

# NHS BORDERS AREA DRUG & THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE

DATE: 27 MAY 2026

TIME: 12:30 to 14:00



## MINUTE

| Item | Paper                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Links to papers and detail<br>ACTION (Lead) |
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| 1.   | <b>Welcome and Announcements:</b><br>Malcolm Clubb, Director of Pharmacy (MC) (CHAIR) welcomed those present at the meeting, members introduced themselves to the guests and noted apologies.<br><br><b>Present:</b> Dr Edward James, Consultant Microbiologist (EJ); Rhona Morrison, Medicines Governance and Non-Medical Prescribing Lead (RM); Kyna Harvey, Associate Director of Pharmacy – Medicines Governance & Digital Development (KH); Keith Maclure, Lead Pharmacist – Medicines Utilization & Planning (KMacl); Kate Warner, Meeting Administrator (KW).<br><b>Guests:</b> Rachel McKaig, Clinical Pharmacist – items 6.1, 6.2.; Zara Qureshi, Medicines Management Pharmacist – observer.<br><br><b>Apologies:</b> Dr Nicola Henderson, GP; Dr Sohail Bhatti, Director of Public Health; Dr Effie Dearden, Consultant DME; Dr Rebecca Devine, Public Health Consultant; Andrew Leitch, Lay-member. |                                             |
| 1.1  | <b>Declarations of Interest:</b> None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                             |
| 2.   | <b>DRAFT Minute previous meeting</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                             |
| 2.1  | Draft minute from 25 March 2026 meeting was approved as an accurate record of the meeting with no changes. Future actions to be included in a Teams Channel Action Tracker.<br><b>ACTION:</b> Remove draft, save as pdf for Intranet/NHS Borders website medicines management ( <b>KW</b> ).<br><b>ACTION:</b> Create and populate Action Tracker in Teams for ADTC ( <b>KW</b> ).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                             |

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| <b>3.</b> | <b>Matters Arising</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 3.1       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>4.</b> | <b>NEW MEDICINE APPLICATIONS / NON-FORMULARY REQUESTS:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 4.1       | ADTC noted the updated NFR Panel decisions – spreadsheet including any feedback                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>5.</b> | <b>PATIENT &amp; MEDICINES SAFETY:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 5.1       | Patient and Medicines Safety Update - InPhase reports and Medication Events included 127 events from 23/03/26-12/05/26; events decrease from previous report from 19/01/26-17/03/26 when 158 medication events were reported within NHS Borders. ADTC noted that the report has been updated to look at specific areas and give better feedback. MAU showing similar themes to previous reports – IDLs and medicine reconciliation. Additional education and training have resulted in less errors than previously reported.                                                                                        |
| <b>6.</b> | <b>CLINICAL POLICIES, PROCEDURES and GUIDELINES for APPROVAL:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 6.1       | <p>Warfarin Prescription Form.</p> <p>The form has been updated to reflect current guidelines and to cover regularly asked questions to provide more timely information for medics prescribing on the wards. Dose change for INRs; loading regimes remain the same. The guideline is only for In-Patient use. Use of DOACs has increased initiation within secondary care.</p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> APPROVED.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Email author; RMcK can progress to Procurement for printing (<b>KW</b>).</p>                                                                                                     |
| 6.2       | <p>Warfarin Reversal Chart.</p> <p>Chart has been updated to reflect current guidelines and previously used Beriplex. Risk factors for bleeding list is not an exhaustive list and it was agreed this should be updated to include “previous history of bleeding/GI bleeds”. Beriplex use discussed; stopped using in December and Prothrombin PCC prescribed; this is included on Medusa and should be used for IVs. Information is included in the box with vials.</p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> APPROVED with change as above.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Email author, receive update and progress to RDS (<b>KW</b>).</p> |
| 6.3       | <p>Bladder, Bowel &amp; Pelvic Floor Service formularies – acute, community and care home.</p> <p>ADTC discussed the formularies and approved; in future this will go through the new Medical Device Group with a new lead from Risk Team. It was agreed that KMacI should contact Risk Team regarding items used in primary care such as diabetes test strips/monitoring.</p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> APPROVED</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Email author (<b>KW</b>).</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Meeting with L Pringle (<b>KMacI</b>).</p>                                                                                        |

