



Reference: FOI.ICB-2526/182

Subject: Antimicrobial Guidelines (Epididymo-orchitis / Fluoroquinolones) Governance and MHRA Alert Implementation

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
Date range: 1 January 2024 to today.	
Group (or equivalent), and any relevant working groups.	•
 1. Guideline versions & text a. The current BNSSG antimicrobial guideline section covering epididymo-orchitis/epididymitis (primary care). b. All previous versions of this EO section published/valid since 1 Jan 2024, with version numbers and dates. c. Any formal change log or version history for the EO section in that period. 	a. Current guideline version 9.9:





Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucester South **Antimicrobial Prescribing Guidelines for BNSSG Health Community** ILLNESS **DURATION OF** TREATMENT Epididymo-STIs infection probable: recent change sexual Most likely due to any STI: partner, urethral discharge, STI contact 1gram IM orchitis Ceftriaxone STAT 100mg BD 10-14 days BASHH PLUS Doxycycline Gonorrhoea more likely if: purulent urethral discharge, man who has sex with men, black Endorse Second line if ethnicity or contact gonorrhoea. prescription 'FS' ceftriaxone/doxycycline to enable free contraindicated : 200mg BD 14 days NHS prescription Remember to assess and treat partner(s) Ofloxacin epidemiologically Most likely due to chlamydia Traditional risk linked to age, with >35yrs indicating or other non-gonococcal enteric micro-organism more likely. But >10-13% men aged 35-65 have at least one new sexual organisms (if no risk factors for gonorrhoea) partner in the last year (NATSAL 2013) 100mg BD 10-14 days Or Ofloxacin 200mg BD 14 days Remember to exclude Torsion if acute onset and unilateral as testicular salvage is required within 6 hours and success diminishes with time. Most likely due to an STI and an enteric organism Ceftriaxone Send urine for cultures and sensitivities: 1gram IM STAT PLUS Ofloxacin Enteric origin suspected - boric acid container 200mg BD 14 days STI suspected – universal container for STI screen Most likely due to an enterio (urethral swab also required) 200mg BD 14 days Ofloxacin MHRA Fluroquinolone warning 500mg po OD 10 days Or Levofloxacin Fluroquinolone patient information leaflet If guinolones are contraindicated, treat with: 625mg po TDS 10 days Review with cultures at 48-72 hours b. Previous guidelines:

February 24 version 9.8 -link to MHRA alert and fluroquinolone

patient information leaflet added





Antimicrobial Prescribing Guidelines for BNSSG Health Community ILLNESS COMMENTS MEDICINE ADULT DOSE DURATION OF TREATMENT Epididymo-STIs infection probable: recent change sexual Most likely due to any STI: partner, urethral discharge, STI contact Ceftriaxone 1gram IM orchitis PLUS Doxycycline 100mg BD 10-14 days BASHH Gonorrhoea more likely if: purulent urethral discharge, man who has sex with men, black Endorse Second line if ethnicity or contact gonorrhoea. prescription 'FS' ceftriaxone/doxycycline to enable free contraindicated : 200mg BD 14 days NHS prescription Remember to assess and treat partner(s) Ofloxacin epidemiologically Most likely due to chlamydia Traditional risk linked to age, with >35yrs indicating or other non-gonococcal enteric micro-organism more likely. But >10-13% organisms (if no risk factors men aged 35-65 have at least one new sexual partner in the last year (NATSAL 2013) Doxycycline 100mg BD 10-14 days Or Ofloxacin 200mg BD Remember to exclude Torsion if acute onset and unilateral as testicular salvage is required within 6 Most likely due to an STI and hours and success diminishes with time. an enteric organism MHRA Fluroquinolone warning STAT 1gram IM PLUS Ofloxacin Fluroquinolone patient information leaflet 200mg BD 14 days Most likely due to an enterio 200mg BD 14 days Oflovacio 500mg po OD 10 days Or Levofloxacin If quinolones are contraindicated, treat with: 625mg po TDS 10 days Review with cultures at 48-72 hours

Guideline valid January 24 version 9.7





					Brist	ol, North Somerset
		Antimic	crobial Prescribing Guidelines COMMENTS	For BNSSG Health C MEDICINE	ADULT DOSE	th Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board DURATION OF
		Epididymo- orchitis	STIs infection probable: recent change sexual partner, urethral discharge, STI contact	Most likely due to any STI: Ceftriaxone	1gram IM	STAT
		Endorse prescription 'FS' to enable free NHS prescription	Gonorrhoea more likely if: purulent urethral discharge, man who has sex with men, black ethnicity or contact gonorrhoea.	Second line if ceftriaxone/doxycycline contraindicated :	100mg BD 200mg BD	10-14 days
		The prescription	Remember to assess and treat partner(s) epidemiologically Traditional risk linked to age, with >35yrs indicating enteric micro-organism more likely. But >10-13% men aged 35-65 have at least one new sexual partner in the last year (NATSAL 2013)	Ofloxacin Most likely due to chlamydia or other non-gonococcal organisms (if no risk factors for gonorrhoea)	-	
			Remember to exclude Torsion if acute onset and unilateral as testicular salvage is required within 6 hours and success diminishes with time.	Doxycycline Or Ofloxacin Most likely due to an STI and an enteric organism Ceftriaxone	100mg BD 200mg BD	10-14 days 14 days
			MHRA Fluroquinolone warning	PLUS Ofloxacin Most likely due to an enteric organism	1gram IM 200mg BD 200mg BD	STAT 14 days
				Ofloxacin Or Levofloxacin If quinolones are contra- indicated, treat with:	500mg po OD	14 days 10 days
				Co-amoxiclav	625mg po TDS	10 days Review with cultures at 48-72 hours
	(AN	ЛРОС) m	ibing and Medicines nedicines guidance	-		
	For	version				IOITIIUIAI Y IO DIUE
				nation on samplir		Enables a quinolone to be stopped if sensitivities enable
			TO OTHER MEANS I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I		rena ir Minaiil	namies to
2. Change rationale & governance	a.					
 a. Minutes, agendas, and papers of Medicines Optimisation/Antimicrobial Stewardship 			enclosed the Agendescribing and Medic		•	,



meetings where either the **EO section** or the **MHRA 22-Jan-2024 fluoroquinolone restrictions** were discussed.

- b. Any Clinical Safety Impact Assessment / Quality Impact Assessment / Equality Impact Assessment undertaken when reviewing or publishing EO content since 1 Jan 2024.
- c. Any **rationale papers or options appraisals** that considered how to reflect the MHRA restriction (e.g., whether to retain or remove ofloxacin/levofloxacin entries, or to add "only when other antibiotics are inappropriate" wording).
- April 2024, where the changes to the antibiotic guideline were approved item 5.12 on the agenda. Changes to the EO guideline were not specifically raised.
- Enclosed are the agenda and minutes (Docs 2/2.1) of the BNSSG AMS Collaboration, 24th January 2024 the item was not on the agenda but raised under AOB
- Enclosed are the agenda and minutes of the BNSSG AMS
 Collaboration (Docs 03/3.1), 20th March 2024 item 3 on the agenda.

Please note: FOI requests and responses are publicly available and therefore personal information has been redacted. The ICB considers the names included in the enclosed documents to be personal information and therefore has applied a section 40 (Personal Information) exemption to this information.

