **Metformin and reduced vitamin B12 levels: new advice for monitoring patients at risk**

Increased risk of deficiency of B12 in pregnancy.

Optimal care pre-pregnancy planning meeting corrected deficiencies, important to correct prior to pregnancy where possible, annual reviews will aid this when annual bloods are taken.

-Noted

16.6 **Roche Accu-Chek Insight insulin pump with NovoRapid PumpCart insulin cartridges: alert following cases of insulin leakage**

Diabetes teams have been managing these

-Noted

**17 High-Cost Drugs**

17.1 **SFT Pbr excluded drugs M1-M2 (22/23)**

Data produced from Business Intelligence (BI) for the first time in a couple of years.

-Noted

17.2 **YDH Pbr excluded drugs M1-M2 (22/23)**

Data produced from Business Intelligence (BI) for the first time in a couple of years.

Botox is no longer a Pbr excluded drug, needs to be removed.

**SG to share BI spreadsheets with AP**

**Action: SG**

-Noted

**18 Any Other Business**

- 18.1
- SG raised that he is keen that we have the right people here at SPF. We may need to expand the remit slightly to get other people onboard.

**Add to September's agenda under matters arising: Discuss membership**

**Action: CT**

- Carla informed the group this is her last SPF meeting. There will be continuity from Public Health as either OD or another of Carla's colleagues will attend. Carla will e-mail in due course.
- AP going forward, is looking at the D&TC and medicines committee merging Musgrove with YDH from January 2023.

- AT on behalf of the panel, thanked Carla for all that she has done over the last 18 months. Being very diligent, reading all the papers and giving us very valuable, valid, and esteemed comments. Thank you very much.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

14<sup>th</sup> September 2022

16<sup>th</sup> November 2022