The Welsh Medicines Advice Service (WMAS) transforming a local community pharmacy urinary tract infection (UTI) service into a national Clinical Community Pharmacy UTI service.

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Background

WMAS is a Wales wide team of medicines information (MI) practitioners working together to provide medicines advice and information for NHS



Wales. WMAS Cardiff is commissioned by Welsh Government to design and develop the clinical frameworks for the Common Ailment Service (CAS) provided by Community Pharmacists (CPs). WMAS takes the standard of care described in the national guidance and turns it into a operational clinical framework suitable for ALL community pharmacy settings in Wales.

Problem

In 2021 Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDUHB) conducted a local pilot UTI service in 63 community pharmacies for 6 months. It was a huge success with the recommendation that the UTI service be made available nationwide in all 687 community pharmacies throughout Wales. In July 2023 the WMAS publication teams was tasked to develop the national clinical framework for the clinical community pharmacy service for UTI.

Approach

Guidance and service specifications received from England, Scotland, N Ireland and reviewed with team leader for pilot service in HDUHB.

WMAS connected with and gained support from experts: community pharmacy leads, urology clinicians, Public Health Wales clinicians.

WMAS led the clinical discussions between health board lead CPs and PHW to design the clinical framework, aligned to national guidance and standard of care with expert input from clinicians.

WMAS presented agreed clinical framework to All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group. Consultation process undertaken. WMAS team responded to comments and feedback and amended framework accordingly.

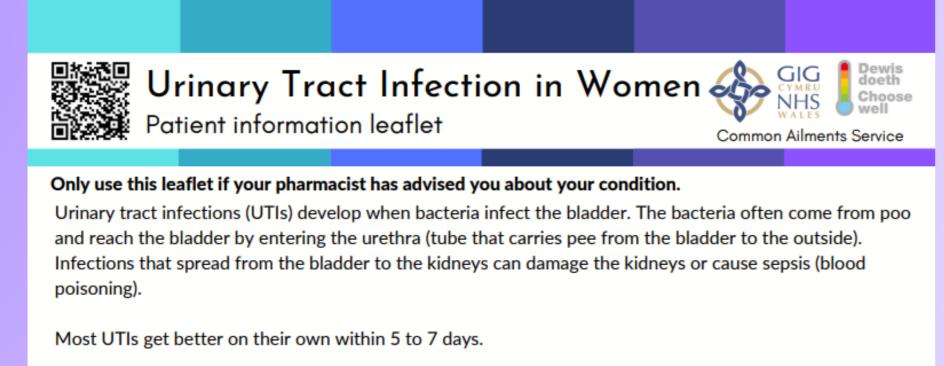
WMAS presented clinical framework to All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG).
Approved framework used to develop patient leaflets, patient group directions, Choose Pharmacy UTI module and Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW) UTI educational module for CPs.

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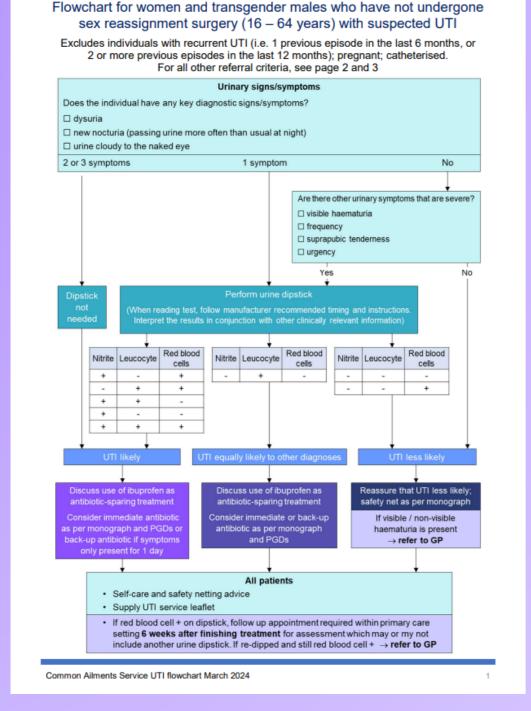
Information for Patients