- b. Not held
- c. Not held

3. MHRA/CAS alert implementation

- a. Records showing receipt and implementation of the MHRA 22-Jan-2024 fluoroquinolone alert (e.g., CAS alerts, action plans, sign-off, audit/assurance of dissemination).
- Any prescribing bulletins, newsletters, safety notices or flash alerts issued to primary care regarding fluoroguinolone safety in 2024–2025;
- Internal safety/ CAS alert action log states receipt of alert on 22/1/24 and circulated to primary care colleagues including medicines optimisation pharmacists, embedded practice pharmacists, PCN pharmacists and pharmacy technicians



include the **circulation list** or description of recipients.

b. February 2024 Medicines Optimisation Newsletter

Fluroquinolone MHRA Alert

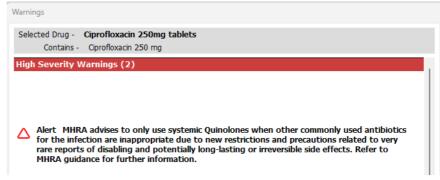
Fluroquinolone antibiotics must now only be prescribed when other commonly recommended antibiotics are inappropriate in line with a new MHRA alert as they can cause long-lasting, disabling and potentially irreversible side effects, sometimes affecting multiple body systems and senses. BNSSG community antibiotic guidelines have been reviewed and except for prostatitis (which is in line with national guidelines) quinolones are not advised first line. To support a reduction in quinolone use clear records of penicillin allergy / intolerance and using ceftriaxone IM when advised first line for STIs is recommended. The MHRA have a patient information leaflet to assist with conversations.

This newsletter is distributed to those interested in medicines in primary care including GP practices and community pharmacists.

4. Decision-support changes

- a. Details of any changes to EMIS/TPP/SystmOne prompts, ScriptSwitch/OptimiseRx rules, or MicroGuide entries specifically relating to fluoroquinolones and/or the EO section since 1 Jan 2024 (include dates, rule text/screenshots, and who authorised the change).
- b. If BNSSG uses MicroGuide or another digital guideline platform, provide the admin change log for the EO page and any ofloxacin/levofloxacin entries during the date range.

a. EMIS have an alert (produced centrally):



We do not hold details of when this was released on EMIS Scriptswitch message





ScriptSwitch Prescribing Decision Support
Original Ciprofloxacin 250mg tablets (10 tablet) ONE TO BE TAKEN TWICE A DAY Est. Cost: £0.67
Continue with Original
• Information
MHRA update (Jan-24): Fluoroquinolone antibiotics restricted use. Only prescribe when other commonly recommended antibiotics for the infection are inappropriate i.e.: • there is resistance or contraindications to other first-line antibiotics • treatment with other first-line antibiotics has failed or side effects require treatment to be stopped
Advise patients to stop treatment at the first signs of a serious adverse reaction such as tendinitis or tendon rupture, muscle pain, muscle weakness, joint pain, joint swelling, peripheral neuropathy, and central nervous system effects. • For patients: A supporting MHRA Key Information document is available.
MHRA update (Sept-23) Reminder: risk of psychiatric adverse reactions Advise nations to read nations information leaflet and seek medical advice if experiencing mond changes, distressing thoughts, or feelings about suicide
Most recent version released October 2024. Dates and previous
versions not held.
b. No digital guideline platform is used for primary care antibiotic
guidelines in BNSSG.



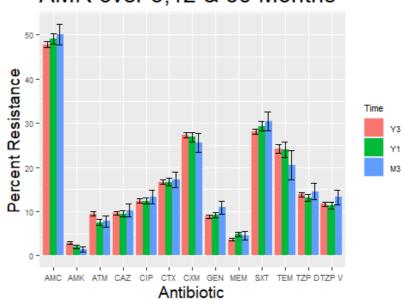


- 5. Audit / monitoring
 - a. Any audits or retrospective reviews of fluoroquinolone prescribing for EO in primary care since 1 Jan 2024 (protocol/method, findings, actions). If none, please confirm "none held".
 - Any local microbiology/antibiogram summaries cited to justify retaining fluoroquinolones for enteric EO (if held centrally for guideline decisions).

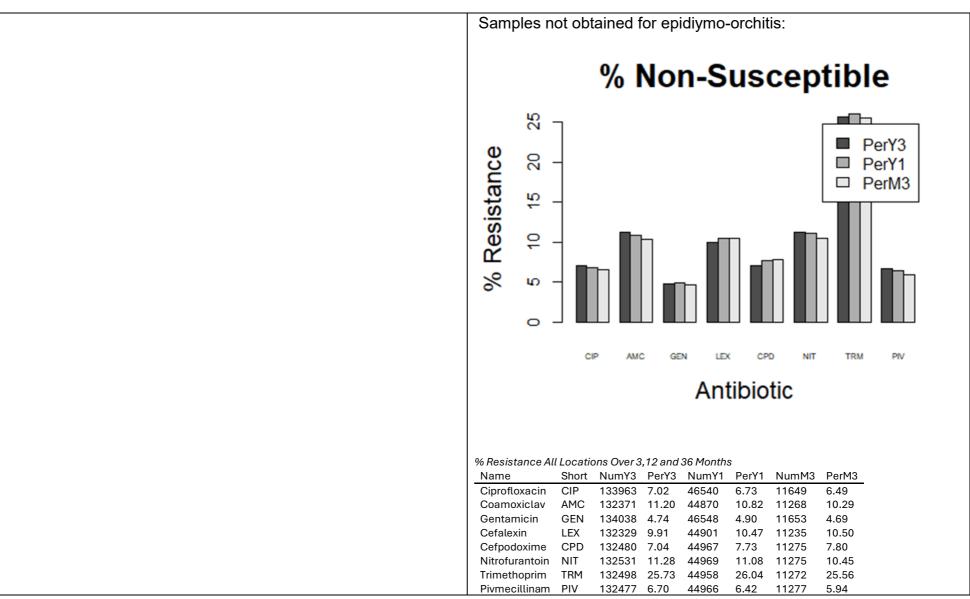
- a) Review of patients on long term fluroquinolones in primary care. Practices completed this review. Outcomes were not collated.
- b) Gram negative antibiogram from blood cultures:

Antibiogram GP urine samples:

AMR over 3,12 & 36 Months









6. Ownership & review cycle

- The next scheduled review date for the EO section and the post(s)/team responsible for updates.
- b. The **process for interim safety updates** when MHRA issues licence-level restrictions impacting existing BNSSG guidance (policy or SOP).
- a) A full review of the antibiotic guideline occurs every 3 years and is currently being undertaken.
 - As national guidelines or safety updates are released sections are updated as needed.
- b) No SOP or policy. Required changes are delt with individually.

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 7 October 2025 and has been approved for release by Dr Geeta Iyer, Deputy Chief Medical Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.



BNSSG Area Prescribing Medicines Optimisation Committee (APMOC)

Date: Thursday 11th April 2024

Time: 13.30-16.00

Location: Microsoft Teams Virtually.