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| 6.4 | <p>Guideline for the safe prescribing and supply of isotretinoin in NHS Borders.</p> <p>ADTC reviewed the guideline which will ensure that the right information is included, such as how long a prescription can be written for, and gives more structure to the clinical team and safety for patients. This has been approved by the Dermatology Team and Area Pharmaceutical Committee. ADTC agreed this would provide a more robust system.</p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> APPROVED.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Email author, progress to RDS (<b>KW</b>).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6.5 | <p>Emergency Medicine Chart to be used Out of Hours.</p> <p>ADTC reviewed the chart which will allow patients to be discharged out of hours and give clear instructions to care homes on any medication changes and administration. Controlled stationery will be printed for this chart. Care homes have trialled and approved as this meets requirements for them. Risk of something changing and not being communicated was discussed. It was agreed that if care homes receive clear information they can transcribe onto their MAT chart. Another risk attached would be a patient who is in Emergency Department overnight – to ensure that information is correctly transferred to the next focus of care. ADTC approved and requested that training and education is put in place for Emergency Department and MAU. A request for inclusion in education – if this is not on controlled stationery than it cannot be used to ensure staff do not photocopy; it was agreed this should be added.</p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> APPROVED.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Email author, progress to RDS (<b>KW</b>).</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Education and training organised (<b>KH/RM</b>).</p>                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 6.6 | <p>Patient Group Direction (PGD) for supply and/or administration of Flucloxacillin 500 mg capsules or 250mg/5ml oral solution.</p> <p>This PGD has been reviewed by Borders Addiction Service and Dr James. Similar to a Pharmacy First PGD; patients will be able to go to community pharmacy if not registered with BAS. Training is given to community pharmacists to be able to identify DVT with usual parameters; included in exclusion criteria.</p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> APPROVED</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Email author, progress to PGD microsite (<b>KW</b>).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 6.7 | <p>Patient Group Direction (PGD) Development Policy – NHS Borders.</p> <p>ADTC discussed the updated development policy for PGDs. Clinical teams should be developing and reviewing PGDs within their specialist area, using the template available on the intranet. If there is a specialist pharmacist within that area, they should review the PGD before it goes to local governance groups for review and approval. Finally, the PGD comes to Rhona Morrison, Lead for PGDs for final checking and onto Medicines Governance before finally going to ADTC (for new PGDs) and to directors for sign off; or direct to directors for sign off (for updated PGDs). It was agreed that increase in access to prescribing was preferable to more PGDs and that the plan had been to reduce the number of PGDs. ADTC asked what the plans are for the organisation in terms of prescribers and asked for this to be escalated to the Board as a concern that we are losing, and not replacing, independent prescribers. What is the strategy for this and how does this blend with non-medical prescribers. Currently specialist nurses are prescribers within their specialities; if we rely on PGDs we will not encourage independent prescribers.</p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> APPROVED.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Email author, progress to RDS (<b>KW</b>).</p> |

