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HEALTHIER



The Sheffield Area Prescribing Group

Annual Output Report

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Introduction

Aim of the Annual Output Report

To distil the outputs of the APG and also the work of the MMT, so that progress in clinical decision making and the promotion of cost effective use of medicines across the Sheffield health economy can be acknowledged.

Scope of the APG:

The Sheffield Area Prescribing Group (APG) will make recommendations on prescribing practice in Sheffield taking into consideration current evidence, NICE guidance and detailed consideration of new treatment options. Outputs to support the safe, cost and clinical effective prescribing include; the Sheffield formulary, local prescribing guidelines, including shared care guidelines to support patient care across the interface. The Medicines Safety Group considers for example: MHRA Drug Safety Updates, drug withdrawals and licence changes and feeds in to APG. It is a cross sector group that has membership from health and social care alongside provider trust colleagues.

Where there are commissioning implications these will be highlighted to the Pharmacy and Prescribing Strategy Group who will consider any actions needed.

Through its membership the APG will also influence prescribing policy in the 3 foundation trusts— Sheffield Teaching Hospitals (STH), Sheffield Children’s Foundation Trust (SCFT) and Sheffield Health and Social Care (SHSC) and primary care.

Remit:

- To promote integrated patient centred prescribing practice, including medicine related aspects of NICE guidance, quality standards and health technology assessments.
- To develop and agree joint prescribing practices and oversee their implementation across the Sheffield health community.
- To review new drugs and undertake assessment of new products and to advise relevant organisations on best local prescribing practice, including consideration of clinical effectiveness, clinical safety and cost-effectiveness.
- To establish and support the development of a Formulary Sub Group (FSG). The remit of the FSG is determined by the APG.
- To oversee the work of FSG and approve the output where appropriate.
- To work with the STH Medicines Management & Therapeutics Committee, the SHSC Medicines Management Committee and the SCH Drugs and Therapeutics Committee and others to promote joint working across primary and secondary care.
- To develop strong relationships within the local health and social care economy to promote safe and effective medicines management across Sheffield.
- To promote the development of appropriate shared care guidelines relating to the use of individual drugs or therapeutic areas. To take ownership of these; to review them regularly to ensure that they remain fit for purpose.

Membership of the APG:

Membership of the APG comprises of a wide variety of professional, clinical, commissioning and organisational backgrounds from both primary and secondary care.

- Sheffield Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust (STHFT)
- Sheffield Health and Social Care Foundation Trust (SHSCFT)
- Sheffield Children’s Foundation Trust (SCFT)
- Health watch
- Lay member
- Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group Medicines Management Team
- Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group GP
- Sheffield Local Medical Committee representatives (LMC)
- Community Pharmacy Sheffield (CPS)

Summary of outputs for 2018:

Prescribing Guidelines	Shared Care Guidelines	Formulary Chapters	TLDL Applications	Other recommendations
23 (6 of which are new guidelines)	15 (2 of which are new SCGs)	21 (5 of which were full chapter reviews)	14	8

See [appendix](#) for full list of outputs.

Implementation

Producing local guidelines and formularies is only one step in the process of bringing about changes in prescribing. The Medicines management Team (re-named the Medicines Optimisation Team in Feb 2019) have also been instrumental in cascading these changes at practice and locality meetings, PLI and bespoke training and other educational events. We also have strong links with specialist clinicians to ensure key messages are agreed with them and cascaded accordingly (e.g. Diabetic Nurse Specialists, respiratory clinicians). The changes are also communicated in the CCG practice bulletin and a summary produced in the APG round Up, which is produced bimonthly. The Medicines and Prescribing pages of the website also provide an important communication platform with GP practices including formulary updates, prescribing guidelines etc.

Topics covered at PLI and other training events include;

- Diabetes updates (PLI)
- STOMP (PLI)
- Antimicrobial prescribing

- Chronic pain
- De-prescribing at end of life
- Common blood monitoring
- Safe prescribing of depot antipsychotic injections
- Vitamin D presentations for health visitors, prescribers at SCH and patients in vulnerable groups

The MMT QIPP work plan is also instrumental in the implementation of APG approved changes. Examples of work undertaken in 2018 are;

Cost savings

- £327K saved by using formulary choice inhalers
- £140K saved by switching patient to cost effective blood glucose testing strips and formulary choice gliptin).
- £122K saved by using cost effect brands of opioids.