Agenda

1	Welcome, Introductions, Apologies	Verbal	
2	Declarations of Interest	Verbal	
3	Minutes of the Previous Meeting Thursday 1st February	Attached	
4	Action Log	Attached	All
	Decision		
5	Standard Agenda Item - Guidelines & Pathways Guideline Tracker – Future guidelines to update	To be presented at the meeting	Formulary team
5.1	Ophthalmology pathways – Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) and Diabetic Macular oedema (DMO) – UHBW and UHBW	Attached	
5.2	Adult treatment pathway for potassium binders for persistent hyperkalaemia	Attached	
5.3	Use of dapagliflozin and empagliflozin (SGLT2i) in patient with heart failure	Attached	&

5.4	Primary Care Heart Failure Treatment Guideline	Attached	Formulary Team
5.5	Vitamin D Patient Information Leaflet	Attached	
5.6	PPI Guidance	Attached	
5.7	Commissioning Pathway for Botulinum Toxin A for Overactive Bladder in Paediatrics No (minor update) Commissioning Pathways for Bruxism and	All Attached	
	Trigeminal Neuralgia		
5.8	Oral Amiodarone status change impact TBC by UHBW	TBC	UHBW
	Healthier together PSDs:		
5 0	Subcutaneous administration of insulin PSD for primary care and Sirona use		
5.9	Authorisation for administration of medication PSD for primary care and Sirona use, specialist prescribing of red drug.	All Attached	
	Subcutaneous administration of insulin (secondary care discharges) PSD		
	Authorisation for administration of medication (secondary care discharges) PSD		
5.10	Aspirin in the management of Lynch syndrome	Attached	
	BNSSG Blood Glucose Management in Type 2 Diabetes		
5.11	BNSSG Type 1 Blood Glucose Monitoring Guidance (Primary Care)	Attached	
	BNSSG Type 2 Diabetes Blood Glucose Monitoring Guidance (Adults)		

	BNSSG Pen Needles Guidance		
5.12	Antibiotic Guideline Updates	Attached	
5.13	BNSSG Migraine Prevention Pathway – For Information Only	Attached	
5.14	BNSSG Insomnia Pathway for Adults – For Information Only	Attached	
5.15	Covert Medicine use in Care homes update	Attached	
5.16	Homely Remedies update	Attached	
	Strategic		
6.0	Prescribing Quality Scheme	To Follow	
6.1	Inclisiran Update	Verbal	
6.2	Healthwatch Update – current and future work plans	To Follow	
6.3	Anticoagulant update and discussion	Verbal	
	Finance		
	i mance		
7	Finance		
	Horizon Scanning position and update	For information	
	Groups reporting to APMOC	3	
8	ICS Medicines Quality & Safety Group		
	Key points from latest meeting and subgroups	Verbal	
	Medicines Shortage	Verbal	
	•		

9	BNSSG Joint Formulary Group		
	Key points from latest meeting	Verbal	Formulary team
10	ICS High-Cost Drugs		
	Update from latest meeting	Verbal	
	Standing Items		
11	New NICE Guidance		
	<u>Tuberculosis</u> NG33		
	Vitamin B12 deficiency in over 16s: diagnosis and management NG239	For	
	Lung cancer: diagnosis and management NG122	Information and	
	Meningitis (bacterial) and meningococcal disease: recognition, diagnosis and management NG240	discussion	
	Neonatal infection: antibiotics for prevention and treatment NG195		
	Suspected sepsis: recognition, diagnosis and early management NG51		
	Ovarian cancer: identifying and managing familial and genetic risk NG241		
12	Minutes		
12.1	Minutes from latest – ICS Medicines Quality & Safety Group	Attached	
12.2	Minutes from latest – Joint Formulary Group	Attached	
12.3	Action Log from latest – High-Cost Drugs Meeting	Attached	
13	Any Other Business		ALL



	Data of post monting. Thursday C/C 4220 4C00	
	Date of next meeting: Thursday 6/6 1330-1600	
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BNSSG Area Prescribing Medicines Optimisation Committee (APMOC)