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|           | <b>ACTION:</b> Escalate the concern regarding future independent prescribing and ask, on behalf of ADTC, what the organisation's strategy is on this ( <b>MC</b> ).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 6.8       | Shared Care Agreements – Ciclosporin; Mercaptopurine; Sulfasalazine.<br>ADTC reviewed the share care agreements recently approved by Clinical Interface Group and GP Subcommittee.<br><b>DECISION:</b> APPROVED.<br><b>ACTION:</b> Email author (KW).<br><b>ACTION:</b> RDS – Shared Care Agreement section (KH-RM- <b>KW</b> ).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 6.9       | ADTC reviewed the Elective Alcohol Detox Admissions and Alcohol Detox Guidelines which have been updated to reflect Thiamine product and dose in BGH and Huntlyburn, a move from unlicensed to licensed product.<br><b>DECISION:</b> APPROVED<br><b>ACTION:</b> Email author (KW).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 6.10      | ADTC noted Dr Paul Neary's forthcoming retirement and thanked him for his hard work on that and other formulary committees. Dr Neary was a member of Borders Formulary Committee, East Region Formulary Committee, Non Formulary Request Panel as well as the Anticoagulation Committee and a representative on SMC. His input and experience will be missed.<br><b>ACTION:</b> Invite Haematologist – Dr Charlotte Robertson to join Anticoagulation Committee ( <b>MC</b> ).<br><b>ACTION:</b> Request a medical physician from unscheduled care to join Anticoagulation Committee – ask AMDs ( <b>MC</b> ).                                               |
| <b>7.</b> | <b>FOR INFORMATION and NOTING:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 7.1       | ADTC noted the spreadsheet of Clinical Documents Updates for Right Decision Service – Drugs & Therapeutics. It was noted that clinicians are being asked to review guidelines as a matter of urgency so that they are not removed from RDS.<br><b>ACTION:</b> Representative from Obstetrics & Gynaecology required for ADTC ( <b>MC</b> ).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 7.2       | ADTC noted a number of Clinical documents recently approved and updated to RDS; approved by NHS Borders Anticoagulation Committee. They are: Elective Surgery Guideline: Low Molecular Weight Heparin, Warfarin, Direct Oral Anticoagulant and Anti-Platelet Management; Pre-and-post-procedure-bridging-form-with-elective-surgery-guideline; Extended Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) Prophylaxis for orthopaedic patients - NHS Borders; Extended Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) Prophylaxis for Surgical Patients undergoing Major Abdominal or Pelvic Surgery for Cancer - NHS Borders; Apixaban: prophylaxis of stroke and systemic embolism - NHS Borders. |
| 7.3       | ADTC noted the Vaccine Group Direction Policy; approved virtually by ADTC in May. VGDs are a replacement for the national protocols used during covid; VGDs are received from PHS and are reviewed and signed off as appropriate locally. Non-registrant staff can give vaccines, with the assessment and consent part being done by registrants. These VGDs will be required in NHS Borders to be able to operate due to staffing as we rely on bank staff and support workers.<br><b>ACTION:</b> Add VGD Policy to RDS ( <b>KW</b> ).                                                                                                                      |
| 7.4       | ADTC noted that KMacI has been nominated on behalf of NHS Borders ADTC - SMC pilot project (covering medicines reviewed by SMC Committee May to October 2026) where ADTCs will be able to request confidential cost-effectiveness results that were used for decision-making on individual medicines.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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| <b>8.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>FEEDBACK from SUBGROUPS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 8.1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Anticoagulation Committee – next meeting 1 June 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 8.2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | ADTC noted the Antimicrobial Management Team meeting (draft) action tracker – 25 March 2026 and that the team are currently revisiting the action plan and work plan. Staffing capacity have meant that the action plan has not been completed, and it is expected to be ready for the July ADTC agenda. Highlighted a risk around staffing and this risk has recently been reassigned to the Medical Director. Locum impact on prescribing decisions and, from Omnicell reports, the BGH are using more not generated by microbiology advice – request to flag this to consultants. It was agreed that MC and KH would discuss with further with EJ and send a letter of support for these issues to Medical Director from ADTC. It was agreed that plans are required for Omnicell messaging.<br><b>ACTION:</b> Meeting to discuss antibiotics prescribing in BGH – MC, KH, EJ ( <b>KW</b> ). |
| 8.3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | ADTC noted the IV Therapy Group meeting minute – 13 May 2026 and that the PCA guidelines is about to be published on RDS.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 8.4                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | ADTC noted the Medicines Resource Group meeting (draft) minute - 22 April 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 8.5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Medicines Governance and Safety Group – next meeting 8 June 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 8.6                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Tissue Viability Steering Group – next meeting 25 June 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 8.7                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | ADTC noted the East Region Formulary Committee approved meeting minute – 18 March 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 8.8                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | ADTC noted the NHS Lothian ADTC meeting minute - 6 February 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>9.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>AOCB</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 9.1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | ADTC discussed a review of Medicines Approval Process Update to include medicines which have not been to SMC and therefore not recommended. This group of drugs will go through the NFR route and the form and process should be updated. This can be circulated virtually for approval and noted at the next meeting.<br><b>ACTION:</b> Circulate new process on behalf of KH for approval ( <b>KW</b> ).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday 22 JULY 2026 at 12:30pm via Microsoft Teams.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Items expected for future Agendas –</b><br>JULY - Adult Extravasation Policy – RDS ready but waiting for updates from linked guidelines.<br>JULY - SBAR Migraine: Therapeutic Botulinum Toxin (Botox) Injection Clinic.<br>JULY - CAM Policy.<br>JULY – Antimicrobial Management Team Action & Work Plans. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |