

PrescQIPP work plan 2026-28 (two-year rolling work plan)

Bulletin name	Scope	Category	Quality assurance process planned quarter							
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
			Apr - Jun 2026	Jul - Sep 2026	Oct - Dec 2026	Jan - Mar 2027	Apr - Jun 2027	Jul - Sep 2027	Oct - Dec 2027	Jan - Mar 2028
Dental products on FP10	Update to include advice for patients with cancer (caries prevention in head and neck cancer) and prescribing of artificial saliva products. Include when it is appropriate to prescribe toothpastes, oncology or should this be hospital supply? Further guidance around what dental products GPs should/should not prescribe is needed. GPs are reluctant to prescribe dental products due to lack of expertise and potential liability, e.g. metronidazole suppositories in LDA patient. Impact of private dentistry, patients not registered, where does this leave GPs if patient has indication for dental product but no dentist?	N								
Point of care testing	Update to bulletin 236. Point of care testing . Consider community pharmacy testing and clear directions regarding genomic testing program. Keep very practical and useful where cost benefit demonstrated - cover community pharmacy, GP, OOHs, validated tests such as CRP, FeNO, sore throat.	N								
LHRH agonists in prostate cancer	Update to bulletin 257. LHRH agonists in prostate cancer . Useful to understand their use across a plethora of indications. Potential savings opportunities. Include staladex and relugolix potential savings opportunities. Case studies/examples/ learning from ICBs that have successfully completed a switch to lower cost and less frequently admin triptorelin. Place in therapy for 6 month injections and payments practices receive.	C								

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Probiotics	Update to bulletin 262. Probiotics . Include discussion on current trend in media around improving gut microbiome which should be part of self care.	C								
Care homes medicines optimisation	Update to bulletin 279. Care homes medicines optimisation . Include updates to DES requirements and also EHCH. Incorporate the ONE Devon advice sheets as tools with PrescQIPP care homes resource . Incorporate update to bulletin 305. Implementing NICE guidance in care homes .	N								
Prescribing, ordering and receiving medicines in care homes	Update to bulletin 291. Prescribing, ordering and receiving medicines in care homes . Add information for oxygen cylinders, anaphylaxis etc. Update to include NI, Wales and Scotland guidance too. Link to RPS toolkit. Incorporate update to bulletin 259. Care homes/domiciliary care - Pharmacy Technician medication review and process reviews .	N								
Medicines administration in care homes	Update to bulletin 293. Medicines administration in care homes . NI stated there is no equality act in NI so make relevant for NI.	N								
Fentanyl	Update to bulletin 285. Fentanyl .	C								
Antipsychotic drugs	Update to bulletin 286. Antipsychotic drugs . Elements of this document do not apply in NI, e.g. they do not have SCG arrangements in place for prescribing of antipsychotics. Link to overmedication resources. Review prescribing in patients on multiple antipsychotics.	C								

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Sunscreens	<p>Update to bulletin 289. Sunscreens. Update along with additional info about who can be prescribed and what quantity is recommended, e.g. some policies recommending 200ml per month, as prescribing is only for face, neck and hands - other parts of the body should be covered up with clothing or sunscreen purchased by the patient.</p> <p>Include NI data and increase emphasis on sun avoidance, e.g. Australian messaging re slip slap slop seek slide. Further information on the ACBS indications to help decide which patients are suitable for prescribing. List of drugs where sunscreens may be needed. Sunscreens in schools.</p>	C								
Branded generic medicines	<p>Update to bulletin 290. Branded generic medicines. Add information on changes in discount deduction. How to deal with inconsistencies, e.g. MHRA recommendation to brand prescribe MR meds and BNF saying not necessary for many. Consider AWMSG position statement.</p>	N								
Rubefacients	<p>Update to bulletin 287. Rubefacients. Cost comparison charts, Capsaicin and drug shortages</p>	C								
GLP-1 mimetic quantities	<p>Update to hot topic - GLP-1 Mimetics. Update with new treatments (Mounjaro) and discontinued drugs. Include excessive prescribing of needles with this resource.</p>	C								
Addressing health inequalities	<p>Tools and resources to support addressing health inequalities. Actions practices may undertake to reduce health inequalities at a practice level.</p>	N								

