



Berkshire West Area Prescribing Committee (BWAPC)

**NHS Berkshire West Area Prescribing Committee
Minutes of Meeting held on 5th November 2014
Room G29/G30, 57/59 Bath Road, Reading, RG30 2BA**

Attendance:

[REDACTED]

1. Chairman's Introduction

[REDACTED] welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

[REDACTED]

3. Pecuniary Interests

No declarations received.

4. Minutes of the APC meeting held on 3rd September 2014

The minutes were agreed as accurate.

5. Matters Arising from Meeting on 3rd September 2014 not Included in Main Items

Vesomni® – Appeal by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was dissatisfied that the APC had upheld their decision regarding the prescribing of Vesomni® and has asked for a formal appeal. This will be

conducted by Berkshire East CCGs Effective Prescribing Committee.

The Prescribing of Melatonin in Primary Care: ■ is working on shared care for adult ADHD patients requiring melatonin and will bring to the APC once complete.

Update 02/07/14

■ will bring this paper to the November APC Meeting.

Update 03/09/14

■ will bring this paper to the November APC meeting.

Update 05/11/14

The paper has been circulated to the group. Any comments to be sent to ■

5.1 Nalmefene for the reduction of alcohol consumption in adult patients with alcohol dependence with a high drinking risk level

■ has sent paper to DAT Commissioners for comments and will bring to September APC meeting.

Update 03/09/14

■ has circulated papers to Drug and Alcohol Teams for comment and will bring to November APC meeting.

Update 05/11/14

The DAAT feel this should sit with Public Health, ■ has contact local Public Health leads but has not had a response.

It was agreed that this should remain with DAAT as part of care package initiated by DAAT and be low priority in primary care.

■ would inform Mental Health Commissioners that APC do not recommend its use in primary care.

5.2 NOAC policy for discussion in light of NICE guidance

Currently Warfarin is 1st line, but latest NICE guidance makes clear that the policy currently used (BW APC NOAC Policy) needs to be amended.

Warfarin is the recommended first line oral anticoagulant however warfarin and all 3 available NOACs should be first line. NICE have issued a patient decision aid document for patients and GPs to use to determine the most appropriate treatment for the patient.

■ will reword the policy and bring to November meeting.

■ will put the cost implication of this on the Risk Register.

■ discuss at next Medicines Optimisation Committee how to arrange more training for GPs in the use of NOACs and how to upskill at least one GP in each Practice.

It was agreed that it would be helpful to have a simple statement showing the difference between Warfarin v NOACs, this would need to be agreed with stroke/cardiac specialists and would need to be in line with NICE guidance. A similar statement could also be developed for other drugs. ■ will look at the development of this and update on progress in November.

Update 05/11/14

The updated document circulated to the group by ■ was agreed.

■ suggested that the simple document produced by Oxford comparing Warfarin and NOACs could be adopted by Berkshire West. ■ would circulated to the group.

5.3 **Appeal on Picato Gel: information from ■■■■■**

This was reviewed by APC last year and the decision was not to recommend the use of Picato Gel. Dermatologists have now asked to have this decision reconsidered and submitted evidence not previously considered. This included:

- Clinical effectiveness data
- The fact that treatment can be completed in a few days
- The fact that the price is in line with other available treatments

There were some concerns about long term safety however the decision was made to support use in primary care for 6 months. The MOT would audit results and bring back to APC with a general review of all similar treatments.

Action: Policy to be taken to GP's MOC for ratification and then published on Netformulary.

Action: The MOT to audit results and bring back to APC with general review of all similar treatments.

5.4 **January 2015 APC Topics**

- Certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®) for treating psoriatic arthritis
- Empagliflozin for type 2 diabetes and NICE ESMN for empagliflozin
- SGLT2 comparison paper
- Application for NuvaRing to be added to Formulary
- Rifaximin for the reduction of hepatic encephalopathy
- Application for Jaydess to be added to Formulary
- Implementation of NICE TA 318: Lubiprostone for treating chronic

idiopathic constipation

- Implementation of NICE TA 211: Prucalopride for the treatment of chronic constipation in women
- Rifaximin application form
- Elastolabo® as an agent for perineal massage for first time pregnancies

5.5 Amended LUTS Pathway

■ has circulated a copy of the pathway and the group were happy to adopt this.

6. Papers

6.1 APC 14/15 Infant Formula Guidelines

■ presented the full version of the guidelines and also a 2 page summary for GPs to use. IT was agreed that these were clear and helpful.

It was agreed that the amendments suggested by ■ on pages 2, 4, 17 and 20 should be made to the document. The comment about Ranitidine on page 19 had been a misunderstanding.

Recommendation

These documents were accepted with the amendments above.

Action: Amendments above to be made to document and Guidelines to be taken to GP's MOC for ratification and then published on Netformulary.

