

## Notes From Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS NatPSA Sodium Valproate Stakeholders Meeting

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

9.30am – 10.30am via MS Teams

**Present:**

NHS Nottingham & Nottinghamshire ICB

Nottingham University Hospitals

Sherwood Forest Hospitals Trust

Primary Integrated Community Services

| No. | Item                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Action |
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| 1.  | <b>Welcome, Introductions &amp; Apologies</b><br>ICB welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were received.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |        |
| 2.  | <b>Minutes of the Last Meeting</b><br>The notes were recorded as an accurate record of the meeting held on 28 <sup>th</sup> August 2024.<br><br><b>Matters Arising</b><br>Still waiting to hear where Secondary Care will store ARAF forms either on Care Centrix or Medway and then shared across primary care.<br><br>NUH to review SLA to address capacity issues around administration work due to ARAF forms.<br><br>NUH is working with NUH consultants to produce flowcharts for use in both secondary and primary care.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |        |
| 3.  | <b>Organisational Feedback</b><br>NUH - advised that a small cohort of clinicians at NUH know of patients who are not sexually active, and do not require contraception, but do need/take sodium valproate, and this must be articulated as a risk for NUH.<br><br>Post menopausal women and patients who have had a hysterectomy are exempt from an ARAF form.<br><br>Consultant advised the risk acknowledgement section of the ARAF form should always be completed, and the prevent section of the form does not always need to be completed dependent upon the patient.<br><br>It seems unfair that some women with a learning disability and some same sex women in a relationship are having to take contraception so that they can have sodium valproate. Patients are obliged to take contraception in order to receive valproate. |        |

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|  | <p>ICB spoke of the need to come to a consensus relating to completing ARAF forms. NUH asked if there had been any thought of a flowchart produced by N&amp;NICB showing processes for all to follow, and ICB advised that this group and the MSO Network should be able to help with this. It was suggested using the flowchart that NUH is compiling as a starting point. ICB advised that the flowchart would need compliance from all neurology consultants at NUH and SFHT, with GP input welcomed into a collective piece of work.</p> <p>ICB advised that the shared care protocol needs to be reviewed in January 2024. A discussion took place around possibly extending the review date.</p> <p>The flowchart can be linked to the SCP document. Caveats from NHCT will be required.</p> <p>Consultant advised that paediatric work was going well, and there is an increase in workload. Spoke of his concern for adult patients due to capacity issues and the transfer of young adults to adult care.</p> <p>ICB emphasised the importance of consistency and processes. There is a concern that if this group dissolves where will issues be discussed.</p> <p>ICB suggested a commissioning or contract lead be asked to attend future meetings to help discuss issues and concerns raised.</p> <p>ICB reported that medications taken during pregnancy are a high risk. Topiramate is work we will need to address. Principles need to be put in place and advised that ICB is in the process of writing an information sheet.</p> <p>SFHT – A risk acknowledgement process is being followed.</p> <p>Primary Care – OICS advised that the FAQ document now needs some GP input. GP Leads have seen the document, but no comments have been received. ICB asked for the document to be sent to herself and the 2 GPs again and she would prompt them both for comments.</p> <p>PICS advised that the FAQ document has acknowledgement from the Nottingham West primary care team and input from relevant stakeholders. The document will be hosted on the Medicines Optimisation website in the MSO section under the primary care resource section.</p> <p>The SOP will be on the primary care section of the ICB website. All documents and templates must continue to be updated. ICB requested that the SOP will need to have APC links added to it.</p> <p>Nottinghamshire APC Shared Care Protocol – ICB advised that there is no update nationally yet. ICB asked the group if they would like the APC to extend the review date. An interim update and checking of links is to be carried out.</p> <p>ICB asked that once the review of men taking valproate had happened how would this impact on shared care and what would the next steps be ?</p> |  |
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|           | ICB to find out when/if national guidance on shared care protocol may be available and then liaise with the MSO on working on the shared care protocol. We must get state a of readiness for when the national guidance comes out.                  |  |
| <b>4.</b> | <p><b>Agreement of Next Steps</b></p> <p>ICB agreed to extend the review date of the SCP and push the national team for timelines.</p> <p>ICB asked NUH to produce a first draft of flowcharts for discussion at the next meeting of the group.</p> |  |
| <b>5.</b> | <p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>Valproate in men – PICS advised concern on information following the alert, as complicated to let all patients know, and will generate quite a lot of work.</p>                                                 |  |
| <b>6.</b> | <p><b>Date &amp; Time of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 – 9.30am – 10.30am.</p>                                                                                                                                     |  |