

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Area Prescribing Committee Annual Report (2018-19)

Introduction

The Doncaster & Bassetlaw Area Prescribing Committee (APC) co-ordinates the development of prescribing and medicines management strategies across the Doncaster and Bassetlaw Health Communities. The overarching functions of the committee include; providing consistent, evidence based advice to Doncaster & Bassetlaw CCG's, hospital trusts, primary care contractors and non-medical prescribers.

The committee publicises and disseminates its guidance through Shared Care Protocols, Prescribing Guidance, the Traffic Light System and monthly updates in the Medicines Management Newsletter (The T@blet). All approved documents and guidance are made available on the NHS Doncaster Medicines Management Website.

This report aims to summarise the activities of the APC during 2018-19 and includes; Drug reviews; Membership details; Attendance figures and achievements of the APC.

Membership

The APC serves the Doncaster and Bassetlaw healthcare communities and has representatives from professional, clinical, educational, management and commissioning backgrounds which are committed to the APC from the following organisations:

- NHS Doncaster CCG GP Representative (Chair)
- NHS Doncaster CCG GP Representative
- NHS Doncaster CCG Head of Medicines Management
- NHS Doncaster CCG MMT Senior Pharmacist or Chief Technician
- NHS Doncaster CCG MMT Senior Technician (Secretary)
- NHS Bassetlaw CCG Head of Medicines Management (Deputy Chair)
- NHS Bassetlaw CCG GP Representative DBHFT Medical Director or deputy
- DBHFT Clinical Director Pharmacy & Medicines Management or deputy
- RDaSHFT Medical Director or deputy
- RDaSHFT Chief Pharmacist or deputy
- Non-medical prescriber representative
- Local Medical Committee Representative
- Local Pharmaceutical Committee Representative
- FCMS Representative

Attendance

The meetings are held on a monthly basis, there was a total of 11 meetings during 2018-19.

The table below shows attendance figures for members of the committee or that of an appointed deputy. It is requested that representatives of the organisation have an annual attendance at APC meetings of at least 60%.

Name	Job Title	Organisation	Possible no. of attendance's	Meetings Attended	% attended	Overall Organisation al Attendance
Dr David Crichton	APC Chair	NHSD CCG	11	10	90	90%
Dr Rachel Sykes	NHS Doncaster GP	NHSD CCG	11	11	100	100%
Mr Alex Molyneux	Head of Medicines Management		11	7	64	100%
Mrs Gill Bradley	Deputy Head of Medicines Management	NHSD CCG	11	8	73	
Mr Andrew Barker	Chief Pharmacist	DBTHFT	11	0	0	100%
Mr Lee Wilson	Consultant Pharmacist - Deputy	DBTHFT	11	10	90	
Dr Lucy Peart	Acute Physician DBTHFT	DBTHFT	11	7	64	
Mr Andrew Houston	Senior Mental Health Pharmacist	RDaSHFT	11	0	0	73%
Mr Stephen Davies	Principal Pharmacist	RDaSHFT	11	8	73	
Mr Rob Wise	Medicines Management Lead Pharmacist	NHSB CCG	11	11	100	100%
Dr Dean Eggitt	Local Medical Committee Representative	Doncaster LMC	11	0	0	90%
Dr Runit Shah	Local Medical Committee Representative - Deputy	Doncaster LMC	11	10	90	
Mr R Harris	Local Pharmaceutical Committee Representative	Doncaster LPC	11	7	64	73%
Mr Paul Chatterton	Local Pharmaceutical Committee - Deputy	Doncaster LPC	11	1	9	
Vacant position	Doncaster Community Healthcare Non- Medical Prescribing	DCH	11	0	0	0%
Several Attendees	Representative from Quality and Performance	FCMS	11	3	27	27%

Specialist Input

Throughout the year officers of the APC worked together with General Practitioners, Secondary Care Clinicians, Specialist Nurses and Pharmacists to develop and review several shared care agreements and prescribing guidance to take to the committee for approval.

Shared Care & Prescribing Guidance Documents

The following list are Shared care Protocols (SCP), Proformas and Amber-G Guidance that have been developed, or reviewed due to new evidence, changes in good practice or expiration of existing documentation.

New SCP

Bicalutamide in the treatment of prostate cancer

This has previously been guidance to support Primary Care prescribing; the committee was in agreement that shared care was a more suitable option as patients are retained within Secondary Care.

Review of existing SCP

Several documents have been under review this year including:

- The Management of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) for children, adolescents and adults
- The Management of Inflammatory Arthritis, Connective Tissue Disease & Systemic Vasculitis for Adult services (over 16) regarding the additional monitoring required when prescribing hydroxychloroquine
- Shared Care Guideline for the Treatment of Adults with Growth Hormone (Somatropin)
- The Management of Inflammatory Arthritis, Connective Tissue Disease & Systemic Vasculitis for Adult services (over 16). Discussion and exploration of changing methotrexate injection from a Red traffic light status to Amber (request was declined).

New/updated Guidance Documents

Several documents have been presented at APC meeting for comments on their development including:

- Support/comment to Sheffield APG around the development of the SY&B guidance for epilepsy in adults and for children
- The provision of opinion on the first line choices of treatment for COPD

The review & development of shared care documents & prescribing guidance are included as part of the committee's 12-monthly work plan.

