

South West Yorkshire Area Prescribing Committee

Minutes of Short Business Meeting

27 July 2016 | 12:30 – 1:15

Venue: Lonsborough Room, Broad Lea House

Chair: Nigel Taylor (NT)

Attendees: S. Roohi Azam (SRA)
Ric Bowers (RB)
Lyndsey Clayton (LC)
Carly Day (CD)
Helen Foster (HF)
Laura Gardiner (LG)
Tracey Gaston (TG)
Sue Gough (SG)
Eric Power (EP)
Lucianne Ricketts (LR)
Robbie Turner (RT)
John Yorke (JY)

Apologies: Chris Barraclough (CB)
Mike Culshaw (MC)
Phil Deady (PD)
Kate Dewhirst (KD)
Joanne Fitzpatrick (JF)
Fozia Lohan (FL)
Neill McDonald (NM)
David Smith (DS)
Alistair Tinto (AT)

AGENDA TOPICS

Topic 1: Welcome and Apologies

New members and visitors were welcomed. Apologies received as above.

Topic 2: Declarations of Interest

None declared.

Topic 3: Short business meeting

a) Methotrexate tablets

At the last meeting it was noted that some community pharmacists had reported that they had been asked to dispense 10mg methotrexate tablets rather than 2.5mg. Since the meeting, pharmacists in Sheffield have also reported the same. In GH and NK, 0.8% of methotrexate tablets are 10mg. LC reported that there were 16 patients in the Wakefield area on 10mg and GPs had been asked to review. TG said that she had written to GPs in Bradford to

raise the issue and ask them to document why patients were on 10mg.
 As Leeds had approved 10mg tablets for one clinician, NT will write to Leeds APC to say that this is a safety issue and the West Yorkshire area will not support prescribing of 10mg tablets in primary care.
 EP suggested that CCGs should put out a statement saying it was a safety issue for all patients.
 LC will raise it at the Medicines Safety Officer meeting and as them to raise it at a senior level.
 All patients on 10mg should be spoken to and asked if they could change to 2.5mg for the safety of all patients. If a small number of patients want to remain on 10mg tablets, prescribing could be maintained in secondary care and this would be 'red' for those patients. If patients want to remain on 10mg tablets, members should let their local acute Trust know, so Trusts can plan.
 RT was asked to let community pharmacists know so they can dispose of stocks of 10mg tablets.

b) Vitamin B co and co strong tablets

A NICE clinical guideline recommends thiamine for patients abusing alcohol. Some patients, particularly in the Dewsbury area, are still receiving vitamin B co and co strong, although evidence for use is poor.
 RB to ask the clinical lead in Dewsbury to attend the Medicines Optimisation Group at Mid-Yorks. People who have been working on the chlorthalidone paper will be asked to work on this issue. A member from a CCG will also be invited to get involved.

c) Ulipristal (Esmya)

Postponed until the next meeting.

Actions

Identify patients on 10mg methotrexate tablets and talk to them about the safety issue to all patients. If patients want to remain on 10mg, tell local acute Trust.	All	30.9.16
Letter to Leeds APC raising our concerns.	NT	31.8.16
Statement to be prepared for CCGs to issue	MM leads	31.8.16
Let community pharmacy know	RT	31.8.16
MSO to be alerted and asked to raise at a senior level	LC	30.9.16
Work on vitamin B co and co strong	RB	30.9.16

AOB

SG said that some practices had reported that quantities of specialist baby milk were not large enough in the primary care guideline. SG has updated quantities, based on the guideline recently approved by the Greater Manchester Medicines Management Group. The expiry date has been extended for a year (no other changes have been made).

As LR has had concerns over administration of 'red' drugs, which are prescribed and managed by secondary care, a new e-referral system has been put into place at Locala. Hospital clinicians will refer directly to Locala and include details of which product needs to be administered.
 GPs need to be told this system is in place.

Members thanked LR for all her support for the Committee and wished her well in the future.

Date and Time of Next Meeting – Tues 20 September 2016 1.00 - 3.00pm in Hargreaves Room, Broad Lea House