Project update

Welcome to the 7th edition of the NSW Health Medicines Formulary newsletter.

The Project Team continued to work with the remaining EAGs to review and recommend medicines for listing on the NSW Medicines Formulary for consideration by the NSW Medicines Formulary Committee (the Formulary Committee) at their March meeting.

Stakeholder consultation is also ongoing as the Project Team meets with districts and speciality health networks to understand transition impacts and assist with transition activities. Development of the formulary publishing platform also progressed, with design user groups comprising multidisciplinary clinicians meeting to provide eHealth with valuable feedback on platform designs.

Expert Advisory Groups

Seventeen of 20 EAGs have now been finalised, with the Psychotropics and Dermatology EAGs recently completing their consultation phase. Consultation is underway for Anti-infectives, Immunomodulators & Antineoplastics and TPN/IV Fluids EAGs.

It is anticipated the Anti-infectives, Psychotropics and Dermatology EAG recommendations will be presented at the April Committee meeting, and Immunomodulators & Antineoplastics and IV Fluids/TPN EAG recommendations in May. The Committee secretariat circulates all papers to Drug and Therapeutics Committees (DTCs) for their review and feedback prior to consideration by the Formulary Committee.

NSW Medicines Formulary Committee and High-Cost Medicines Sub-Committee

The NSW Medicines Formulary Committee approved the recommendations of the Cardiology, Rheumatology, Gastrointestinal and Neurological EAGs at their meeting in March. To date, 15 EAG recommendations have been approved and endorsed by the Formulary Committee. The Clinical Excellence Commission is finessing work on the business and governance processes around submission, appeals and review processes. These will soon be available on the CEC website.

Transition planning and change management update

The Project Team continues to meet with district and speciality health network DTCs to provide updates on the NSW Medicines Formulary. The Project Team has also met with Directors of Pharmacy to discuss the change impacts specific to their districts and networks during the transition phase.

For further information

Please direct questions to the Project Team at MOH-MedicinesFormulary@health.nsw.gov.au.

NSW Health staff can access the NSW Health Medicines Formulary website at: https://nswhealth.sharepoint.com/sites/MOH-PR.