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Antidepressants	<p>Update to bulletin 330. Antidepressants. Update bulletin include the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation for using paroxetine should be reviewed - not first line in people with CHD due to anticholinergic effects and not a first line choice in breastfeeding due to increased neonatal withdrawal symptoms. • Dosulepin and trimipramine - strongly advise to seek specialist advice if considering deprescribing. • Pregnancy section needs to mention BUMPS in text and need for most up todate resources - also perinatal Mental Health advice service and the CMHP medication leaflet. • Slow tapering of sertraline advise to liaise with pharmacy as these formulations are very costly and not always palatable. • Also locally the Prescribed medication service may be of support. • Agomelatine - came out favourably in last meta-analysis so needs updating. • Include reference to the deprescribing guidance by Mark Horowitz. • Better referencing of non medical options for mild to moderate depression 	C								
Patient Decision Aids	<p>Bulletin on Patient Decision Aids highlighting the important role they can play with patients when discussing prescribing of medication. The bulletin could also highlight the resources available, e.g. GP Evidence, NICE shared decision making resource etc.</p>	N								

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Introduction to working in primary care for pharmacy professionals	Introduction to prescribing and medicines optimisation in primary care and working in general practice/PCNs. This resources is aimed at pharmacists and pharmacy technicians new to this area. Signpost to CPPE resources for the bits they cover. Practical points that can be used by all and are not just England focused.	S								
GP Clinical system training	Update the resources on practice systems for EMIS & S1 as these are quite a few years old. Update and possibly more focussed on the medication side, i.e. adding, removing of meds, sending letters and text messages via AccuRx. Add Skills training around journal entries and patient access. What considerations (legal and best practice) do medicines optimisation teams need to make. Note the clinical system providers no longer want to provide the training so doing this will depend on us being able to find suitable trainers.	S								
Excel training	New course on Excel upskilling for medicines optimisation teams to update previous recording which was done in 2016. Include power BI in the training	S								
Pharmacogenomics	Pharmacogenomic testing in primary care and how this will allow for tailoring of individual treatments. Progress on pharmacogenetic testing pilots in general practice and potential future tests.	C								

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Prescribing on the NHS following a private consultation	<p>Update to bulletin 238: Prescribing on the NHS following a private consultation. Include Welsh guidance. Requests to participate in shared care from private providers Antimicrobial and CD prescribing on private is growing and difficult to monitor. Volume of private prescribing is increasing as a proportion of NHS plus private - important to maintain processes.</p> <p>Include Right to choose scenarios (ADHD, gender dysphoria). Practices need guidance on the process to follow and evidence they can give to patients for their rational, especially important if refusing. Look for any new national guidance. Interface prescribing issues.</p>	N								
Inhaler awareness campaign materials	Update to bulletin 375. Inhaler carbon footprint . Update so they align with current NICE guidance. Include Pharmacy Technician focused training/information packs.	N								
Specials prescribing	Update bulletin 301: Specials prescribing . All diazepam liquids all now specials. Agreed NI Paediatric specials list - between secondary and primary care etc. HSC Agreed list of Paediatric liquid medicines NI Formulary combine with bulletin 317. Repatriation of specials and resources.	C								
Dermatology - Cost effective prescribing	Update bulletin 307: Cost effective prescribing in dermatology . Combine with bulletin 312. Shampoos and scalp preparations . Update and remove discontinued products.	Q								