Quality

- 1293 patients on hydroxychloroquine were reviewed; of these, 73 patients were not being routinely seen by either dermatology or rheumatology and 77 patients had their hydroxychloroquine dose reduced
- Sodium valproate prescribing reviewed (and plan to audit in January 2019 against National advice).
- Heart failure audit – ACE inhibitor and beta blocker use against local (NICE) guidance.

The MMT uses the formulary functionality within SystemOne to help implement and embed the changes at the point of prescribing. It is estimated that this has avoided the prescribing of more costly preparations and thus saved around £160k/year. Where significant cost or safety implications the pop functionality within both SystemOne and EmisWeb is used to influence prescribing and promote local advice, for example; a pop up appears to remind prescribers of food first if they initiate an oral nutrition supplement.

MMT are also integral to agreeing the commissioning position across the city of high cost and high impact medicines, e.g. biologics and implementation of Blueteq and introduction of biosimilars.

Future plans

All work undertaken is led by the clinical formulary leads within the CCGs Medicines Management Team in collaboration with numerous colleagues, including those from provider organisations, neighbouring CCGs and community pharmacy colleagues. Resources provided by PrescQIPP have been instrumental in a number of areas. This year we have seen 3 shared care guidelines being worked up and approved across the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw footprint. Although this comes

with challenges, it does bring about consistency across the ICS which improves patient pathways, reduces variation, duplication of effort and helps clinician and patients alike to navigate across CCG boundaries.

The work programme for 2019 is expected to include updates of a significant number of guidelines and formulary documents for review which includes:

- 45 Prescribing Guidelines or associated documents
- 20 Shared Care Guidelines
- 18 Formulary chapters or associated documents

We are increasingly looking to explore opportunities for joint working and build links with neighbouring CCGs to optimise the outputs of local prescribing groups / committees. The Regional Medicines Optimisation Committees are increasingly active and will help to inform prescribing choices and recommendations locally.

The group currently does well in seeking views of the public in its membership when approving or discussing documents or guidelines but could build upon this in engaging with the public following publication and implementation of documents.

Key areas that we will continue to promote are self-care, deprescribing and care of patients across the interface.

Appendix

Outputs in detail for 2018: Those in green have been developed and agreed across the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw ICS

Prescribing Guidelines	Month	New or Reviewed
Prescribing guidelines for patients travelling abroad	Jan-18	Reviewed
Sheffield STOP list	Jan-18	Reviewed
Algorithm describing the medical management of diabetic retinopathy	Mar-18	Reviewed
Treatment algorithm for stable angina	Mar-18	New
Blood Glucose test strip - review of products ¹	Mar-18	Reviewed
Fentanyl - guideline on the use of TD fentanyl in a primary care setting in cancer and non-cancer pain	Apr-18	Reviewed
Blood Glucose test strip - review of products ¹	Apr-18	Reviewed
SYB Transgender Guideline	May-18	Reviewed
Sheffield Respiratory Guidelines 2018 - Holding Statement ¹	May-18	New
Anti-coagulation for stroke prevention in non-valvular atrial fibrillation	Jul-18	Reviewed
Sheffield Guidance on Optimising Vitamin D for Adult Bone Health and Summary Management Algorithm Vitamin D in Adults ¹	Sep-18	Reviewed
Prescribing in non-malignant pain in adults	Sep-18	Reviewed
Liothyronine / natural desiccated thyroid extract – Q&A for primary care colleagues in Sheffield - minor amendment	Sep-18 Oct-18	New Reviewed
Guidance on Prescribing Specials	Sep-18	Reviewed
Calculating renal function for patients prescribed DOACs in primary care - supplement for the SPAF guideline	Sep-18	Reviewed
A Healthy Start – Folic Acid and Vitamin D Supplementation in Pregnancy and Breastfeeding ¹	Oct-18	Reviewed
Good practice guidance for managing acute prescriptions for persons in receipt of care when there is an urgent need	Oct-18	New

