

Tayside Prescriber



• ADTC SUPPLEMENT NO. 1

Issue 1 July 1998

TAYSIDE AREA DRUG AND THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE

UPDATE

The Tayside Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee (ADTC) has the responsibility of advising the Health Board on issues relating to the use of medicines in Tayside. Its members are Clinicians and Pharmacists working in primary care, secondary care and Tayside Health Board. Current membership is as follows:-

Chairman:	Dr Barclay Goudie	
Professional Secretary:	Mr Peter Clough	
Primary Care:		
GPs	Dr S Scahill Dr R Rosbottom Dr J Calder Dr A Matthews	
Community Pharmacist:	Mr D Meekison	
Trust Hospitals:	Mr A Radley (Perth and Kinross) Prof. D McDevitt (Dundee Teaching Hospitals) Mr G Thomson (Angus) Dr D Findlay (Dundee Healthcare)	
Tayside Health Board:		
Prescribing Adviser:	Ms J Mason-Duff	
Acting Chief Pharmaceutical Adviser:	Ms A Timoney	
Public Health Medicine:	Dr M Kenicer	
Clinical Pharmacologist/Pharmacoeconomist:	Dr P Davey	
Drug Information:	Mr A MacConnachie	
Nurse Prescriber:	Ms J McLaren	
Nurse (Secondary Care):	Ms N McGovern	

The main Committee is supported by three sub

Normally new drugs will not be reviewed until

groups:

- The **Formulary Sub Group's** remit is to co-ordinate the ongoing review of medicines for inclusion into Tayside Area Drug Formulary, to receive your comments for consideration and to organise printing, publishing and distribution of the formulary annually. This is next due on 1 April 1998 to coincide with the new NHS structure in Tayside.
- The **Treatment Review Sub Group's** remit is to review areas of drug therapy in accordance with current best practice. to achieve cost-effective uses of medicines.
- The **New Drug Sub Group's** remit is to review new medicines likely to have an impact in Tayside, in particular to review their actions and uses, safety issues and the evidence base supporting their role (if any) in practice. Where possible, this will include an estimate of the types of patients and the numbers who merit treatment in Tayside and the likely cost implications. Recommendations regarding prescribing will be made as follows:-

Category 1 Recommendation for general use.

Category 2 On recommendation of specialist
(a) hospital use only,
(b) shared care.

Category 3 Not recommended - does not offer advantages over existing therapy.

Category 4 Efficacy of place in treatment not yet established - to be reviewed.

Prescribers who disagree with the decision to place any new drug in Category 3 may appeal in accordance with a new drug's appeal procedure. Further information regarding this is available from Mr Peter Clough at the address below.

they have been licensed and marketed. However, such is the level of media interest in Sildenafil (Viagra) that we hope to have information and advice for prescribers ahead of its launch later in the year. It is further intended to review the new anti platelet drug Clopidogrel (Plavix) soon after its introduction into the UK market.

- At a meeting on 19 June 1998 the ADTC recommended that Dornase Alfa (Pulmozyme) should be prescribed for patients with cystic fibrosis who satisfy the Scottish Cystic Fibrosis Group's assessment criteria (prescribing status 2(a) : hospital use only).
- The ADTC have been asked by the Health Board to approve group protocols as recommended by the Crown Review. Trust hospitals must ensure that protocols in use in the Trust comply with the Crown Review and they should inform the ADTC of this. Group protocols in use in Primary Care will be approved by the Treatment Review Sub Group of ADTC. Protocols should be submitted to Mr Andrew Radley, Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee Treatment Review Sub Group.

The Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee aims to provide advice to the Health Board which reflects the opinion of active Clinicians and Pharmacists working in Tayside. This is a first of a series of quarterly updates whose purpose is to publicise the activities of the Committee. The ADTC welcomes comment and suggestions regarding the Area Formulary and topics considered by the New Drug and Treatment Review Sub Groups. Correspondence should be addressed to:

Mr Peter Clough
Professional Secretary
Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee
c/o Drug Information Service
Department of Pharmacy
Ninewells Hospital and Medical School
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