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Antimicrobial stewardship	Update to bulletin 313. Antimicrobial stewardship . Ensure links are working (link to All Wales guidance not currently working). Include AWARE guidance, Duration optimisation, EOLAS guidance. Link in with NHS futures and include AMS in pharmacy first.	C								
Travel vaccines	Update bulletin 316: Travel vaccines to bring all relevant information into a single resource, including information on GP reimbursements (FP34). Check for updates to guidance. Reference Wales guidance .	C								
Melatonin	Update bulletin 318. Melatonin . Incorporate new products and pricing, switch savings, new evidence regarding negative effects of melatonin.	C								
Empowering patients to manage their repeat prescriptions	Update bulleting 325: Empowering patients to manage their repeat prescriptions . Include app in NHS Wales (myHealthOnline no longer active in wales), updated RPS guidance. Reinforce the use of the NHS app to support patients. Reinforce patients ordering medication directly as opposed to third-party and online pharmacy services. NI processes different. MyCare/My chart app. Incorporate new guidance from 10 year plan.	N								
Reducing opioid prescribing in chronic pain	Update bulletin 336. Reducing opioid prescribing in chronic pain . FPM/Opioids Aware has been updated and suggests that doses over 90mg ome should be reviewed and the ideal target dose is 50mg ome. The new FPM thresholds now align with SIGN and US. https://fpm.ac.uk/opioids-aware Share examples of change from other ICBs.	C								

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Male sexual dysfunction	Update bulletin 337. Male sexual dysfunction . Incorporate an update to bulletin 322. Tadalafil once daily .	C								
Chronic heart failure	Update 347. Chronic heart failure . Update in line with new NICE guidance. Include advice for frail patients, when to prioritise deprescribing over optimisation. Which medicines can be deprescribed and which should be discontinued despite a limited prognosis.	C								
Digital and technology solutions to support medicines optimisation	Scope or signpost to organisations that scope digital and technology solutions that may support medicines management: Diagnostics, Monitoring, Education, Shared Decision Making, Concordance. What is the place of AI (use of CHATGPT and other AI) Quantify investment and long term benefits. Include a series of webinars from providers of the technology so subscribers can hear more about them (e.g. ORCHA review and score health apps, many of which can support medicines optimisation). Link in with AHSNs who are currently also working in this area to evaluate apps and new technology.	N								
Dapagliflozin and Sitagliptin switching resources	Non-dapagliflozin SGLT2i (esp empagliflozin) to dapagliflozin Non-sitagliptin Gliptins to Sitagliptin (esp linagliptin) In view of loss of patent, resulting in generic dapagliflozin and sitagliptin being significantly cheaper - searches, data collection forms, patient resources such as PIL; text messages etc. to help practices with the switch - this ideally this should be a priority in view of huge windfall that can be used to off-set rise in CGM usage etc. Resources will include, searches, audits and SOPs for switches.	Q								

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Recommendations for Prescription Issues for AIR and MART therapies	The BMJ editorial on the updated NICE asthma guidance (new UK asthma guideline: meeting the challenge to change. The BMJ identified the risk of patients who are inappropriately over-ordering/over using their MART inhalers. Therefore it is essential as the whole country implements NICE Asthma guidelines, clinicians are aware of what number of MART inhalers in a 6 month period is acceptable and what sort of numbers indicate over-ordering/poor compliance/poor control. The resource would advise on over use of AIR and MART.									
High Cost Drugs Assurance	A guide for ICBs and BI colleagues about how to monitor high cost drugs spend, what data may be available and how this can be used to improve prescribing/adherence to NICE/preventing unnecessary use. Examples of projects people have done. Resource will cover all sectors as life sciences plan seems to suggest more HCDS to go through primary care where clinically acceptable. Resources based on PrescQIPP high cost drugs assurance webinar and would be complimented by high cost drugs webkit . Approaches for High cost drugs document and then a seperate appendix which includes cases studies.	N								
Parkinson's disease	Bulletin on treatments for management of Parkinson's disease including emerging treatments for on demand "rescue" therapies for Parkinsons disease including the new inhaled levodopa.	C								
Formularies	A resource which links to the website of all the formularies in the UK, If possible make into a smart resource which lets users search for a key term, so that users could see the formulary status of drugs around the country. Note this may overlap with work NHSE are doing.	N								

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