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6th June 2024

Time: 13:30 – 16:00 Location: Microsoft Teams

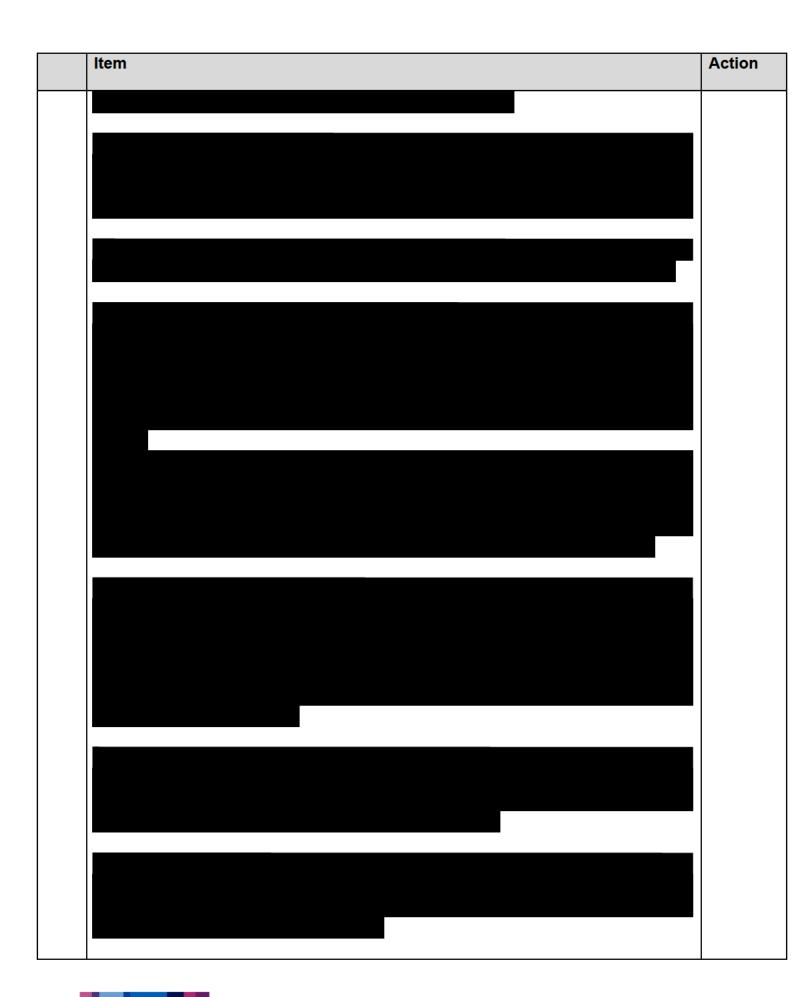
Minutes

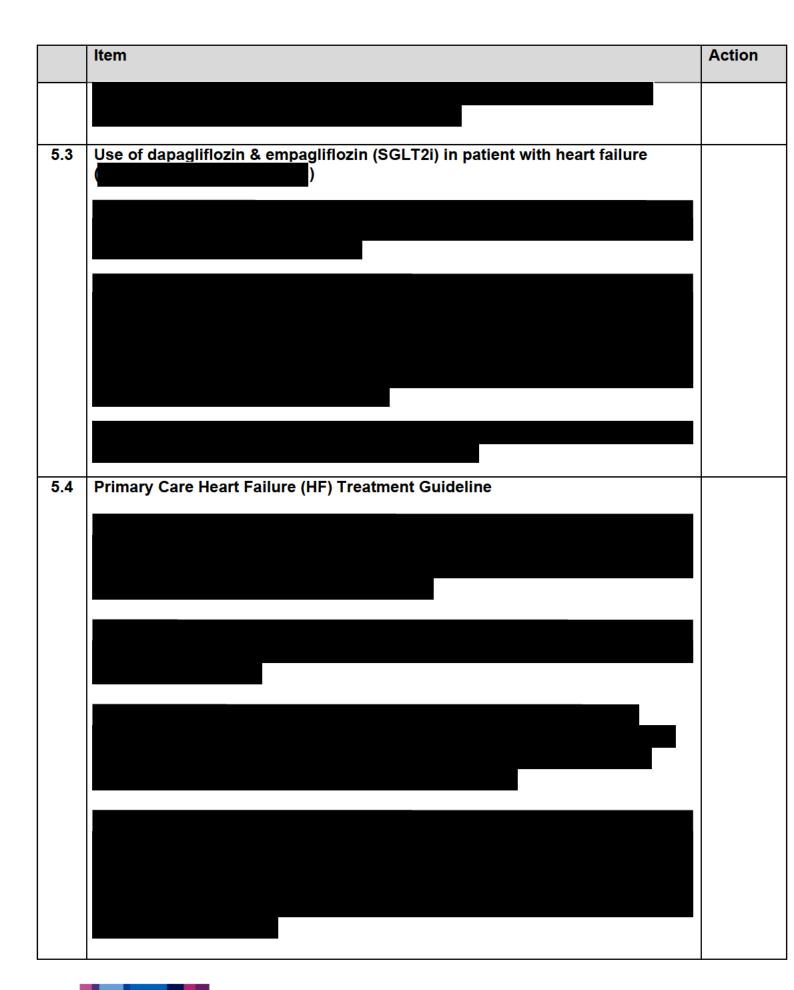
Present		
	Chief Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
(Chair)		
(Minutes)	Admin Assistant, BNSSG, ICB	
(Williates)	ICS Community Pharmacy Clinical Lead, BNSSG ICB	
	Renal Consultant NIHR Clinical Lecturer for item 5.2	
	Interface Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
	Clinical Pharmacist and Non-Medical Prescriber	
	GPCB Clinical Lead, BNSSG ICB & OneCare	
	Principal Medicine Optimisation Pharmacist – BNSSG ICB	
	Principal Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
	Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
	Deputy Chief Medical Officer, BNSSG ICB	
	Health Watch Representative BNSSG	
	GP and Clinical lead of Cancer Services, BNSSG ICB -For	
	Item 5.10	
	Interface Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
	Director of Pharmacy, UHBW	
	Interface Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
	Head Of Medicine Optimisation, Sirona	
	Programme Officer, Medicines Optimisation, BNSSG ICB	
	Clinical Pharmacy Manager, UHBW	
	Principal Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
	Senior Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist - Diabetes Lead,	
	BNSSG ICB for item 5.11	
	Principal Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
	Consultant in Acute Medicine, NBT	
	Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist, BNSSG, ICB	
	Senior Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	
	Principal Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist, BNSSG ICB	

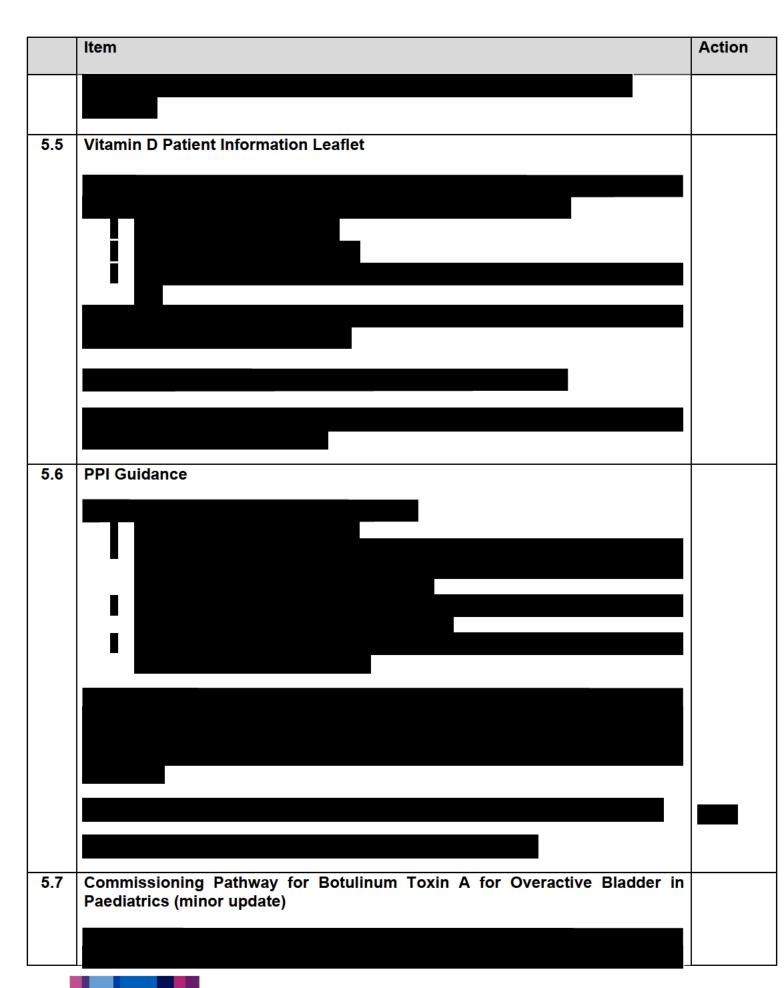
		Consultant Cardiologist UHBW – for Item 5.2	
		Director Pharmacy, NBT	
		Formulary Pharmacist, NBT	
	_	Specialist Pharmacist High-Cost Drugs BNSSG	
		Consultant Ophthalmologist UHBW – for item 5.1	
Apologies			
		Chief Officer, Community Pharmacy Avon	
		High Cost Drugs Pharmacist, NBT	
		GP registrar, BNSSG ICB	

