

MB ratified the following decisions from Subcommittees:

#### Frimley ICB Medicines Optimisation Group (MOG):

- **Position statement for Benzodiazepines and anxiolytics/hypnotics for jet lag, flight anxiety, anxiety for scans** – this policy aligns with a pathway developed by CIC that places prescribing responsibility with the referring clinician. It also reiterates our position that benzodiazepines should not be prescribed for insomnia. **Recommended for approval.**
- **Shared care agreements for long-acting antipsychotic injection and supporting documents for people using SABP** – these updated shared care agreements support safe use of these products in the community. **Recommended for approval.**
- **Change of traffic light classification for dapagliflozin and empagliflozin for heart failure** – Following support from heart failure teams as well as primary care, it was agreed that “Green” would be an appropriate status. **Recommended change from “Amber without shared care” to “Green”.**
- **Guidance on quantities of stoma products on prescriptions** – This guide explains the usual appropriate quantities for stoma products on prescription. **Recommended for approval.**
- **MOCH Good Practice Guidance for Structured Medication Reviews for Healthcare organisations** – Guide to support best practice in SMRs. **Recommended for approval.**
- **MOCH Good Practice Guidance for Structured Medication Reviews for Social Care organisations** – Guide to support best practice in SMRs. **Recommended for approval.**
- **Pathway for Medicines Reconciliation and SMR for new/ recently discharged Care Home residents** – Pathway to support best practice in SMRs. **Recommended for approval.**
- **Position statement for supply of safety needles** – this policy sets out the responsibilities of employers to supply safety needles for use by their staff. **Recommended for approval.**
- **Change of traffic light status for octenidine for topical suppression of MRSA** - SCAN guidelines recommend this product in the community. **Recommended change from “Red” to “Green”.**
- **Lipid management tool** – updates to the Frimley ICS Lipid Management tool we approved, including updated referral criteria and guidance on actions to take when LFTs are deranged. Commitment to European Society of Cardiology treatment thresholds was reiterated. **Recommended for approval.**
- **Addition to formulary of cytisine for smoking cessation** – This product is newly licensed in the UK and in the absence of varenicline and bupropion provides an evidence-based alternative to NRT for individuals who need it. This will only be recommended by smoking cessation services and people

prescribed it will be supported by the services whilst on the medication. Medication costs will be recharged to smoking cessation service. **Recommended for addition and “Amber without shared care” whilst varenicline and bupropion remain unavailable. This decision will take effect once the cytisine monograph is added to the BNF.**

- **Updated T2DM Care leaflet** – this guidance has been updated to include new medicines i.e. Tirzepatide. **Recommended for approval.**

#### **Frimley Health Foundation Trust (FHFT) Drugs and Therapeutic Committee (DTC)**

- Drugs added to formulary:
  - Mexiletine- following appropriate risk assessment unlicensed product approved for use as licensed product that came onto market a couple of years ago has had supply issues (RED traffic light maintained)
- NICE TA approvals. All are Hospital-only (RED) medication unless otherwise stated.
  - Nirmatrelvir plus ritonavir, sotrovimab & tocilizumab (update to TA878) – update widens access to larger cohort of patients, delivery remains via our dedicated Covid Medicines Delivery Unit Service within Frimley ICS.
  - Budesonide (Kinpeygo- TA 937)
  - Talazoparib (TA952)
  - Fluocinolone (TA953)
  - Epcoritamab(TA954)
  - Etrasimod (TA956)
  - *Dupilumab (TA955- negative appraisal)*
- Guidelines noted / approved
  - Intravesical Gentamicin- **Approved**
  - PGD Guidelines
  - DTC ToR

#### **Frimley Health and Care ICS Pharmacy Digital Strategy Group**

- Melody Chapman and Bal Ahitan (Medicines Safety pharmacists) to join meetings going forward to replace input previously provided by Jennie Fynn.
- Yinka Kuye member now member of Frimley ICB digital board to strengthen links between these groups.
- CLEO solo- configuration survey completed by IP pathfinder contractors by COP 8<sup>th</sup> March 24.