¹ FSG approved by delegated authority of APG

Self-Care guidelines	Oct-18	New
Sheffield COPD Algorithm ¹	Nov-18	Reviewed
Statin monitoring at 3 months and 12 months in post-ACS patients ¹	Nov-18	Reviewed
Sheffield Asthma guidelines	Nov-18	New
Good practice guidance for managing acute prescriptions for persons in receipt of care when there is an urgent need - minor amendment	Nov-18	Reviewed
Shared Care Guidelines		
SCG for Sulfasalazine in Adults ¹	Jan-18	Reviewed
SCG for Amiodarone	Jan-18	Reviewed
Hormonal management of prostate cancer	Jan-18	Reviewed
Prescribing guideline for medication for prophylaxis treatment of bipolar disorder in adults – shared care	Feb-18	Reviewed
SCG for the Treatment of Adults with Growth Hormone	Mar-18	Reviewed
SCG for Methotrexate	May-18	Reviewed
Prescribing guideline for medication for prophylaxis treatment of bipolar disorder in adults – shared care	Jun-18	Reviewed
SYB SCP Epilepsy in adults – addition MHRA guidance on valproate	Jul-18	Reviewed
Addition of clobazam reference section ¹	Sep-18	Reviewed
Nebulised colomycin and tobramycin for adults with non- cystic fibrosis bronchiectasis	Jul-18	New
SYB SCG for the management of epilepsies in children	Jul-18	reviewed
Prescribing guideline for medication for prophylaxis treatment of bipolar disorder in adults – Shared care. MHRA guidance on valproate	Jul-18	Reviewed
Hydroxychloroquine Prescribing Guideline – Shared care	Sep-18 Nov-18	New Reviewed ¹
The treatment of children with recombinant growth hormone - change from group 2 to group 1 for Saizen and Zomacton	Sep-18	Reviewed
Dronedarone – Shared care	Jan - 19	Not approved

Formulary Chapters (* indicated full chapter review)		
*Chapter 11: Eye	Jan-18	Reviewed
- brimonidone added	Feb-18	Reviewed
- Dorzolomide replaces brinzolamide ¹	Nov-18	Reviewed
Chapter 3: Respiratory - Trimbaw and Trelegy added	Jan-18	Reviewed
- AirFluSal replaces Sirdupla	Jun-18	Reviewed
- addition of Sirdupla and Spiriva Respimat ¹	Nov-18	Reviewed
Chapter 4: CNS - Mezolar TD patches replaces Matrifen as first line formulary choice	Feb-18	Reviewed
Abbreviated Guide to Emollients Used in Primary Care ¹	Feb-18	New
Abbreviated Guide to Emollients Used in Primary Care - Endorsement	Mar-18	Reviewed
Chapter 6: Endocrine		
- estriol 0.01% removed	Feb-18	Reviewed
- diabetes, thyroid hormones and glucocorticoid therapy sections*	Mar-18	Reviewed
- HRT and male hormones sections*	May-18	Reviewed
- HRT update ¹	Jul-19	Reviewed
- insulin preparations ¹	Aug 18	Reviewed
*Chapter 4: CNS	Apr-18	Reviewed
Chapter 5: Infections - minor amendment to eye infections ¹	Apr-18	Reviewed
*Appendix 1: Glossary of terms and descriptions used in the Sheffield formulary	Jul-18	Reviewed
*Appendix 2: High cost drugs list	Jul-18	Reviewed
Chapter 7: Obstetrics, gynaecology and urinary tract disorders – Drospirenone ¹	Aug-18	Reviewed
*Chapter 10: MSK and joint diseases	Sep-18	Reviewed
Wound care formulary	Nov-18	Reviewed
TLDL Application		
Eye lid cleansing products - Black	Jan-18	New
Cladribine - Red	Jan-18	New

Enzalutamide - Red	Jan-18	New
Antioxidants for ocular health - additional products added to the Black classification	Jan-18	New
Fluocinolone - reclassified to Red	Feb-18	Reviewed
Liraglutide - Amber	Mar-18	New
Mysimba - Black	Mar-18	New
Generic venlafaxine total daily dose under 300mg - Green	Apr-18	New
Tofacitinib - Red	Apr-18	New
Ciprofibrate - Black	Apr-18	New
Omega 3 fatty acids - addition of clarity for place in therapy	Jul-18	Reviewed
Colomycin and tobramycin - Amber	Jul-18	New
Hydroxychloroquine - Amber	Sep-18	New
Obeticholic acid - Red	Sep-18	New
Miscellaneous		
STOPPFrail tool - APG endorsed as an addition to the CCG website	Jan-18	New
Freestyle libre position statement ¹	Mar-18	Reviewed
DROP list – reviewed and removed	Apr-18	Removed
PrescQIPP resources - selection agreed for hosting on the CCG website	Apr-18	New
Best practice ordering process for care homes	May-18	Reviewed
Prescribing periodicity letter and assessment tool	May-18	Reviewed
GAD - medication choices for adults, supported by APG	May-18	New
Immunoglobulins - Home Therapy programme, endorsed by FSG.	Sep-18	Reviewed