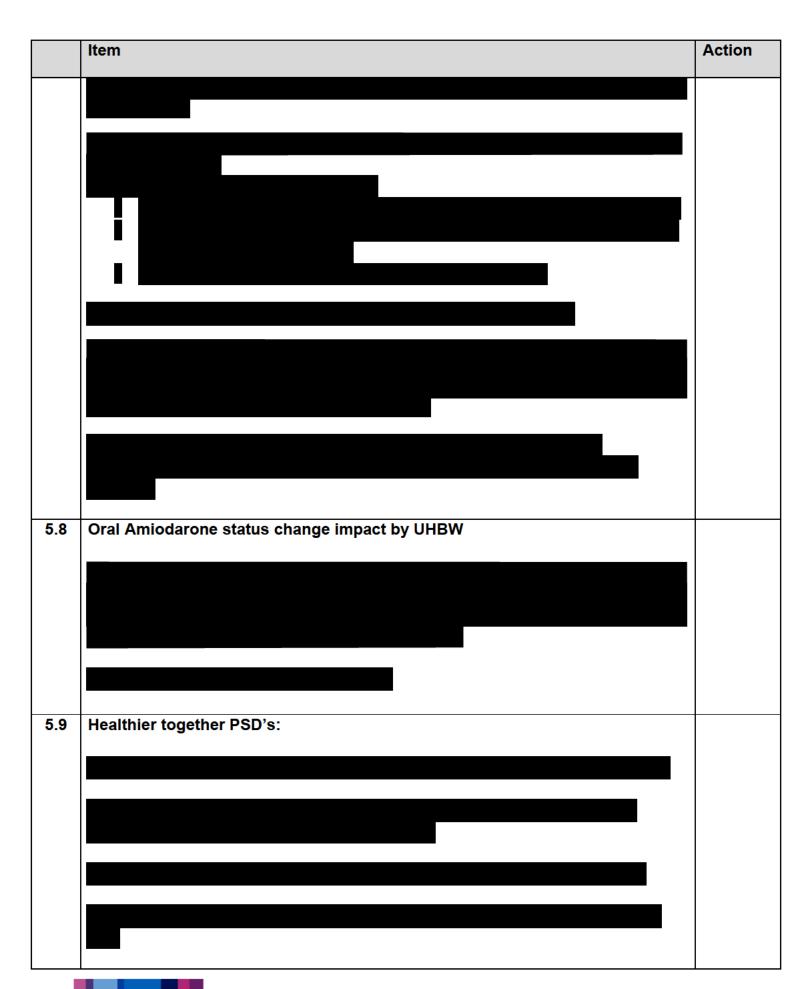
	Item	Action
1	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	
2	Declarations of Interest	
3	Minutes of the Previous Meeting – Thursday 1 st February	
4	Action Log –	

	Item	Action
	Decision Octobrida A manufacture Caridalina a Decision	<u> </u>
5	Standard Agenda Item – Guidelines & Pathways	
5.1	Ophthalmology pathways – Age related macular degeneration and Diabetic Macular oedema (
5.2	Adult treatment pathway for potassium binders for persistent hyperkalaemia	

