



**NHS BORDERS  
AREA DRUG & THERAPEUTICS  
COMMITTEE**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**APRIL 2024 – MARCH 2025**

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## Introduction

The Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee (ADTC) is a standing committee of NHS Borders Board. Patient Safety is at the heart of all considerations and decisions made by the ADTC and its sub-committees.

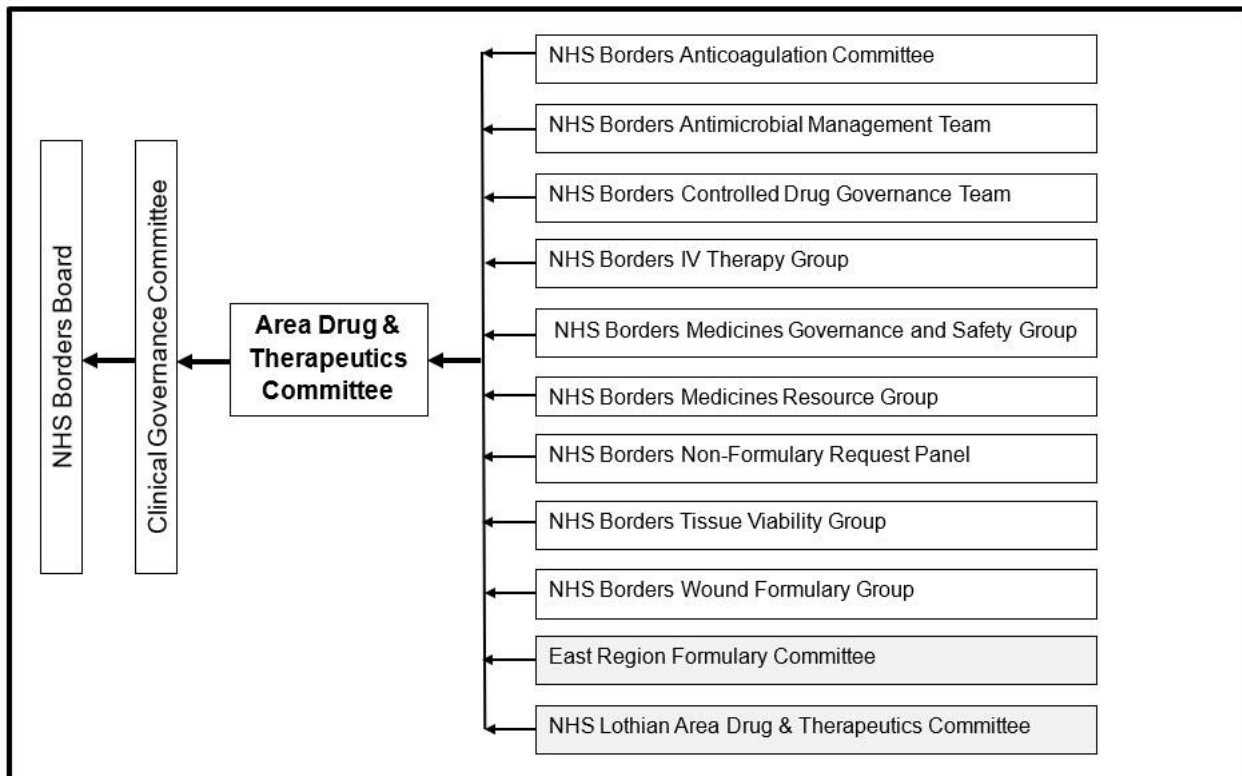
## Remit

- To advise and support the strategic direction of all aspects of medicines and therapeutic agents' governance and usage in NHS Borders across all care settings. Governance and usage of therapeutic agents in NHS Borders must be included in the wider strategic planning carried out by the Board.
- To ensure multi-stakeholder engagement and joint working on all medicine/therapeutic agent related issues, within all care settings.
- To approve and monitor NHS Borders prescribing policies and treatment guidelines to optimise safe and cost-effective use of medicines.
- To implement the East Region Medicines Collaborative guidelines
- To ensure that East Region Formulary Committee formulary decisions are implemented in practice and reflected in local and regional guidelines.
- Liaise with Clinical Networks and other specialist clinical interest groups to influence and seek advice on aspects of prescribing practice.
- To advise, monitor and coordinate the development and approval of policies and procedures which support NHS Borders to meet governance relating to:
  - Prescribing medicines/therapeutic agents (for all prescribers).
  - Administration of medicines/therapeutic agents (by all appropriately trained staff).
  - Safe and secure handling of medicines/therapeutic agents.
- To support NHS Borders Board in the delivery of a comprehensive approach to national policy regarding medicines, linking with Regional and National groups.
- To oversee the systems for safer medicines use including SPSP safer medicines group.
