



**GIG**  
CYMRU  
**NHS**  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University  
Health Board



		Agenda Item	3.5
Health Board Meeting – 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2020			
Freedom of Information Status		Open	
Reporting Committee	Health Professionals' Forum		
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Date of meeting	7 <sup>th</sup> February 2020		
Summary of key matters considered by the Health Board Health Professionals' Forum at its meeting on 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2020 and any related decisions made.			
<p><b>1. Operating Arrangements</b></p> <p>The Terms of Reference for the forum were discussed by the group. These are based around the Health Board Standing Orders document which describe the purpose and functions of the forum.</p> <p>Membership was still being sought for three medical representatives (acute and specialist, general practise, mental health and learning disabilities). All other areas specified within the forum membership now had named representation. The group considered that they would benefit from co-opting members with paediatric and maternity focus and also increased mental and health and learning disability services and would seek appropriate health professionals.</p> <p>A Chair has been agreed by forum Chris Bowden (Scientific representative). The group is still to nominate and agree Vice-Chair.</p> <p><b>2. National Group Workplans &amp; Local Professional Oversight Updates</b></p> <p>A verbal introductory was provided by each of the representatives present in respect of their professional areas. A written report was received from Pharmacy as apologies were received for meeting.</p> <p><b>2.1. Dental</b></p> <p><b>2.2. Nursing</b></p> <p><b>2.2.1. Community Nursing</b></p> <p><u>National</u> – Delivery and working around Primary Care model for Wales are priorities for Community Nursing and focus on rebalancing of health care system as outlined in “A Healthier Wales”</p> <p><u>Local</u> –</p>			

Community nursing is doing more in a Primary & Community environment – with an emphasis on staff working to the top of their license. There is a focus around safe staffing levels for District Nurses – this will be area of challenge for the health board.

There is a focus on reporting against the Healthy Child Wales Programme – currently under-reporting data is recognised as an issue and this is related to IT systems,.

There is a high volume of lone working with Nursing Health Care Support Worker Roles and there is a review of support worker roles and competences to ensure there are safe systems whilst not becoming overly restrictive.

### **2.2.2. Hospital Nursing**

#### National

Work is ongoing to develop and sustain a workforce that aligns with the Nurse Staffing Act. This entails review of roles and a necessity to do things differently.

#### Local

Infection Control is an area of focus and concern for the Health Board and is an area of targeted intervention.

### **2.3. Optometry**

#### National

The Eye Care Delivery Plan comes to an end in May 2020. The final report is currently being collated and Welsh Government will replace the plan with strategic areas of work going forward.

Work is being undertaken on reforming Eye Care Services within Primary Care, with a view to forming a contract that brings Optometry more in line with Dental and Pharmacy services. This work is currently in its second phase of scoping. A workshop event was held in December 2019, and representatives from Welsh Government, Optometry, Ophthalmology, and Orthoptics were invited to attend along with Health Board strategic leads.

A workforce paper has been distributed as guidance to Health Boards. This reflects the current capacity and demand mis-match in Secondary Care services. Welsh Government policy is that work will shift care closer to home into primary and community settings. There is now an Optometry lead in Health Education and Improvement Wales.

A letter was sent out by Welsh Government in December 2019. Health Boards have been told to authorise the provision of NHS prescription pads to those who are qualified as Independent prescribers. In line with 'A Healthier Wales', the 'Eye Care Delivery Plan' and new Primary Care Model, optometrist independent prescribing supports the Welsh Government's wider approach, to ensure patients are seen by the most appropriate healthcare professional for their individual needs and reducing demand for less appropriate NHS services

#### Local

Currently awaiting the results for a tender that went out for a local Primary Care Practice to refine new referrals for wet Age Related Macular Degeneration before the patient is seen in

secondary care. This builds on a similar project already successful in Aneurin Bevan Health Board. The project will utilise OCT equipment, and practitioners who have undertaken the Medical Retina qualification. Optometry Wales and the Primary Care and Community Services team are engaging with Local Cluster Groups to discuss eye care with them, and raise awareness of primary care eye care services.

The Primary Care and Community Services team are endeavouring to re-launch the Cwmtawe Optometry Stroke Pathway Service that uses transformational funding to provide an enhanced sight test to patients who have been recently discharged from the Stroke unit. The pathway is being piloted in the Cwmtawe area on patients who live within the cluster boundary, but there is interest in rolling this out nationally.

## **2.4. Pharmacy**

### **2.4.1. Hospital Pharmacy and the managed sector**

#### National

Healthier Wales Vision document for Pharmacy launched. The programme of work will be managed by a National Delivery Board, which will be Chaired by Darren Hughes from NHS Confederation. The Board may wish to receive a fuller briefing on the main goals contained within this 10 year programme in a more detailed briefing.

Contract signed with Well Sky to introduce a new Pharmacy stock control system in Wales. This has been in place across Swansea Bay since 2014.

Drug shortages continue due to multifactorial influences, not directly related to the EU exit. Significant changes to the training and education of Pharmacists and Pharmacy technicians. From 2021 preregistration pharmacists will be trained within a multisector framework, gaining experience in all three sectors of Pharmacy

Transforming Access to Medicines

In February 2018, following discussion at the NHS efficiency, healthcare value and improvement group, the Director General wrote to the NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership requesting it work with NHS bodies and the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer to scope the potential for efficiency improvements linked to reconfiguration of the NHS pharmacy supply chain.