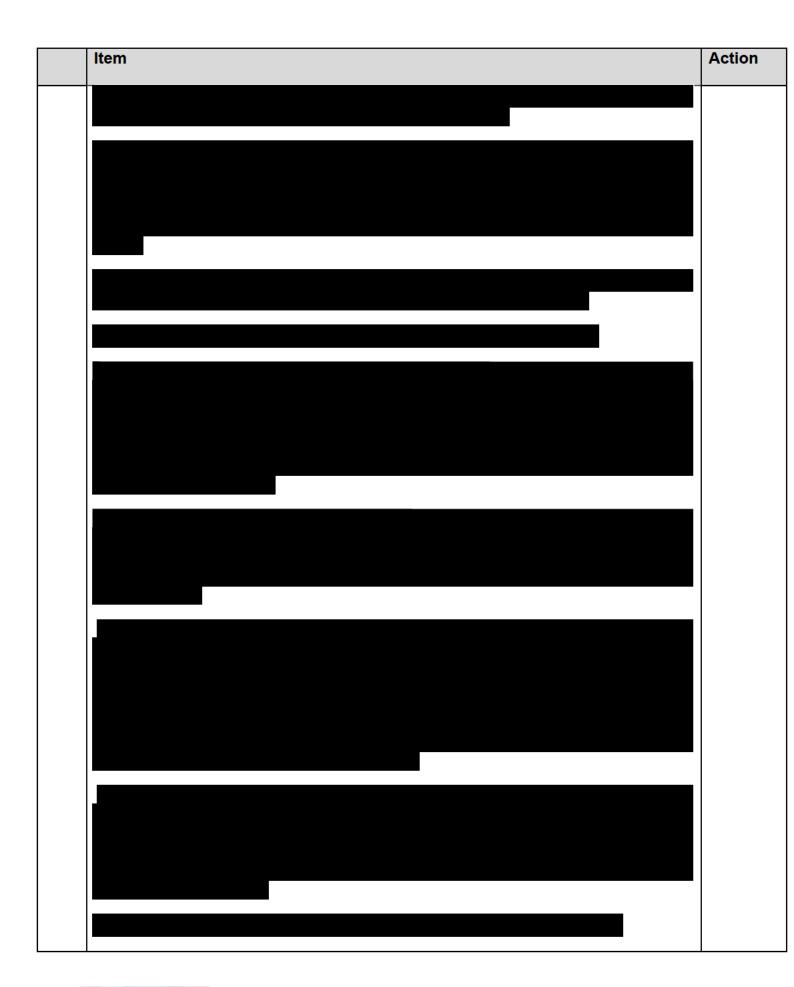


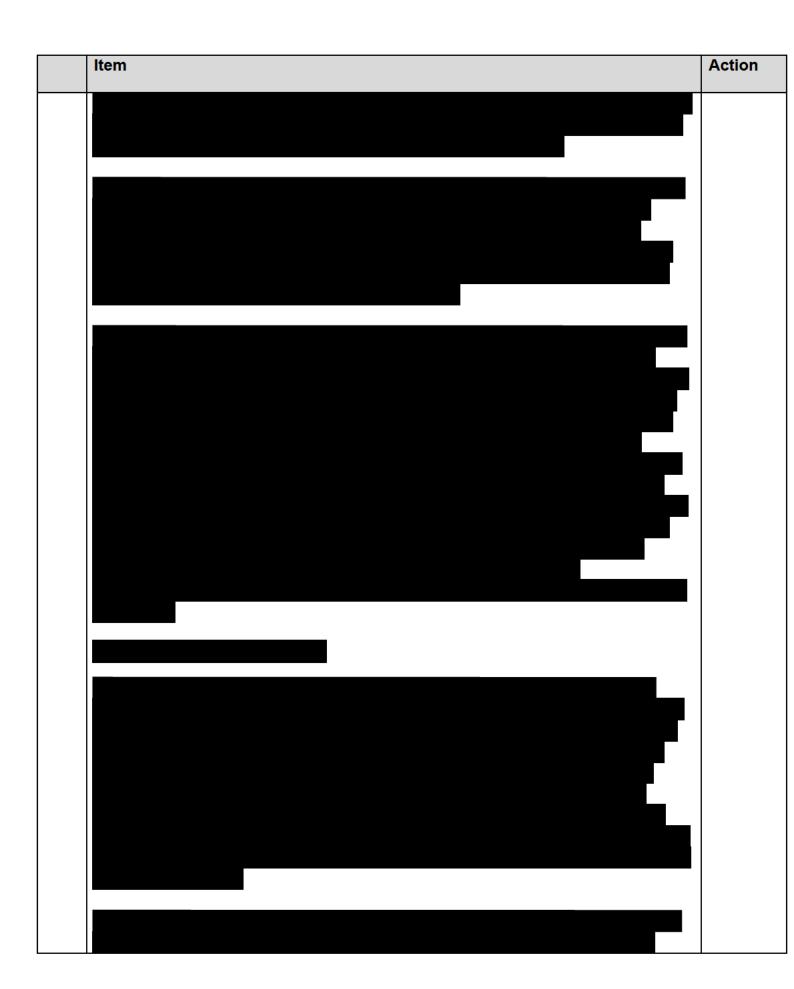




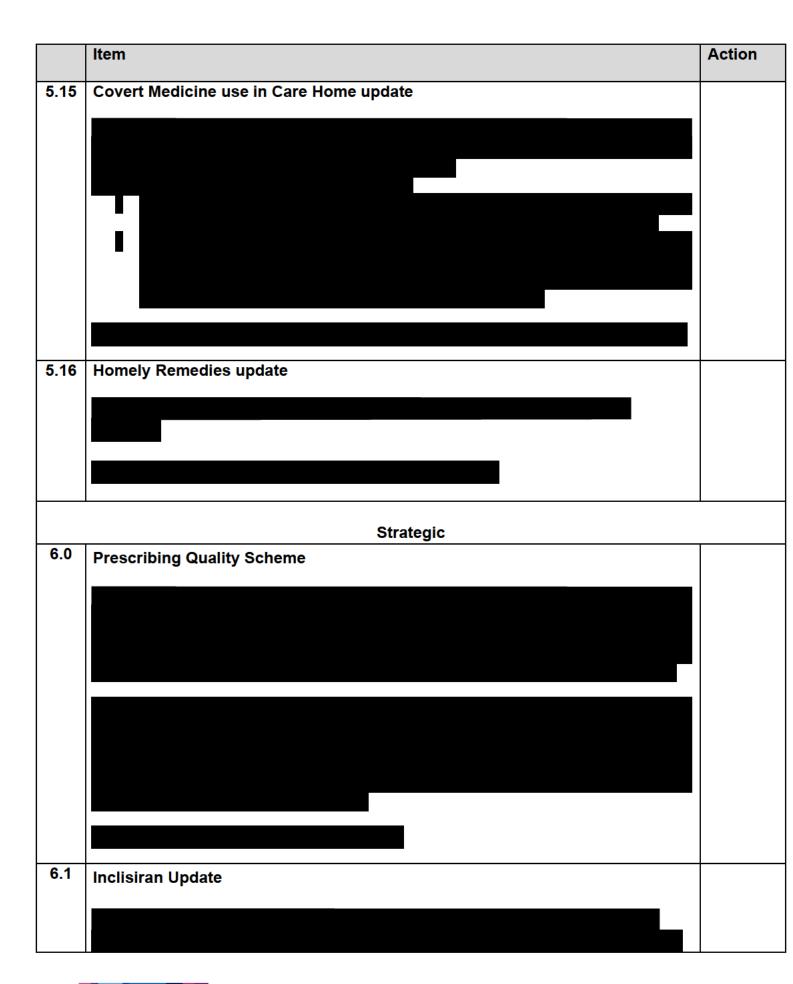


	Item	Action
5.10	Aspirin in the management of Lynch syndrome	
5.11	BNSSG Blood Glucose Management in Type 2 Diabetes	