- To respond to national directives and initiatives related to the use of medicines, in particular those issued by the Scottish Medicines Consortium, Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN), National Institute for Healthcare and Clinical Excellence (NICE), Medicines and Healthcare Regulatory Authority (MHRA), National Patient Safety (NPSA) briefings and Major Supply Alert Notices (MSANs).
- To ensure systems are in place for the dissemination of information and advice to professional staff, patients and public promoting safe, efficient and cost-effective use of medicines taking into account current evidence and best practice.
- To promote, support and monitor the development of non-medical prescribers, including co-ordination of a systematic process to improve access to medicines through Patient Group Directions.
- To work with the Clinical Interface Group to manage prescribing across the primary care-secondary care interface.

- To encourage participation in the 'Yellow Card' scheme for reporting of adverse drug reactions.
- To encourage research and audit on cost effective use of medicines.
- To develop a system for managing risks identified with the work of the Committee.

## Structure and Organisation

Standing sub committees/groups reporting to the Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee (ADTC) are: -



Minutes from recent meetings of these groups are included, for noting, in the ADTC agenda.

East Region Formulary Committee and NHS Lothian ADTC are not subcommittees of Borders ADTC. The minutes and decisions of these two committees are noted at NHS Borders ADTC meetings.

## **ADTC MEMBERSHIP: 2024/25 – NHS BORDERS**

Dr Kevin Buchan, Chair (GP; Non-executive Board Member; Chair of Area Clinical Forum) – (until November 2024 – election to be held for Chair at time of report)

Malcolm Clubb, Lead Pharmacist –Director of Pharmacy (Interim Chair from January 2025)

Dr Edward James, Consultant Microbiologist, BGH

Dr Effie Dearden, Consultant Physician DME, BGH

Dr Rebecca Devine, Public Health Consultant or Dr Sohail Bhatti – Director of Public Health Consultant

Dr Nicola Henderson, General Practitioner, Coldstream Medical Practice

(Dr Elliot Longworth, General Practitioner, West Linton Medical Practice as deputy if required)

Cathryn Park, Deputy Director of Pharmacy and Interim Lead Pharmacist Primary and Community