- Multi Factor Authentication (MFA) was implemented on 5th March for all PharmOutcomes users- The urgent implementation of multi factor authentication occurred overnight for pharmacies, to eliminate risk of cyber-attacks, protect patients and keep data safe in line with national guidance. This did create some disruption, but issues now resolved.

### **Frimley ICS Medicines Safety Group**

- **[FINAL Thickeners Record Chart for Care Homes .docx \(live.com\)](#)**
  - SLT therapist name to be added to discharge letter.
  - resident name and DOB to be added to SLT information leaflet provided on discharge (may be more than one person in care home with same name).
  - Discharge letter wording to be changed from ‘a tin of thickener should have been provided on discharge’ to ‘2 tins of thickener to be provided supplied by ward on discharge’.
  - SLT to add additional information if required to new section on EPIC discharge information.
- **Valproate National Patient Safety Alert**
  - ICS valproate safety Implementation Group now established-have had 2 meetings (next one on 20<sup>th</sup> March)
  - An ICS plan was developed by the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> January.
  - Provider/specialist implementation plans/guidance/SOPs have been received from neurology, paediatrics, BHFT Mental Health, SABP Mental Health and all 3 Sexual Health and Contraception services.
  - New MHRA valproate safety regulations from January 2024-system holding statement agreed.
  - Implementing MHRA sodium valproate guidance for women and people of child bearing potential adapted from SE Regional guidance document agreed for use within Frimley ICS.
- **Learning From Medicines Incidents and Serious Incidents - edoxaban and mechanical aortic heart valve**
  - Patient with mechanical heart valve switched from warfarin to edoxaban by GP and then admitted to hospital with prosthetic valve thrombus. GP switched patient before receiving advice from cardiology. Further actions needed to prevent recurrence.
- **MHRA Safety Alerts and system actions**

**[Valproate \(Belvo, Convulex, Depakote, Dyzantil, Epilim, Epilim Chrono or Chronosphere, Episenta, Epival, and Syonell ▼\): new safety and educational materials to support regulatory measures in men and women under 55 years of age](#)**

New patient guides have been sent to GP practices, hospital specialists and community pharmacies. Also now available in DXS. Updated NHS decision support tool for valproate in epilepsy added to DXS.

**[Fluoroquinolone antibiotics: must now only be prescribed when other commonly recommended antibiotics are inappropriate](#)**

SCAN guide would be updated in light of this. PD noted that education and a pragmatic approach is still required around indication for fluoroquinolones as they still have benefits for some infections.

**[Omega-3-acid ethyl ester medicines \(Omacor/Teromeg 1000mg capsules\): dose-dependent increased risk of atrial fibrillation in patients with established cardiovascular diseases or cardiovascular risk factors](#)**

Rarely now prescribed but acknowledgement that there could be OTC use as omega-3 supplements are heavily promoted in magazines. Highlights the importance of asking patients about OTC medicines and supplements when doing medicines reconciliation and SMR's.

**Other Decisions:**

- **HCRG Care Group Lidocaine and Articaine PGDs for community dental clinics.**

Existing PGDs expired and required renewal, approved urgently by chairs action ahead of meeting to allow existing services to continue to operate following and in line with established practice.

- **Regional Priorities Joint Working arrangements**

Alignment of work on regional priorities progressing across SE, a new governance group to be set up to link in with committees:

One committee to look at medicines – Medicines Optimisation Group

Non-medical interventions – surgery and medical devices

ToR being agreed and membership finalised.

New collaborative working agreement documents to work with neighbouring ICBs on this noted and agreed for Frimley ICB to sign up to.

- **Frimley Health Foundation Trust Pharmacy Strategy Day**

Feedback from the day noted Five main themes were identified to help prioritise future work.

1 Recognition and promotion of roles

2 Monitoring the impact of pharmacy activity on patient care.

3 making money work.

4 Upskilling staff.

5 Utilising pharmacy team.

- **IBD IFR requests**

Following changes to IFR process and the submission of multiple similar cases for IFR panel that were declined due to having been identified as representing a patient cohort further meetings arranged to discuss agreeing process for approving treatments for such cases that would sit outside of the IFR process.