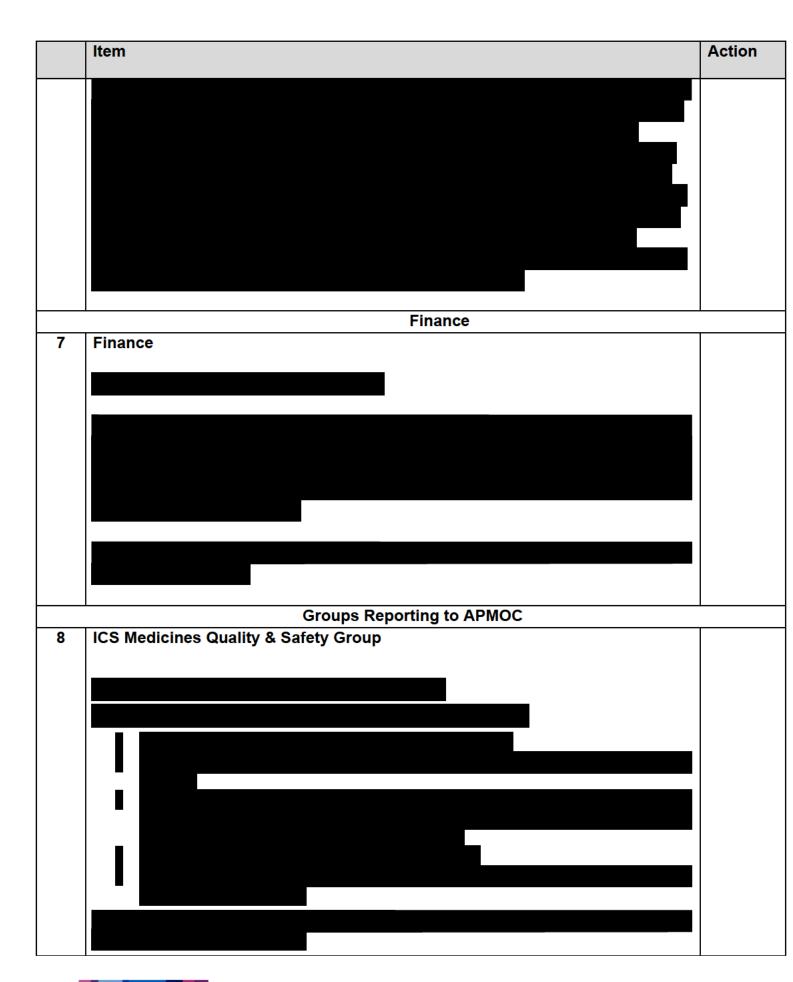


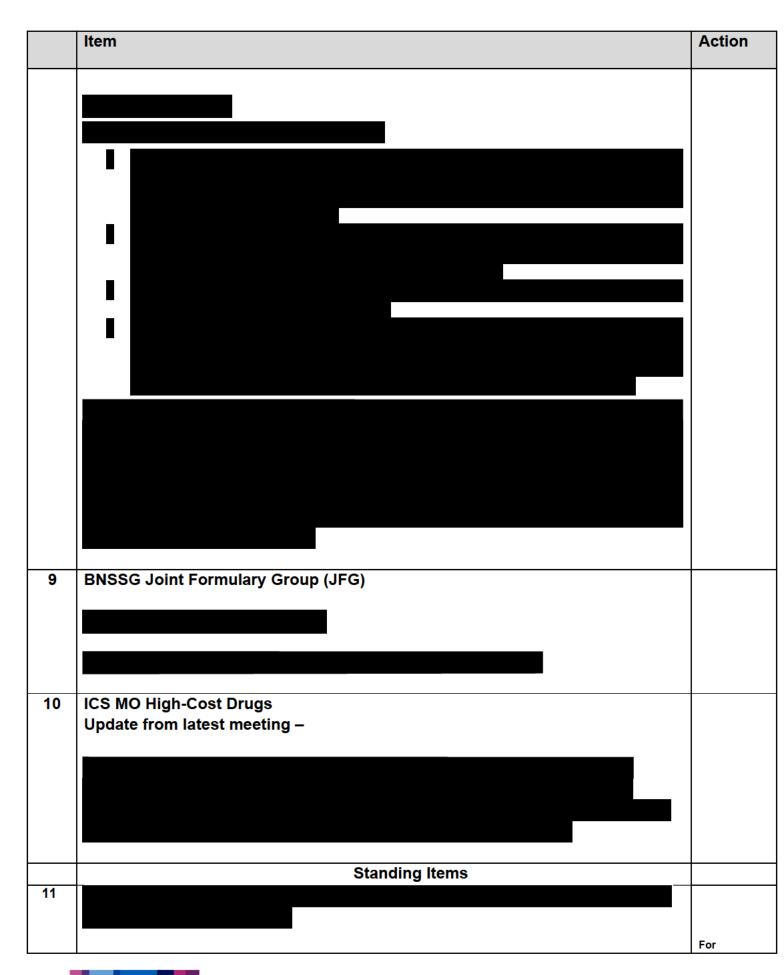


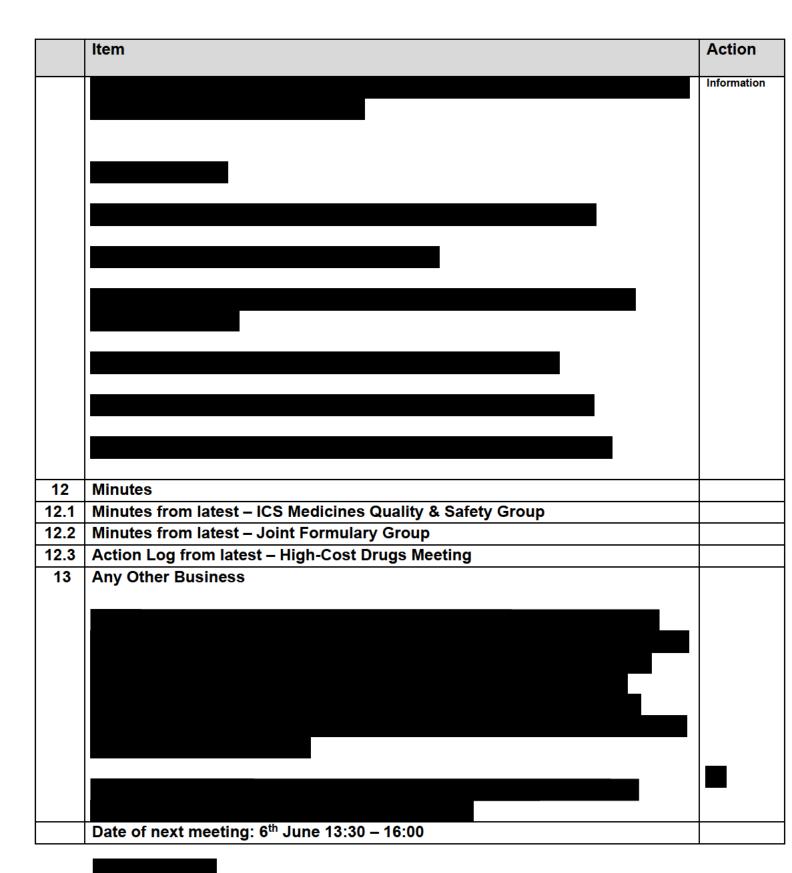
	Item	Action
5.12	presented a new guideline for Diabetic Foot Infections. These were led by a podiatrist in Sirona and the working group included a vascular surgeon, and a consultant microbiologist from NBT. They have also been agreed by microbiology at UHBW. Diabetic foot infections have been being treated differently across the system and this enables a unified response. The guideline treats based on the severity of infection. ■ presented the community antibiotic guideline which has had Otigo has been added for otitis media where pain is not relieved with oral pain killers and the patient not given antibiotics. This is in line with the community pharmacy PGD. Pertussis information has been added to the cough section. COPD exacerbation the quinolone option for penicillin allergic patients has been switched to co-trimoxazole in response to the MRHA alert. Trifarotene has been added to the acne recommendations as a non-antibiotic option for any severity and the section has been re-written by the dermatology pharmacist at UHBW. Ivermectin has been added as a treatment option for resistant scabies following a change in its formulary status. The group approved the Antibiotic Guideline Updates.	
5.13	BNSSG Migraine Prevention Pathway – for information only	
5.14	BNSSG Insomnia Pathway for Adults – for information only	



	Item	Action
6.2	Healthwatch Update – current and future work plans	
6.3	Anticogulant undete and discussion	
0.3	Anticoagulant update and discussion	







Team Administrator BNSSG ICB April 2024



BNSSG STP Antibiotic Stewardship Collaboration

Date: Wednesday 24th January 2024

Time: 13.30-14.30 Location: Microsoft Teams

Agenda

Item No.	Agenda Item	Presenter
1	Welcome, Introductions, Apologies and Declarations of Interests	
2	Previous Minutes and Action Log (Attached)	
3	Review of Prescribing Data	All
4	Penicillin Allergy	All
5	Guidelines Under Production	All
6	Any Other Business	
	Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 20 th March at 13.30-14.30 on MS Teams	All

Items for future meetings
Antibiotic PGDs
OPAT in children
Quality schedule audits / CQUIN results/ other data
Review of prescribing data – all sectors



BNSSG Antimicrobial Stewardship Collaboration

Time: 13.30-14:30

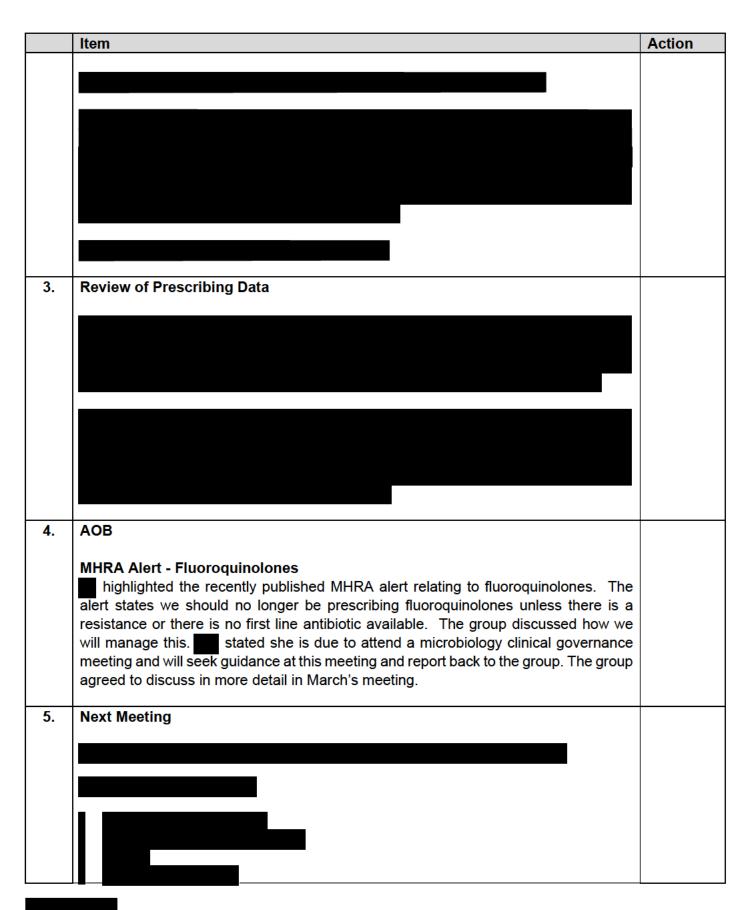
Date: Wednesday 24th January 2024

Location: MS TEAMS

Minutes

Present		
	Senior Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist BNSSG ICB	
	Team Administrator, Medicines Optimisation, BNSSG, ICB	
	Microbiology Consultant UHBW – Weston Site	
	Paediatric Infectious Diseases Consultant, UHBW	
	Microbiologist, UHBW	
	Anti-infective pharmacist, UHBW	
Apologies		
	Dentist	
	University of Bristol	
	Vet, University of Bristol	
	Anti-infectives Pharmacist UHBW Weston Site	
	GP, Whiteladies Medical Center	
	Anti-infectives Pharmacist, North Bristol NHS Trust	
	Consultant in Infectious Diseases, NBT	