Keith Maclure, Lead Pharmacist - Medicines Utilisation & Planning

Kirsten Thomson, Clinical Pharmacist

Rhona Morrison, Lead Nurse Non-Medical Prescribing and Medicines

Andrew Leitch, Lay Member

Kate Warner, Committee Secretariat, PA to Director of Pharmacy

## Schedule of business considered – April 2024 – March 2025

Meeting	Title of Business Discussed
22.05.25	Matters Arising: Citralock guidance – ITU.
	Non-Formulary Requests ratified: Galcanezumab; Ocrelizumab; Polyhexamide; Leflunomide.
	Patient & Medicine Safety: Datix Review Update
	Clinical Policies, Procedures and Guidelines: Policy - Management of Hyperkalaemia in Adults; Guideline for Insulin Adjustment by Diabetes Specialist Dietitians; Pharmacy Annual Report; Shared Care Agreements – 5-ACAs; Acitretin; Denosumab; Penicillam; and Sulfasalazine; Procedure for investigating and reporting controlled drugs discrepancies in BGH wards
	For Information and Noting: Quality Prescribing Strategy for Respiratory - A Guide for Improvement 2024-2027; 4&5 of the Infection Prevention Workforce: Strategic Plan 2022-24; Minutes - Medicines Resource Group; Medicines Governance & Safety Group; East Region Formulary Committee; NHS Lothian ADTC.
	AOCB: IDL controlled drug change.
Meeting	Title of Business Discussed
24.07.25	Matters Arising: Policy - Management of Hyperkalaemia in Adults; Guideline for Insulin Adjustment by Diabetes Specialist Dietitians.
	Non-Formulary Requests ratified: Lefunomide; Mepacrine; Fluvoxamine; Sativex; Riboflavin; Tirzepatide.
	Patient & Medicine Safety: Datix Review Update
	Clinical Policies, Procedures and Guidelines: Alcohol Detox Guidelines; Update to Enteral Feed for Adults Guideline; Items of Low Clinical Value.
	For Information and Noting: Yellow Card Scotland Annual Report for 2022/23; national Tirzepatide Guidance; Pharmacy Alert - Topiramate (Topamax); Minutes - Anticoagulation Committee; IV Therapy Group; East Region Formulary Committee; NHS Lothian ADTC.
	AOCB: Request for membership for National Review Panel for PACS Tier 2.
Meeting	Title of Business Discussed
25.09.25	Presentation: Dr Scott Muir, SMC Chair gave a presentation, supported by Dr Yvonne Semple, Chief Pharmaceutical Adviser, to update ADTC on the work of SMC.
	Matters Arising: Update to Enteral Feed for Adults Guideline; Topiramate update from Neurology.
	Non-Formulary Requests ratified: Prazosin.
	Patient & Medicine Safety: Datix Review update
	Clinical Policies, Procedures and Guidelines: Blood Monitoring for (patients prescribed) Biologics and JAK Inhibitors Protocol; Treatment Pathway for Ritlecitinib (Lifulo®) in Severe Alopecia Areata; East Region Formulary – Regional Model SBAR; Vaccination PGDs – Varicella and Pertussis; ADTC Terms of Reference.
	For Information and Noting: Antipsychotic monitoring appendix in the Antipsychotic and Lithium Monitoring Protocol; Shortage of Kay-Cee-L® (potassium chloride 375mg/5ml) (potassium chloride 5mmol/5ml) syrup; Shortage of Human Albumin 4.5% and 5% dose vials; Patient Group Directions (PGDs) Audit; Minutes - Anticoagulation Committee; Antimicrobial Management Team; IV Therapy Group; Medicines Resource Group; East Region Formulary

