

DERBYSHIRE JOINT AREA PRESCRIBING COMMITTEE (JAPC)
TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The JAPC is a strategic local decision-making committee with responsibility for promoting appropriate, safe, rational and cost-effective medicines use across Derbyshire. Each of the JAPC's member organisations benefits from co-ordinated working to support integrated care delivery for patients in relation to medicines use and prescribeable medical devices.

The JAPC makes recommendations about the local use of medicines and prescribeable medical devices are in line with the requirements of the NHS Constitution. JAPC has delegated responsibility from the four Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) with representation from committee members of the board. There is an expectation that recommendations made by the JAPC will normally be implemented. JAPC has no delegated responsibility for resource allocation.

2. OBJECTIVES OF JAPC

1	To horizon scan and assess the impact of new medicines developments in healthcare which involve prescribing, upcoming NICE guidance and key clinical trials to inform the annual JAPC work programme.
2	To maintain a Derbyshire wide prescribing formulary of relevant new and existing medicines, formulations and devices. This includes the removal of medicines from the formulary when appropriate.
3	To advise CCGs on the commissioning and provision of new medicines and new indications for medicines, including the financial implications.
4	To maintain the traffic light classification for prescribing responsibility (including medical devices listed in the drug tariff).
5	To inform the development of and ratify local clinical guidelines and shared care guidelines, co-ordinating care across primary and secondary care.
6	To prevent and assist in the resolution of problems relating to medicine provision at the interfaces of care.
7	To advise on the implementation of NICE guidance and guidelines that concern prescribing.
8	To communicate recommendations and outputs effectively to all relevant member and stakeholder organisations and encourage implementation.
9	To work with equivalent groups in neighbouring health communities on areas of mutual interest.
10	To work with local Drug and Therapeutics Committees, by considering minutes of meetings, evidence reviews and providing assistance with formulary decisions.
11	To act as a focus for developing and refining local professional opinion on prescribing, therapeutics and associated pharmaceutical issues.
12	To respond to and prioritise NHS policy developments impacting on prescribing and medicines use, including medicines safety issues.
13	To contribute to the CCG and Local Authority commissioning processes to ensure that prescribing issues are given due weight in wider healthcare planning and service delivery agreements locally.
14	To work with providers to develop prescribing policies that take account of the secondary/primary care interface and the overall cost implications of hospital-led prescribing.
15	To develop prescribing specifications that form part of the contract with the acute and community providers.
16	To agree patient group directions on behalf of the four CCGs are fit for purpose and the process for development/updating is clinically robust.
17	Act as an independent body for appeals made against Nottingham's area prescribing committee with regards process of a drug decision. A reciprocal agreement is in place for Nottingham's area prescribing committee to review Derbyshire's appeals of drug decision.

3. RULES OF WORKING

1	JAPC will be quorate when at least one-third of members are in attendance, including at least one from each member provider and commissioner organisation.
2	Deputies are expected to attend if the appropriate member is unable to do so.
3	Each member will have a nominated deputy.
4	There will be bi-annual conflicts of interest declaration, at the start of each financial year and in October which will be recorded in a register. It will be the responsibility of the member to declare any change to his/her status at the start of the next APC meeting.
5	The Chair will be from a commissioning and not from a provider organisation. The committee will approve the appointments and review on an annual basis.
6	The JAPC will work according to the processes and criteria outlined on the JAPC website.
7	JAPC will review and have oversight of the work plan and decisions made by the guideline group.

4. MEMBERSHIP OF JAPC

Clinical Commissioners

A CCG GP as Chair
 Specialist commissioning pharmacist as secretary
 NICE audit pharmacist
 Director of Medicines Management team for Southern Derbyshire CCGs
 Head of Medicines management team for North Derbyshire CCGs
 North Derbyshire CCG GP
 Southern Derbyshire CCG GP
 Erewash CCG GP
 NHS Hardwick CCG GP
 CCG Finance/ Contract representative

Royal Derby Hospital Foundation Trust

RDH Drugs and Therapeutics Chair
 Chief Pharmacist

Chesterfield Royal Hospital Foundation Trust

Chief Pharmacist and Head of medicines management

Derbyshire Healthcare Foundation Trust

DTC Chair
 Chief Pharmacist

Derbyshire Community Health Services Trust

Head of Medicines Management

***Lay representation**

Health-watch Derbyshire

***Public Health**

Derbyshire and Derby City Public Health Consultants

Additional members will be co-opted for example from clinical networks, specialist services/organisations, social services, and community pharmacy as required according to agenda items under discussion.

*Lay representation and public health have an open invitation to be present at JAPC or their views heard for relevant agenda items.

5. JAPC MEMBERS RESPONSIBILITIES

Members of JAPC are expected to:

1	Commit to attend meetings regularly.
2	Nominate a deputy with appropriate authority and experience whenever possible if unable to attend.
3	Contribute items for the agenda as appropriate, with supporting material, stated purpose and action required (to the JAPC secretary no later than 14 days before date of next meeting).
4	Come to meetings prepared with all documents and contribute to the debate.
5	Represent their organisation and/or professional group and take views from JAPC back to their own groups/organisations for comment and then for feeding back responses to JAPC, as appropriate.
6	Before each meeting seek and represent the views of their organisation and/or professional groups by consultation.
7	Communicate the decisions/advice from JAPC to their own groups/organisations for implementation (as examples; for provider trusts to report back to their respective Drugs and Therapeutic Committees and clinicians, GPs to their CCG Prescribing groups, Clinical Improvement groups or Clinical Reference Groups).
8	Declare any conflicts of interest which might have a bearing on their actions, views and involvement in discussions within the committee.
9	Consider the impact of any decision on all groups covered by the Equality Act 2010. Where there is a negative impact every possible action to mitigate that impact must be considered.
10	Have sufficient knowledge and understanding of Equality Inclusion and Human Rights to ensure relevant aspects are properly considered in any decisions. In particular this must include an understanding of section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 in order to apply this to the functions of the JAPC.

6. REPORTING STRUCTURE

The Joint APC is accountable to the Boards of the CCGs. The JAPC will provide an annual report and annual work programme to the Boards which will be available on the Derbyshire medicines management website

JAPC oversees the work of the 'Prescribing Guidelines Group and Shared Care Guidelines Group' and the 'Difficult Decision Working Group'.

Minutes of meetings will be posted on the Derbyshire medicines management website within two weeks of ratification

7. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

The Joint APC will meet on a monthly basis.

Derbyshire Joint Area Prescribing Committee Stakeholder map