	Item	Action
1	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	
2	Previous Minutes and Action Log	



Team Administrator, BNSSG ICB January 2024



BNSSG Antibiotic Stewardship Collaboration

Date: Wednesday 20th March 2024

Time: 13.30-14.30 Location: Microsoft Teams

Agenda

Item No.	Agenda Item	Presenter
1	Welcome, Introductions, Apologies and Declarations of Interests	•
2	Previous Minutes and Action Log (Attached)	
3	MHRA Alert - Fluoroquinolones Update	All
4	CQUIN Update	
5	Priorities for 2024/25	All
5	Guidelines Under Production	All
6	Any Other Business	
	Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 15 th May at 13.30-14.30 on MS Teams	All

Items for future meetings
Antibiotic PGDs
OPAT in children
Quality schedule audits / CQUIN results/ other data
Review of prescribing data – all sectors



BNSSG Antimicrobial Stewardship Collaboration

Time: 13.30-14:30

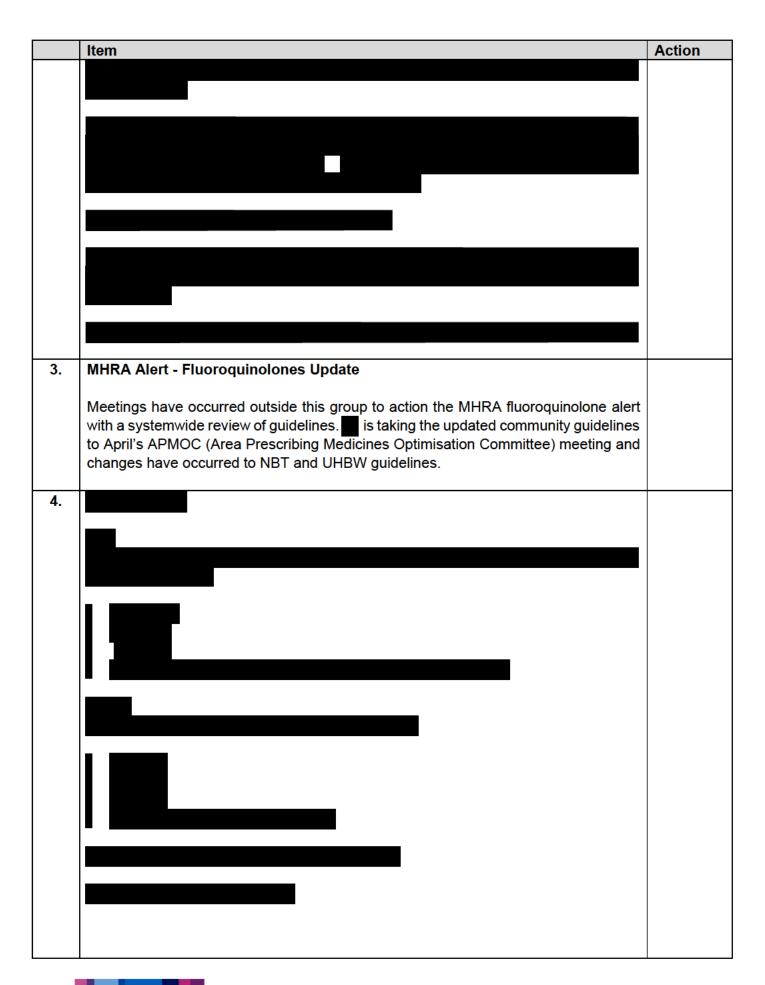
Date: Wednesday 20th March 2024

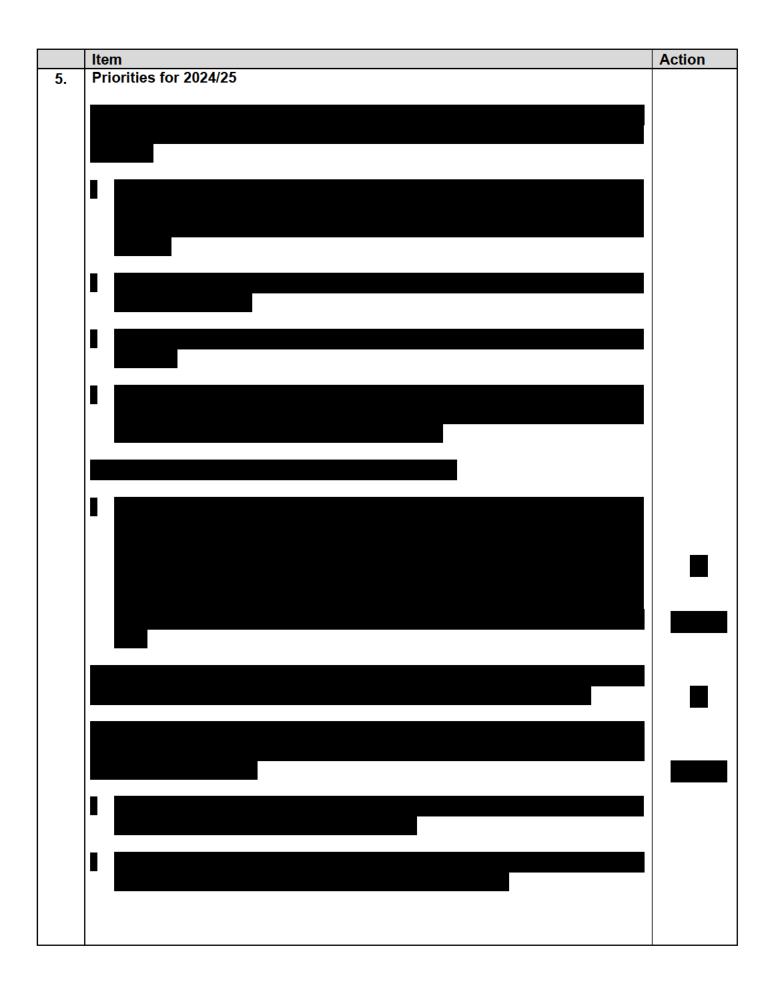
Location: MS TEAMS

Minutes

Present		
	Senior Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist BNSSG ICB	
	Team Administrator, Medicines Optimisation, BNSSG, ICB	
	Paediatric Infectious Diseases Consultant, UHBW	
	Microbiologist, UHBW	
	Anti-infective pharmacist, UHBW	
Apologies		
	Dentist	
	Microbiology Consultant UHBW – Weston Site	
	University of Bristol	
	Vet, University of Bristol	
	Anti-infectives Pharmacist UHBW Weston Site	
	GP, Whiteladies Medical Center	
	Anti-infectives Pharmacist, North Bristol NHS Trust	
	Consultant in Infectious Diseases, NBT	

	Item	Action
1	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	_
2	Previous Minutes and Action Log	





	Item	Action
6.	Guidelines Under Production	_
0.		I
7.	Next Meeting	

Team Administrator, BNSSG ICB March 2024