# Antimicrobial Expert Advisory Group meeting Outcomes (held via TEAMS)

# Friday 4 February 2022: 10am-11am (held via TEAMS)

Attendees:

* Mark Gilchrist (Chair)
* Kirsteen Hill
* Aaron John Brady
* Ceri Phillips
* Conor Jamieson
* Rakhi Aggarwal
* Pretty (Emlata) Ramdut
* Nicholas Reid
* Diane Ashiru-Oredope
* Louise Dunsmure
* Geraldine Conlon-Bingham
* Kieran Hand
* Philip Howard
* Stephen Hughes
* Barrie Kellam (Chair of RPS Science and Research Committee)

RPS Staff:

* Robbie Turner (Secretary)
* Ravi Sharma
* Neal Patel

## 1: Recognition

1. Introductions, apologies and declarations of interest (Chair)
2. Brief update about the role of Expert Advisory Groups (Robbie)

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| **Title** | **Representation**  | **Time of item 10 mins** |
| Description | Community pharmacy sector representation:* Essential this group has community pharmacy representation
* That representation should also have an appreciation of AMR and be able to input into wider discussions
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| Purpose | To put forward name(s) of community pharmacists who could be approached to join the group |
| Outcomes | * Acknowledgement that there is a broad representation already on this group but recognition that the addition of specific community pharmacy representation
* The group provided several recommendations to the Chair, and these will be followed up.
* **ACTION (RPS)** - ask CPEAG to recommend a nominee
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## 2: Relevance

*Consider tabled items, consider future areas of interest for the next six months and consider longer-term horizon scanning.*

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| **Title** | **Item 1: Introduction to the RPS Pharmacogenomic work led by Ravi Sharma RPS** | **Time of item 20 mins** |
| Description | Introduction to a new workstream at the RPS. Please see recent webinar introducing work [here](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rpharms.com%2Fresources%2Fwebinars%2Ftaking-it-personally-pharmacogenomics-and-the-future-of-medications-safety&data=04%7C01%7CRobbie.Turner%40rpharms.com%7Cc13cfecd64654d0b1bd708d9d6a3fc9a%7C99193c61658d4076952f07c345a3be97%7C0%7C0%7C637776822062927055%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=UAQz67VX1zCVepHSlrFf8%2FrZQTNRhSY3mO9hyH1XQJs%3D&reserved=0). |
| Purpose | * Provide an overview of pharmacogenomics and the work planned by RPS in 2022
* Gain views from the group on 1) How do we see this affecting pharmacy and pharmaceutical science communities 2) How to get involved from an AMR perspective?
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| Outcomes | * Introduction of the work underway by RPS and presentation of planned activity
* The objectives for RPS Pharmacogenomics Project were shared with the group for comment and input
* Recognition that RPS taking a role in pharmacogenomics was a positive step and demonstrated professional leadership.
* Significant overlap between AMS projects and PGx work so positive to be sighted on this work. Some RPS AMEAG members have a specific lead role in PGx
* Suggestion that there may be a need for an RPS PGx Expert Advisory Group recognising this will be important moving forward and getting wider views important. RPS are setting up an external reference group which could evolve into an Expert Advisory Group in future
* Recommendation from AMEAG that the webinar should be shared with an intro as to why important for AMR Pharmacists. **ACTION (RPS)**
* Invite a Pharmacogenomics expert around AMR to come and speak about opportunities at the next meeting.  **ACTION (Ravi Sharma linked with Phil Howard)**
* Highlighted the importance to community pharmacy as they may be questioned by the public about their results. Is there a requirement for some guidance for pharmacists about what to do if questioned by the public on their results. **ACTION (RPS)**
* Positive offer from the group to be further involved in PGx work moving forward
* Pharmacogenomics Slides to be shared. **ACTION (RPS)**
* A review document was shared with the group https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7504675/
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| **Title** | **Item 2: Introduction to RPS Sustainability Work Pertaining to AMR.**  | **Time of item 5 mins** |
| Description | Giving AMEAG sight of ongoing RPS work which impact the work of the group. This is for noting only and will be discussed at a future meeting.  |
| Purpose | There are a number of recommendations in the climate change [policies](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rpharms.com%2Frecognition%2Fall-our-campaigns%2Fpolicy-a-z%2Fsustainability-policy%2Fpolicies&data=04%7C01%7CRobbie.Turner%40rpharms.com%7C42b6e8c8816b4c67782c08d9d6a5d0e9%7C99193c61658d4076952f07c345a3be97%7C0%7C0%7C637776829916117566%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=YB5rcfwMObgnlYwJQsaIsVuAKKZ8oHzk8VCe9FhZLqk%3D&reserved=0) that touch upon AMR, including;* National public awareness campaigns on antimicrobial resistance, prudent use of medicines and appropriate medicines disposal (making sure the public are aware of why you shouldn’t pour left over Abx down the drain for example)
* Reducing antimicrobial resistance that occurs due to pollution by pharmaceutical waste into water etc
* More research to improve antibiotic use: new vaccines against illnesses that require antibiotics, rapid diagnostic testing to aid decisions on initiating antibiotics, new antibiotics, improved surveillance and better understanding of antimicrobial resistance