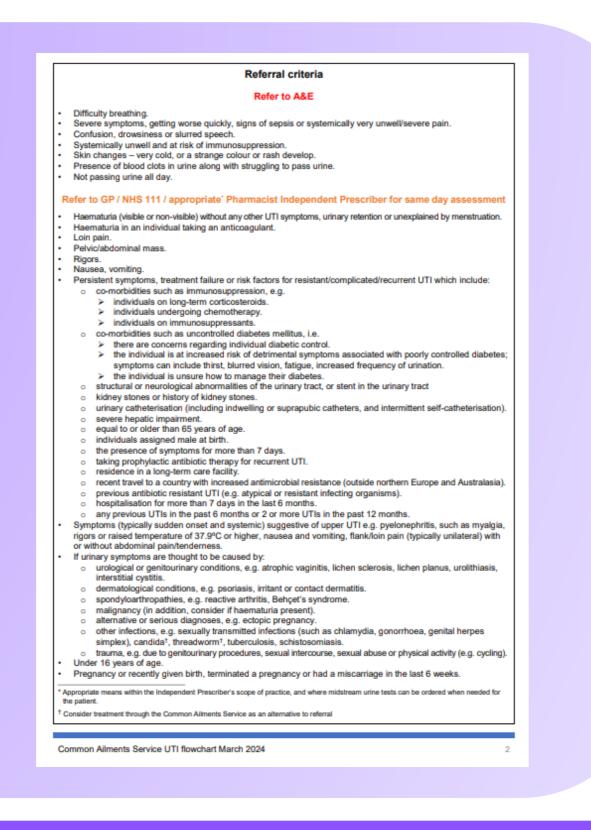
Solution





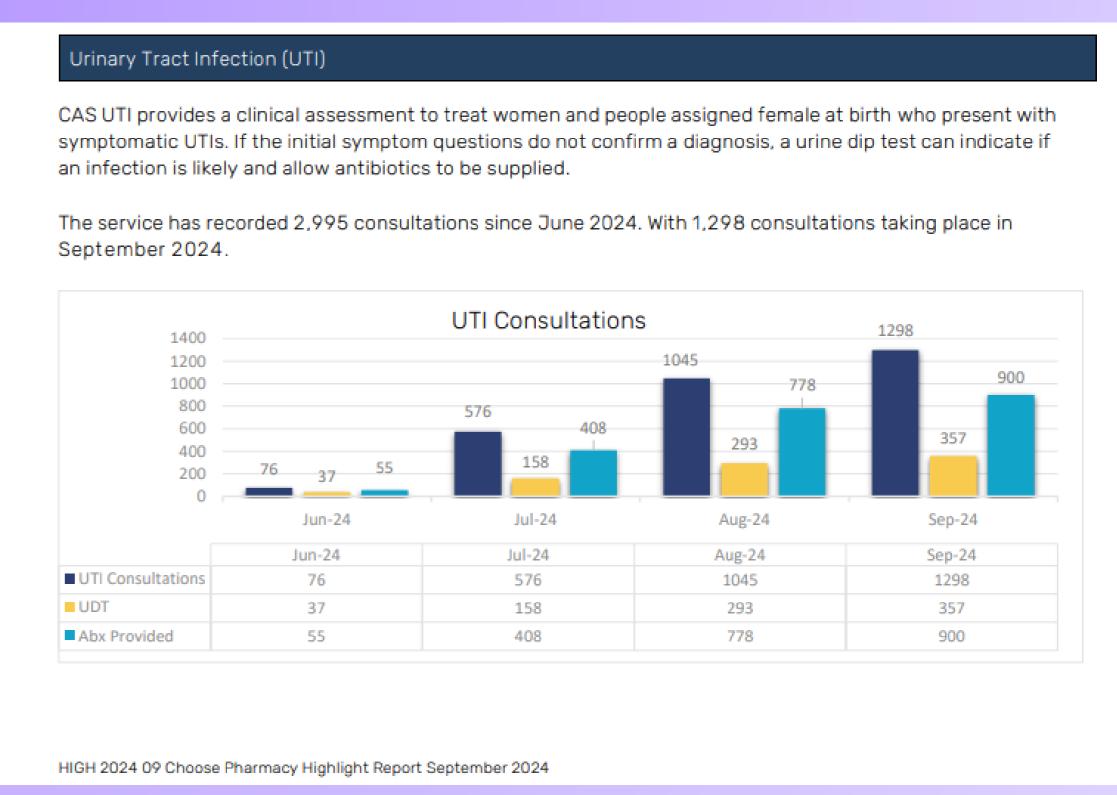






Adding Value

Extract from Digital
Healthcare Wales (DHCW)
Highlight Report for
Choose Pharmacy
September 2024 report
no.26



The responsive and effective outputs from WMAS has delivered key UKMi objectives:

- Advising health care professionals how to optimise treatments.
- Supporting Community Pharmacy Wales in delivering the Common Ailment Service and improving access to medicines for patients in Wales.
- Supporting patients on the safe and effective use of medicines.

References:

Welsh Government. A new prescription: the future of community pharmacy in Wales. December 2021. Available from https://www.gov.wales/community-pharmacy-contractual-framework-reform [accessed October 2024] Graphics created in Canva Pro.