	Committee; NHS Lothian ADTC.
	AOCB: SMC workload; Oxytocin overdose national PSA; recent alerts on emergency department cylinders.
<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Title of Business Discussed</b>
<b>27.11.25</b>	Matters Arising: Alcohol Detox Guidelines.
	Non-Formulary Requests ratified: Palivizumab; Pylera; Pentoxiphylline; IVIG; Fluoxetine.
	Patient & Medicine Safety: Datix Review update
	Clinical Policies, Procedures and Guidelines: SCA Tenofovir; NHS Borders Treatment pathway Scotland for patients with moderate to severe nodular prurigo (NP) who are candidates for systemic therapy; SMC updates dissemination; Change to process CD key in MAU.
	For Information and Noting: Lidocaine prescribing letter; Use of GLP-1/GIPRAs letter; Infected Blood Inquiry update; Oxytocin overdose during labour and childbirth National Patient Safety Alert; ADTC Collaborative Newsletter – September 2024; Minutes - Antimicrobial Management Team; IV Therapy Group; Medicines Resource Group; East Region Formulary Committee; NHS Lothian ADTC.
	AOCB: Radiography PGDs; BGH Alcohol Detox Guidelines.
<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Title of Business Discussed</b>
<b>22.01.25</b>	Matters Arising: Alcohol Detox Guidelines; Tenofovir shared care protocol.
	Non-Formulary Requests ratified: Amgevita; FMT; Rybelsus.
	Patient & Medicine Safety: Datix Review update
	Clinical Policies, Procedures and Guidelines: Local Anaesthetic Toxicity Protocol update; Outpatient Rituximab – Rheumatology & Dermatology – Infusions Service protocol; Guidance for the management of elective alcohol detoxification admissions to Huntlyburn Ward; Knoll and Kelso Community Hospital Improvement work; PGD Dengue Fever; Variable Rate Intravenous Insulin Infusion (VRIII) chart; SBAR - Request to implement abbreviated IDLs; PGD Co-amoxiclav 625mg or 10ml 250/62.5mg in 5ml SF suspension.
	For Information and Noting: Re-introduction of UK sourced plasma for PDMP manufacture; ADTC Collaborative Newsletter - January 2025; request for applications ERF co-chair; Minutes - Anticoagulation Committee meeting; IV Therapy Group; Medicines Governance & Safety Group; East Region Formulary Committee; NHS Lothian ADTC.
	AOCB: None
<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Title of Business Discussed</b>
<b>26.03.25</b>	Matters Arising: ADTC Terms of Reference update; Outpatient Rituximab – Rheumatology & Dermatology Infusion Service protocol update; Variable Rate Intravenous Insulin Infusion (VRII) chart
	Non-Formulary Requests ratified: Faecal Microbiota Transplant (FMT); Disopyramide; Botulinum Toxin Type A; Tofacitinib (oral solution); Prazosin; Probenecid; Fluoxetine; Dex-ketoprophen; Cenebomate; Budesonide.
	Patient & Medicine Safety: Datix Review update
	Clinical Policies, Procedures and Guidelines: Anti-Diabetic Therapy Guidelines for Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and Guidelines for use of Tirzepatide; Protocol - Single Nurse Administration of Injectable Medicines in Community Clinical Areas; Intrathecal Policy update; SBAR conversion of dexamethasone administration; Radiology 6.5 RAD10 - PGD Glyceryl Trinitrate sublingual tablets, and Radiology RAD11 - PGD Metoprolol Injection; National Review Panel PACS T2 request for membership.

	For Information and Noting: NC MAG Programme advice documents; Minutes from Anticoagulation Committee, Antimicrobial Management Team, IV Therapy Group; Medicines Resource Group, Medicines Governance & Safety Group, East Region Formulary Committee, East Region Working Group and NHS Lothian ADTC meetings.
	AOCB: Health Inequalities Impact Assessment for clinical documents.

## Attendance for ADTC during 2024/25

Dates of Meetings						
	22.05.24	24.07.24	25.09.24	27.11.24	22.01.25	26.03.25
<b>Name:</b>						
Dr Kevin Buchan (Chair)	✓	-	✓	✓		
Dr Edward James	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓
Dr Effie Dearden	✓	-	✓	-	-	-
Dr Nicola Henderson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dr Elliot Longworth						
Dr Sohail Bhatti (PH) or	-	-	-	✓	-	✓
Dr Rebecca Devine (PH)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malcolm Clubb	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cathryn Park	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓
Kirsten Thomson	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓
Keith Maclure	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rhona Morrison	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Andrew Leitch	✓	-	✓	-	-	-
Kate Warner (Minute)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
<b>Invited Guests:</b>						
Alex Mundell, Clinician Pharmacist	✓				✓	
Allana-Lee Gillies, Paediatric Dietician	✓					
Dr Scott Muir, SMC Chair			✓			
Dr Yvonne Semple, Chief Pharmaceutical Adviser			✓			
Lynne Cairns, Acute Lead Dietician			✓			
Dr Rosemary Gordon					✓	
Andrew Crawford, Clinical Pharmacist					✓	

There were no declarations of interest at ADTC meetings during 2024/2025.