We have had some positive conversations with Natural Resources Wales about our sustainability work and we believe that AMR should be the number 1 focus, asking them to focus on reducing antibiotics in water. **We would welcome any volunteers from AMEAG that may want to work with us.**Further updates and progress will be brought to a future meeting. |
| Outcomes | * Recognition of how important this topic is to the profession and how the profession can have a positive input
* Pleasing to see how prominent AMS is featured across this RPS work
* IV – Oral switch was highlighted as a national priority which should be emphasised (IV may result in 15x environmental impact vs oral) – feedback to RPS sustainability working group. **ACTION (RPS)**
* Various groups are linked into British Infection Association (BIA) and would be useful to link across. Keep RPS AMEAG linked to their work. **ACTION (Louise Dunsmore)**
* Support for ‘Antibiotic Amnesty’ as part of sustainability work. For consideration of RPS Sustainability Workstream (and future AMEAG work). **ACTION (RPS)**
* Connect with Antimicrobial Prescribing & Medicines Optimisation workstream of NHSEI AMR Programme with RPS Sustainability Workstream. **ACTION (RPS and Kieran Hand)**
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| **Title** | **Item 3: Future areas of interest/ Horizon scanning identified by Expert Group** | **Time of item 10 mins** |
| Description | A key role for the group is to identify areas of interest that RPS should be aware of, in this agenda item for the next six-month period. |
| Purpose | To identify areas of interest for the next six months/longer term to ensure RPS is informed about developments and areas of work, so that RPS is relevant for members. To provide advice to RPS on these areas of interest. |
| Outcomes | Ideas Shared:* In Wales increases in C.diff. Tentative plan to focus on C.diff as part of Antibiotic Awareness Week
* AMR Programme pushing for research/evaluation to be undertaken if “Pharmacy First rolled out. Common Infections being managed by community pharmacy could be a positive utilisation of health resources, but this would need evaluating alongside health outcomes, e.g. antibiotic usage
* Community Pharmacy taking a wider role in triage of infections with possible onward referral
* World Antibiotics Awareness Week – what does this group want to lead on?
	+ Consideration of three simple messages; IV to oral, shorter is better, antibiotic amnest. **ACTION (Chair)**
* Covid Therapeutics – usage and dispensing of Covid therapeutics

Proposers of any idea to consider if there are specific areas of work which could be undertaken by AMEAG in future and discuss these with Chair. **ACTION (AMEAG Members)** |

## 3: Communication

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| **Title** | **Messages for RPS members** | **Time of item 10 mins** |
| Description | Sharing information with RPS members is an essential role for RPS, and the EAG’s advice on what information is useful and relevant to communicate is vital.  |
| Purpose | To decide what aspects of the EAG’s work should be shared with members, and how best to share them.To make recommendations to RPS on other communication with members needed in the EAG’s subject area. |
| Outcomes | * Request for media spokespeople to speak on behalf of RPS, the profession and Expert Advisory Group. **ACTION (AMEAG Members)**
* All AMEAG members to provide a picture and a short bio to include on RPS website to increase visibility of work. **ACTION (AMEAG Members)**
* Request for any information on existing AMS networks. **ACTION (AMEAG Members)**
* Comms messaging.
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## 4: Additional Information

1. RPS Board & Assembly Minutes can be found [here](https://www.rpharms.com/about-us/who-we-are/national-boards/assembly)
2. RPS Webinar schedule can be found [here](https://www.google.com/url?client=internal-element-cse&cx=9b6c83c4e4686c04b&q=https://www.rpharms.com/resources/webinars&sa=U&ved=2ahUKEwjwg8fQgLv1AhUG1hoKHY_7DLwQFnoECAAQAQ&usg=AOvVaw3_sDMILGskI5Dm_W0WBYC7)
3. BSACI Guidelines for non-allergy specialists have been circulated to members
4. ESPAUR report feedback link has been circulated for members

***Date and time of next meeting to be discussed***