

MEDICATION SAFETY

MEDICATION DECISION DISCREPANCY: ESCALATION PATHWAY FOR

PURPOSE

To provide information to escalation pathway which could be taken when disagreement in decisions in regards to medications in between health care professionals.

PROCEDURE

This guideline applies to all WNHS healthcare staff (including casual, agency and pre registration professional students under direct supervision) involved in any medication process.

ESCALATION PATHWAY ON WNHS MEDICATION GUIDELINES AND PROTOCOLS

Guidelines and protocols for medications are ratified and endorsed by the Medication Safety Review Group (MSRG), which then will be endorsed by the Drug Therapeutic Committee (DTC). Any disagreements to the WNHS healthcare staff members to such guidelines shall write to the DTC and the matter will be discussed at the next Committee meeting and a final conclusion reached. If no resolution is achieved then the applicant may appeal to the Clinical Governance Committee.

If a unresolved disagreement occurs requiring rapid resolution on course of treatment, the final decision will lie with the Executive Medical Director. If the Executive Medical Director is unavailable then the on-call executive is to be contacted.

ESCALATION PROCEDURE FOR A DRUG APPLICATION

Drug application for use at the WNHS will be submitted to the DTC. The application will be discussed at the next DTC meeting. The Secretary is to write a letter to the applicant specifying the particulars of the Committee's decision. If the applicant is not satisfied with the decision made by the Committee, they have the right to appeal.

The applicant shall be invited to the next Committee meeting at which time the matter will be discussed and a final conclusion reached. If no resolution is achieved then the applicant may appeal to the Clinical Governance Committee.

ESCALATION PROCEDURE FOR DISAGREEMENT REGARDING ANTIMICROBIAL TREATMENT

The DTC independently review any disagreements or conflicts that arise from Antimicrobial Stewardship Policy. DTC involvement will only be requested if a discussion between the treating consultant and the on-call microbiologist fails to resolve disagreements/ conflicts.

If a disagreement occurs requiring rapid resolution of antimicrobial treatment, the final decision lie with the duty/on-call microbiologist.



REFERENCES (STANDARDS)	
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National Standards – 4 Medication Safety Legislation – Poisons Act 1964 Related Policies / Guidelines – WNHS Restricted Medicines List Other related documents – Terms of Reference for MSRG, DTC and AMS	
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RESPONSIBILITY	
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Policy Sponsor	Chief Pharmacist
Initial Endorsement	July 2014
Last Reviewed	
Last Amended	
Review date	July 2017

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