

Summary of Community Pharmacy Patient Inhaler Review Service Joint Working Project
(GSK/Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Hywel Dda University Health Board and Powys
Teaching Health Board)

January 2020 – September 2020

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Project Overview:

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Powys Teaching Health Board, Hywel Dda University Health Board and GSK planned to undertake a Joint Working project with the aim of delivering improved Asthma and COPD care for patients who have not been seen in general practice in the previous 12 months. The Joint Working collaboration included three Health Boards, the British Lung Foundation, the Welsh Respiratory Health Implementation Group, Respiratory Innovation Wales, Life Sciences Hub Wales, Community Pharmacy Wales, Primary Care Respiratory Training Centre and GSK.

In March 2020 the project was mutually paused by all parties due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the effect on community pharmacy in Wales.

Unfortunately, considering the continued impact of COVID-19 on some community pharmacy initiatives in Wales, it was with disappointment that the 3 Health Boards and GSK mutually agreed to the termination of the current joint working arrangement in August 2020.

Work carried out between January and March 2020:

- Life Sciences Hub Wales translated all patient facing materials into Welsh.
- GSK funded the translation and validation of the COPD Assessment Tool and Asthma Control Test
- GSK funded the development of an intelligent data collection System using the Asthma Control Test, the COPD Assessment Tool and a patient reported experience questionnaire through Respiratory Innovation Wales in partnership with SymlConnect
- GSK funded and organised The Primary Care Respiratory Training Centre to deliver 8 educational webinars, 4 in asthma 4 in COPD. Across the 8 webinars there were a total of 84 attendees.
- Enrolled 10 community pharmacies to be part of the project.
- All materials needed for implementation were developed and certified in line with ABPI guidance.

Lessons learned:

- The early establishment of a broad project team from a wide range of stakeholders, working in an open and supportive manner was a key factor in this rapid project initiation. (Project development phase and approval was less than 6 months).
- It is vital to gain early understanding of sign off process within NHS (this may and quite often is different organisations etc) and industry to ensure project can start on time.
- Broad communication plan was developed and implemented including presentations at conferences and meetings to raise program awareness, understanding and engagement.