6.2 APC 14/22 Mirvaso® gel for rosacea

This had been discussed at the September APC meeting and it had been agreed that ■ would ask secondary care to comment, these comments had now been received.

Recommendation

It was agreed that Mirvaso® gel should only be an option for treatment in a defined cohort of patients with rosacea where flushing did not respond to standard treatment or life style measures.

Action: Policy to be taken to GP's MOC for ratification and then published on Netformulary.

6.3 APC 14/25 NHS Prescribing of Gluten-free Foods

Comments had been received from Coeliac UK stating that if any significant changes were to be made to the allowances there would need to be consultation with patients. This would be costly and time consuming to do and it was agreed that only minor changes should be made.

It was agreed that savory biscuits / crackers / crispbreads and pizza bases should be removed from the prescribable items list.

It was felt that many GPs still do not follow the guidelines and [REDACTED] had produced a letter that GPs could give to patients advising them of the recommended items and amounts.

Recommendation

It was agreed that the policy should be amended to remove savory biscuits / crackers / crispbreads and pizza bases from the prescribable items list.

Action: Policy to be taken to GP's MOC for ratification and then published on Netformulary.

6.4 APC 14/26 What priority should be given to the prescribing of the certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®) for treating psoriatic arthritis?

Action: Carried forward to January 2015 meeting.

6.5 APC 14/27 Empagliflozin for type 2 diabetes and NICE ESMN for empagliflozin

Action: Carried forward to January 2015 meeting.

6.6 APC 14/28 Changes to Lipid Modification Guidance

It was agreed that GPs need to manage 'self-management' in patients and not always prescribe for healthy people.

It was agreed that NICE Guidelines could be followed and GPs could decide what is best for their patients.

Recommendation

NICE Guidelines could be followed and GPs could decide what is best for their patients.

6.7 APC 14/29 SGLT2 Comparison Paper

Action: Carried forward to January 2015 meeting.

6.8 APC 14/30 Lopitamide for homozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia NHS England will be responsible for the cost of prescribing this from April 2015. Most CCGs feel it is too specialised for primary care and needs to be treated as an IFR.

Recommendation

Lopitamide is not routinely recommended for funding (any requests to be made via IFR until April 2015).

Action: Policy to be taken to GP's MOC for ratification and then published on Netformulary.

6.9 APC 14/31 Croup Guidelines

A presentation has been given to Wokingham CCG recommending that all GP Practices hold a stock of Dexamethosone to avoid having to send patients to hospital.

It was felt that the Guidelines circulated related to hospital use rather than primary care.

Parents are phoning 111 and being told to call an ambulance, ■■■ to look at how more training can be provided to 111 staff to avoid unnecessary admissions.

■■■ will discuss at GPs MOC whether practices should hold a stock of Dexamethosone.

POST APC NOTE: GPs have agreed to hold a stock of dexamethasone with use according to BNF directions

7. NICE Technology Appraisals

The following NICE Technology Appraisals were noted by the Committee:

- 7.1 TA 320 Dimethylfumerate for treating relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis (NHS England funded)
- 7.2 Lenalidomide for treating myelodysplastic syndromes associated with an isolated deletion 5q cytogenetic abnormality (NHS England funded).

8. Shared Care

8.1 ADHD for Children and Adolescents

A copy of the amended document was circulated. The only comment was that a date needed to be added to the prices detailed in Appendix 2.

Action: ■■■ would add a date to Appendix 2.

8.2 Ketamine Shared Care

■■■ advised that although Ketamine was not widely used this document had been produced to improve patient care.

APC felt this should be restricted to secondary care use, but ■■■ would obtain the views of the Pain Clinic and bring back to the group.

10. Any Other Business

■■■ asked that any comments on the Lithium and Melatonin documents be sent to ■■■ or ■■■

■■■ told the group that this would be his last meeting as he was retiring at the end of December. On behalf of the APC ■■■ thanked ■■■ for his contribution to the group and wished him well for this retirement.

Dates of Future Meetings

Date of Meeting	Venue
Weds 7 th January 2015	Rooms G29/30, 57/59 Bath Road, Reading, RG30 2BA
Weds 4 th March 2015	Rooms G29/30, 57/59 Bath Road, Reading, RG30 2BA
Weds 6 th May 2015	Rooms G29/30, 57/59 Bath Road, Reading, RG30 2BA
Weds 1 st July 2015	Rooms G29/30, 57/59 Bath Road, Reading, RG30 2BA
Weds 2 nd September 2015	Rooms G29/30, 57/59 Bath Road, Reading, RG30 2BA
Weds 4 th November 2015	Rooms G29/30, 57/59 Bath Road, Reading, RG30 2BA

All Meetings 10.00am – 12.00pm