Ad-hoc interactions

The committee members have also been involved in other areas providing support and advice including:

- The reaction to the dalteparin supply issue by providing a temporary proforma to supply an alternative product.
- Dissemination of information regarding the acknowledgement of the risk to women of child bearing age using valproate.
- Input into the local work following the NHSE Over the Counter prescribing scheme
- Contribution to multi agency discussions around the pathway of care for type 1 diabetics requiring the Free Style Libre system.

Traffic Light System (TLS)

The Traffic Light System (TLS) is a database which provides guidance to prescribers on prescribing responsibilities for selected medications. It aims to provide clear understanding of where clinical and prescribing responsibility rests between specialists and GPs.

Criteria for the inclusion of medicines on these lists, or the moving of medicines between the different categories of the TLS, will be primarily based on: evidence, clinical responsibility, patient safety, willingness to provide agreed shared care information and the presence of an approved shared care protocol.

Each drug is classified under one of the following categories:

- Grey
- Red
- Amber (Shared Care)
- Amber with Guidance (Amber-G)
- Green
- Green with Guidance (Green-G)

The category it is placed in determines the circumstances in which it is recommended to be prescribed and any guidance/rationale which needs to be taken into consideration. When new guidance/information is released on the drug, it is reviewed and the category it is placed in can be changed dependent on its place in therapy.

The TLS is available as a web-based version on the medicines management website

Review of new drugs, formulations and indications

At each meeting several lists of drugs are reviewed. These include; new indications for existing drugs; new drugs; products granted licences for new indications; existing TLS entries which are due for review or review of existing entries when there is new or emerging evidence available. These are identified prior to the meetings by APC officers who use a review process to ensure that a robust horizon scanning process is carried out daily on existing and potential new TLS entries.

The committee considers these under:-

- **Officers Actions:** amendments or additions completed by APC officers and are circulated on the agenda for information and ratification. These actions include adding national or local guidance to support an agreed rationale, brand names and grammatical changes.

- **Additions for Consideration:** new drugs, indications or formulations which are being considered for inclusion onto the Traffic Light System.
- **Drugs for Review:** for current entries where the review date is due or new emerging evidence, such as the publication of a Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) or new NICE guidance has been released.

The following shows a breakdown of the number of drugs that have been reviewed and agreed at the APC through the process of drugs for review, officer's actions, and considerations.

Month	Drugs for Review	Officers Actions	Considerations	Total of drugs reviewed
April	13	1	3	17
May	6	2	25	33
June	2	2	1	5
July	4	2	32	38
August	6	3	14	23
September	3	6	23	32
October	1	7	9	17
November	2	1	20	23
December	No meeting			
January	6	10	28	44
February	3	6	8	17
March	1	3	12	16
Total number of drugs for the period				265

Monitoring prescribing patterns against APC guidance on selected traffic light entries (TLS)

NHSD-MMT produce reports throughout the year, these are reviewed at practice level and they are periodically included on the APC agenda. The reports highlight:

- Those with potential risks linked to on-going clinical review of the requirement for a monitoring schedule to be in place
Or
- not recommended for initiation or prescribing on an NHS prescription in the Doncaster & Bassetlaw Health Care Communities

A full complement of reports has been included on the agenda in this period.

Communication

The NHS Doncaster Medicines Management Website provides a useful and informative resource for the public, staff members and healthcare professionals from Doncaster, Bassetlaw and other Trusts around the country.

APC decisions are well communicated via The T@blet newsletter.

Formulary

The committee continues to support the collaborative work undertaken by the Formulary Liaison Group (FLG), which is represented by DCCG, BCCG, RDASH FT and DBTHFT.

Preparation and Support

Support to the APC from NHS DCCG MMT is provided by the Head of Medicines Management, Deputy Head of Medicine Management, Medicines Management Technician, administrative support and input from a DCCG Information Analyst.

Governance

The Area Prescribing Committee is encompassed within the following governance processes:

- DCCG Medicines Management Group, and the DCCG Quality & Patient Safety Group
- DBTHFT Drug & Therapeutics Committee
- RDASH FT Medicines Management Committee.

The Committee ensure that robust standards and governance arrangements underpin area wide decision-making and advice related to medicines.

Objectives The committee agrees that the over-arching functions of the APC provide adequate objectives and the APC work programme for the period is included below to demonstrate progress.

2018-19 Work Programme

Month	Item	Action	Progress
April 2018	SOP/MATRIX update	Internal Action for MMT – APC process documentation	On-going
May	Epilepsy SC/guidance	On-going	
	Modafinil SCP	STH - watch & brief	On-going
June	Parkinson's disease	APC supporting the development of a joint protocol. Sheffield APC is leading with this work	On-going
	Growth Hormone SCP	APC supporting the development of this protocol	Complete
	Freestyle Libre	APC is supporting CCG with this	Complete
July	Drugs not routinely prescribed in Primary Care		Complete
August	OTC consultation actions	On-going via SYB ICS & AJM/CCG comms team	On-going
September			
October			
November			
	Sacubitril Valsartan for HF		Complete
December			
January 2019			
February	Prepare the Annual Report		
March	ToR		

Prepared by:
Angie Machin
 MMT Technician
 May 2019