

Quality and Risk Management Group Highlights Update - December 2023

Introduction

Welcome to the QRMG Highlights update. The purpose of the update is to keep you informed about changes and updates to QRMG guidance and advice that have happened recently, the workplans for QRMG, and give you an opportunity to feed back into the group, and get involved in areas of work if you would like.

Don't forget that all QRMG guidance and advice is available on the UKMi website - www.ukmi.nhs.uk

QRMG Membership Changes

We have recently asked for expressions of interest in joining the QRMG. We are very grateful for the fabulous response, with many new members joining. We hope this will help us to continue developing resources on behalf of the network, and to help ensure that they are relevant to everyone working within a Medicines Information setting, irrespective of location, speciality and set-up. A list of current members can be found on the [UKMi website](http://www.ukmi.nhs.uk). All QRMG members are volunteers giving their time to help the wider UKMi network, so as a network we are very grateful for past, present and future members' support.

Incident Reporting in Medicines Information Scheme (IRMIS)

Please continue to report any near misses or errors your centre may experience. These can be valuable learning tools for the wider network. Reports can be made [here](#).

Past IRMIS reports can be found on the [UKMi website](http://www.ukmi.nhs.uk). A quarterly report and accompanying PowerPoint slide deck are produced, to allow local discussion and learning from near misses and errors to take place. Also, periodic "Alerts" are produced, highlighting recurring themes in IRMIS reports.

Resources

Scientific Response Documents on [medicines.org.uk](http://www.medicines.org.uk)

Some pharmaceutical companies are starting to use the "HCP Medinfo" tab on www.medicines.org.uk. This is where they can put Scientific Response Documents, which are replies to frequently asked questions through their Medical Information teams. Currently, the number of medicines that have Scientific Response Documents attached is limited, but there are plans to expand. We do not plan on completing a formal QRMG review of the resource at this point, but the following pointers may be helpful.

- The documents can contain useful information that is in addition to information in the SmPC
- There is no index - the tab will appear for products that have Scientific Response Documents, but you cannot search for them directly within www.medicines.org.uk
- A Google Advanced search for "HCP Medinfo" within the www.medicines.org.uk website may help to identify products with attached Scientific Response Documents

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- The documents are not keyworded, so different search terms may be needed - “fridge”, “refrigeration”, “temperature”, “stability” for example may all need to be searched to find guidance on temperature deviations
- www.medicines.org.uk also now has a “Letters to HCPs” tab, which lists “Dear Healthcare Professional” letters

For an example Scientific Response Document, see “Paxlovid” on www.medicines.org.uk

patient.info HCP information

www.patient.info has a new “HCP information” tab available. This has been reviewed as an information resource by QRMG. Though considered to be potentially useful and to be a reliable source of information, it was felt that it didn’t add additional benefit over existing resources on the Essential Resources List (ERL). As such, it will not be added to the ERL as an essential resource

Liverpool Cancer Drugs Interactions

Sadly, the Liverpool Cancer Drugs Interactions site is no longer being updated. The current resource will remain available, but will over time become more out of date. A warning to this effect is on the website. After discussion, QRMG agreed to keep the site on the Essential Resources List, but individuals need to make their own judgement as to when it is appropriate to use, given its archive status.

Bazire Psychotropic Drug Directory

Bazire has been acquired by Pharmaceutical Press, and will be included within the Medicines Complete portfolio of products. Considering the change in format and potential change in costs, it was felt that it should be re-reviewed by QRMG to see if it is still considered an Essential Resource. This review will happen in the near future and be reflected in the Essential Resources List and a future Highlights document in due course.

Tertiary Resources Comparison

QRMG has undertaken a comparison of the tertiary resources that are available for MI services to subscribe to. This compares AHFS, DMJ Best Practice, Clinical Key, Dynamed, Leixcomp, Martindale, Micromedex and UpToDate. It aims to provide helpful comparison information to help guide individuals as to which resources may be most suitable for their services. The document can be found on the [UKMi website](#)

Other QRMG Work

Short Life Working Groups

Key Performance Indicators

KPIs for MI services to use have been produced and are available to use. The SLWG will look at how these can be promoted across the network to help embed them into practice and help individuals demonstrate the value of their service.

Enquiry Answering Guidelines

The Enquiry Answering Guidelines are widely used across UKMi but are in need of updating and maintenance. Going forward, a SLWG will be set up to review the EAG to ensure it continues to be beneficial for the network.

Peer Review

Guidance on how peer review can be conducted is in the final stages of production.

Future potential SLWGs

Other priority areas were identified to take forward this year through QRMG. These include patient helpline supporting material, MiDatabank "Special Fields" (standard phrases for different types of query) and information to support self- or peer- audit. These will be discussed at future meetings.

Contact

QRMG volunteers work on behalf of the UKMi network to help support people to provide high quality Medicines Information services. Because of this, feedback and network participation is essential. If you have feedback (or want to get involved!) please get in touch with any current QRMG member, or email us using the email below.

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