With the support of the NHS Wales Shared Services Committee, this work has progressed through the Transforming Access to Medicines (TrAMs) project. The project team are looking to finalise a programme business case for submission to Welsh Government the focus of which will be to deliver

PBC proposes the creation of a new designated pharmacy service for the whole of Wales to replace the current arrangements operated by individual health boards and the Velindre Cancer Centre. The service would be responsible for the following functional activities:

- Preparation of Intravenous Chemotherapy;
- Preparation of Intravenous Nutrition;
- Preparation of other Intravenous Products (CIVA);
- Preparation of Radio-Pharmacy;
- Pre-packing and over-labelling of medicines;
- Associated Quality Management; and
- Associated storage and distribution.

The service would be a managed service delivered equitably through the establishment of three regional hubs located out of hospitals and using converted warehousing for ease of

build. Hubs would be located in South East, West and North Wales respectively and would take account of existing available NHS estate, which could be repurposed, transport links, local labour markets.

The next project Board of the TRAMS Scheme is due to meet at the end of March a decision will be taken at this point on the submission of the Business Case to Welsh Government.

### Local

New state of the art robot is being installed in Morriston department.

Aseptic unit refurbishment at Morriston is now complete and is in the middle of the revalidation processes.

Three more technicians now undertaking drug administration rounds on wards in Morriston and this has been well received by both Staff on the ward and the Technicians undertaking the advanced roles.

Electronic prescribing and Administration went Live in the Neuro rehabilitation unit in Neath – the first site in Wales to achieve this. Work is underway to continue the rollout to further wards in NPT after which it will be implemented on the Singleton wards

The homecare team have received Welsh Government Capital funding to develop Artificial Intelligence to support the repetitive processes associated with invoicing allowing the team to focus on medicines reconciliation with the patients accessing medicines in this way. This will enhance safety and release efficiency gains for the Health Board.

Workforce recruitment and retention remains a challenge for this sector with many experienced Pharmacists gaining employment in the Primary care clusters and individual GP practices.

Pharmacy teams across all the sites provide significant support to prescribers and ward teams across all of the sectors. In a point prevalence study in May 2019 ward teams collected Data which included all occasions when an intervention was made by pharmacy team.

Information collected included near misses and actual events.

Headline results:

Total of 1,039 interventions recorded across four acute sites

Most common intervention involved prescribing (n=784, 75%)

Eight potentially lethal interventions recorded

Potential cost avoidance of £622,100 as per the NICE costing template.

## **2.5. Scientific Update**

### National –

The Welsh Scientific Advisory Committee has sub committees which advise on different scientific specialisms. These are Laboratory, Imaging, Medical Physics and Clinical Engineering, Clinical Physiology including Audiology. There are Welsh Government Statements of Intent which direct national programmes for Pathology, Imaging, Precision Medicine and Advanced Cell Therapies. The Welsh Scientific Advisory Committee and its sub committees advise on these programmes.

Staffing is an issue across medical and healthcare science professions and there is a focus on workforce planning and developing Healthcare science role to work at top of license. There are workforce groups which align to programmes. There is also an underpinning programme to take forward under the Healthcare Science Framework.

#### Local –

There has been a local emphasis via ARCH on developing regional Pathology services aligned to the Pathology Statement of Intent., A strategic outline case is with Welsh Government for scrutiny. Swansea Bay have developed workforce roles and workforce planning to meet current and future demands.

The Health Board will be introducing local Positron Emission Tomography (PET) scanning via a mobile scanner and agreed with Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee.

### **2.6. Therapies Update**

#### National –

The Welsh Therapies Advisory Committee is refreshing its workplan and will be based on the newly published Allied Health Professions Framework for Wales.

The committee is leading on national Therapy data definitions for the Welsh Community Information system developments.

#### Local –

A peer review has taken place within neonates, therapies came out as a serious concern and thus services are engaged in developing plan to address.

Recruitment is a concern across Therapy professions including psychology and we are working locally and with HEIW to develop to solutions.

Therapies are working to shift services left and initiatives include Hospital to Home, First Contact Practitioner and redesigning pathways e.g. Irritable Bowel Syndrome

### **2.7. Medicine**

No representatives identified at time of meeting. Representation is being sought for acute and specialist, general practise and mental health and learning disabilities. The forum would also wish to coopt membership from paediatric and this will be followed up

### **3.1. Issues to be considered at future meetings**

The forum will consider the Swansea Bay Clinical Service Plan at the next meeting.

#### **Key risks and issues/matters of concern of which the board needs to be made aware:**

Workforce shortages and recruitment were identified as key issues across healthcare professions.

#### **Delegated action by the committee:**

None.

#### **Main sources of information received:**

Operating Arrangements update  
Optometry update  
Community Nursing update

Dental update Hospital Nursing update Scientific update Therapies update Hospital Pharmacy and the managed sector update	
<b>Highlights from sub-groups reporting into this committee:</b>	
None received.	
<b>Matters referred to other committees</b>	
None identified.	
<b>Date of next meeting</b>	03 April 2020