

**Camden Medicines Management Committee (CMMC) Report for the Camden Patient and Public Engagement Group (CPPEG) Operational Meeting – 14 January 2019**

**07 December 2018**

<b>Chair of Committee</b>	Dr Philip Taylor
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<b>CPPEG Representative</b>	Ivy Johnson
<b>Report summary</b>	This report presents a brief summary of the Camden Medicines Management Committee (CMMC) meeting held on 05 December 2018.
<b>Strategic Objectives of Committee</b>	The strategic objectives are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission the delivery of NHS constitutional rights and pledges</li> <li>• Improve health outcomes, address inequalities and achieve parity of esteem</li> <li>• Integrate and enable local services to deliver the right care in the right setting</li> </ul>
<b>Recommendation</b>	CPPEG Members are asked to note the report.

**Items of business discussed**

- Camden Prescribing Budget Position Report 18/19 – Month 6
- Quality Innovation Productivity Performance (QIPP) - Prescribing Quality Scheme (PQS) 2019-20 plan outline
- Responses to the consultation on the gluten-free food regulations, NHS England guidance for CCGs & draft gluten-free patient information leaflet
- NHS England - Items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care: an update and a consultation on further guidance for CCGs
- Camden prescribing guidelines & North Central London (NCL) prescribing guidelines, shared care guidelines, and factsheets
- NHS England medicines optimisation dashboard & World Health Organisation (WHO) prescribing safety indicators
- High risk drug monitoring (HRDM) locally commissioned service (LCS)
- Regional Medicines Optimisation Committee (RMOC) (Midlands and East) - homely remedies in care homes – position statement
- The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence – NICE Guidance
- Central Alerting System (CAS) - Alerts Summary

**Discussions and decisions made**

- The Committee reviewed the month 6 prescribing budget position, the Medicines Management Team is continuing to monitor and report on the cost pressures affecting the prescribing budget, and is working with the Finance Team on the finance reporting structure. The Committee discussed the finance report and the upcoming financial challenges across North Central London (NCL), and the Quality Innovation Prevention and Productivity (QIPP) targets that will need to be achieved by CCGs across NCL.

- The Committee considered and approved the Quality, Innovation, Productivity and Prevention (QIPP) and Prescribing Quality Scheme (PQS) Plan outline for 2019/20. The plan will deliver improvements in clinical quality and financial efficiencies.
- The Committee was informed that following a national consultation on the availability gluten-free (GF) foods at NHS expense in primary care in England, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has published regulations restricting GF prescribing to GF breads and GF mixes only. These regulations come into force on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018, and include a list of selected gluten-free breads and mixes allowed on prescription. This means that products such as gluten-free pasta, cereals, biscuits, pizza bases, crackers etc. will no longer be prescribable on the NHS.  
NHS England guidance recommends that patients prescribed gluten-free bread and/or mixes should be those diagnosed with gluten-sensitive enteropathies (dermatitis herpetiformis and coeliac disease). A patient information leaflet has been produced to explain the changes and support discussions between patients and prescribers. The leaflet will be adapted for Camden.
- The Committee was advised that NHS England has launched a consultation to update the list items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care. Across England, there is significant variation in what is being prescribed and to whom. Some patients are receiving medicines, which have been proven ineffective, or in some cases dangerous, and/or for which there are other more effective, safer, and/or better value for money alternatives.  
The consultation, is addressed to all CCGs, the public and patients, and any relevant interest group or body. It is open for 3 months from 28 November 2018 **until 28 February 2019**. Responses can be submitted online or by post. Details are available on the NHS England website <https://www.engage.england.nhs.uk/consultation/items-routinely-prescribed-update/>  
NHS E has produced an [easy read version of the consultation document](#), and is holding face to face consultation meetings, including one in London, on 5 February 2019, 2:30pm – 4:30pm: [Booking can be made on the NHS England website](#).  
The Head of Medicines Management and the Chair of the CMMC are arranging to attend an upcoming CPPEG meeting to discuss the consultation.
- The Committee approved updates to Camden guidance and to North Central London (NCL) shared care guidelines and factsheets. All the prescribing updates were assessed by the Committee with regards to quality, safety, clinical effectiveness, cost efficiency and evidence base. The aim being to manage both clinical variation and financial risk.
- The Committee discussed the NHS England medicines optimisation dashboard & World Health Organisation (WHO) prescribing safety indicators dashboard. The NHS England dashboard brings together a range of medicine-related data to help commissioners explore how well their local populations are supported to optimise the medicines prescribed to them. The dashboard includes data on patient experience, patient safety, electronic prescribing system (EPS) uptake, and community pharmacy services. The medication safety dashboard supports the World Health Organisation (WHO) global patient safety challenge: “Medication without harm”. The WHO initiative aims to reduce the level of severe, avoidable harm related to medications by 50% over the next five years, globally.
- NICE guidance and quality standards documents published or updated in September to November 2018 were considered by the Committee, including any local impact. Several antimicrobial prescribing guidelines were issued by NICE in October and November, these aim to optimise antibiotic use and reduce antibiotic resistance.

- The Committee discussed the high risk drug monitoring (HRDM) locally commissioned service (LCS) – and approved the inclusion of additional HRDs to the monitoring schedule. The aim of the HRDM service is to ensure relevant monitoring of selected high risk drugs is undertaken in line with national and local guidance, to reduce potential harm to patients, and to have a consistent approach to high risk drugs monitoring in primary care, standardised across NCL.
- The Committee noted that the Regional Medicines Optimisation Committee (RMOC) (Midlands and East) has developed a template policy on the use of homely remedies in care homes. The template will be sent for consideration for incorporation into the frail and elderly workstreams.
- The Committee noted the latest alerts published via the Department of Health (DH) Central Alerting System (CAS), and the actions required by those groups of health professionals receiving the alerts. The importance of highlighting to and discussing with women the risks of taking valproate medicines during pregnancy was stressed by the Committee. Pharmacies have received packs of educational materials for healthcare professionals and for patients. In addition to giving patients the patient booklet and patient card from the educational materials, it is also important that they receive the statutory patient information leaflet, which contains details of the risks associated with valproate medicines during pregnancy. Valproate is a treatment for epilepsy and bipolar disorder, It is important women don't stop taking valproate without first discussing it with their doctor. The [Patient card](#) and [Patient booklet](#) have been issued by [Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency](#) (MHRA).

**CPPEG**

**Representative comments**

Ivy Johnson "I continue to be impressed by the work of the committee and have nothing further to add"