

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Medicines Committee
Summary of Main Points from the Meeting held on the 14th of February 2011

2. Minutes and Summary Notes from last meeting

The Minutes and Summary notes were approved and would be circulated.

3. Matters Arising

Letter from Chair of the Safer Anaesthesia Liaison Group (SALG) regarding Anaesthetist double checking

The Committee considered the letter from the Chair of SALG which stated that SALG is not in a position to offer specific guidance on anaesthetist double checking at this time. The reason is that systems for electronic checking of administration, the preferred method, have only been implemented in a few sites. The committee agreed that an electronic copy of the response should be forwarded to the Operational Risk Management Committee for noting and to the Medical Director. In the absence of guidance from the anaesthetists' professional body, the committee did not feel it was appropriate to remove the exemption from double checking for anaesthetists (Section 8 of the Medicines Policy – Administration).

Updated Medicines Management Training Programme 2011

Following a review of CQC and NHSLA requirements in relation to medicines management training and of the Accountable Officer regulations, the Medicines Management programme of development has been updated to remove medical staff update session as a mandatory requirement, since the relevant medicines policy updates are already disseminated via the Medicines Committee. The committee approved the revised programme which would be taken to the Quality Committee for noting.

4. New Medicines Applications

Gadolinium Injection

Gadolinium Injection was requested for contrast enhancement in direct magnetic resonance (MR) arthrography. A decision was deferred pending further information from the applicant.

Zolmitriptan 2.5mg dispersible tablets

Zolmitriptan 2.5mg dispersible tablets were approved for treatment of paediatric and adolescent migraine. This is an 'off-label' or unlicensed indication of a licensed medicine. However, tolerability in children is an issue with the licensed preparation. This is an in-tariff medicine and GPs might be requested to take on prescribing once a child was established on treatment.

Expansion of the Interim Cancer Drugs Fund (ICDF) list.

At its meeting on 1st February 2011, the NHS London Delivery group agreed to an expansion of the ICDF list with effect from **8th February 2011**. The ICDF operational arrangements remain as previously circulated in October 2010. The main changes for C&W are that rituximab is approved for 1st line HIV associated Castleman's disease, new indication for bortezomib, degaralix added for prostate cancer and pemetrexed is now approved as second line treatment for non-squamous NSCLC. The committee approved the addition to the formulary of expanded ICDF list of cancer drugs applicable to C&W in line with the ICDF approved indications.

5. Reviewed Medicines Policy Sections Approved

Section 2 – Prescribing

Amendment to current version to comply with the NPSA alert on 'Reducing treatment dose errors with low molecular weight heparins' to advise prescribers that Low Molecular Weight Heparin (LMWH) prescribing on Lastword® has a default preset using an expansion code to provide information required at discharge. Also amended to comply with the NPSA Alert 'Safer Lithium therapy' and to remove the requirement for prescribing oxygen on ITU & NICU.

Section 3 – Ordering and Supply

Updated to include dispensing requirements for Lithium to comply with the NPSA Alert 'Safer Lithium therapy'

Section 10 – Discharge Medicines

Amendment to current version to comply with the NPSA alert on 'Reducing treatment dose errors with low molecular weight heparins' to require prescribers to provide information required at discharge. Also amended to comply with the NPSA Alert 'Safer Lithium therapy'

Section 13 - Medicines Related Incidents

Updated to incorporate CQC requirements – Outcome 9 – Medicines Management to ensure that any medicines suspected of or known to be involved in a medicines related incident classified as an orange or red using the Trust risk assessment scoring matrix are immediately quarantined and made available as part of the incident investigation. The medicines should not be disposed of until the incident investigation has been completed.

6. Terms of Reference

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Medicines Committee

The Committee approved the updated Terms of Reference for the Medicines Committee

7. January 2010 Trusts Progress – Specific Medicines Related CQUIN targets

The committee noted the reports on Trust progress with specific medicines related CQUIN targets.

8. NPSA Alerts –Completed Action Plans

The committee noted the following completed NPSA action plans:

- Reducing treatment dose errors with low molecular weight heparins' action plan
- Reducing risk of harm from oral bowel cleansing solutions Reducing harm from omitted and delayed medicines in hospital
- Safer administration of insulin.

9. NICE Guidance

The committee noted the following new NICE Guidance:

- TA 160 updated – Osteoporosis Primary prevention and TA 161 updated – Osteoporosis Secondary Prevention - applicable to C&W. No formulary changes required.
- TA 211 – Prucalopride for treatment of chronic constipation in women are applicable to Chelsea and Westminster Hospital Trust. Applicable to C&W. Requires a formulary application for prucalopride from the gastroenterologists.
- TA 212 – Bevacizumab for treatment of metastatic colorectal cancer – this requires clarification as to whether it is applicable to C&W.
- TA 213 – Aripiprazole for the treatment of schizophrenia in people aged 15 to 17 years is not applicable to C&W.

10. IVIG Update

The Committee approved the IVIG requests for December 2010 and January 2011.

11. Items for Noting

The following items were noted by the Committee:

- Non-medical Prescribers List Update
- Request for extension of PGD by 2 months - Nurse supply of Emergency Hormonal Contraception (GUM)
- NPSA Rapid Response Report – Safer ambulatory care syringe drivers.
- NPSA Rapid Response Report – Preventing fatalities from medication loading doses.

12. Papers to go to the Trust Executive Clinical Governance Committee

The following papers should be sent to the Trust Executive Team – Clinical Governance Meeting:

- Medicines Committee Summary Notes December 2010
- Updated Medicines Management Training Programme 2011
- Updated Terms of reference

Date of the next meeting

Monday 14th of March 2010, 08.00 to 09.00, St Stephen's Kitchen Meeting Room

Closing date for papers: Friday 25th of February 2011