

## Equality, Good Relations and Human Rights SCREENING TEMPLATE

See [Guidance Notes](#) for further information on the 'why' 'what' 'when', and 'who' in relation screening, for background information on the relevant legislation and for help in answering the questions on this template (follow the links).

### (1) INFORMATION ABOUT THE POLICY OR DECISION

#### 1.1 Title of policy or decision

NI Medicines Management Formulary (Adult) – Gastro-intestinal system BNF Chapter 1

#### 1.2 Description of policy or decision

##### **Aims/objectives**

- To develop a shared formulary for use across the HSC which will comprise a list of drugs that are recommended for initiation by prescribers.
- To deliver high quality prescribing that is safer, more rational and cost-effective.

##### **How will this be achieved?**

- Data collection and analysis from available sources to develop better understanding of the utilisation of drugs and their efficacy
- Desk research to explore options for Formulary development from within the UK and abroad
- Evaluation of options by the NI Medicines Management Forum to determine the "best fit" approach for NI

##### **Constraints**

- The absence of contractual arrangements for Community Pharmacy Contractors which are aligned to meet the requirements of a Drugs Tariff
- Increasing demands for Health and Social Care in general and on

- pharmaceutical expenditure in particular.
- Historical variation in prescribing practice.

### **1.3 Main stakeholders affected (internal and external)**

**For example staff, actual or potential service users, other public sector organisations, voluntary and community groups, trade unions or professional organisations or private sector organisations or others**

#### Internal

- General Medical Practitioners
- Community Pharmacy Contractors
- Pharmaceutical Contractors Committee
- Health and Social Care Trusts
- Health and Social Care Board
- Public Health Agency
- Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety

#### External

- Actual or potential service users – albeit that the development of the Formulary will offer the opportunity for safer, more rational and cost effective prescribing.

### **1.4 Other policies or decisions with a bearing on this policy or decision**

- Establishment of new NI Drugs Tariff
- Establishment of new Community Pharmacy Contract
- Financial allocation in the Comprehensive Spending Review period for Health and Social Care expenditure – this will be a NI Executive decision

## (2) CONSIDERATION OF EQUALITY AND GOOD RELATIONS ISSUES AND EVIDENCE USED

### 2.1 Data Gathering

**What information did you use to inform this equality screening? For example previous consultations, statistics, research, Equality Impact Assessments (EQIAs), complaints. Provide details of how you involved stakeholders, views of colleagues, service users, staff side or other stakeholders.**

- Data collection and analysis from available sources to develop better understanding of the utilisation of drugs and their efficacy
- Desk research to explore options for Formulary development from within the UK and abroad
- Evaluation of options by the NI Medicines Management Forum to determine the “best fit” approach for NI

The NI Medicines Management Forum has been established as the vehicle to deliver the corporate responsibilities that the HSCB and PHA have as relating to the use of medicines. The Forum has been set up to inform and develop policy and standards regarding medicines management and to provide advise on the implementation of medicines related policies and guidance for the HSC.

The Forum has core membership from the HSCB, PHA, HSC Trusts, Patient and Client Council, DHSSPS, Pharmaceutical Contractors’ Committee, General Practitioners’ committee, ABPI and a Health Economist.

Non core-membership can be co-opted from a range of stakeholders including RQIA, BSO, Research Ethics Committee, QUB/UJJ and national organisations such as NICE.

The Forum considers the development of the Formulary to be consistent with best practice.

There will be public consultation on the process for development of the Formulary.

### 2.2 Quantitative Data

**Who is affected by the policy or decision? Please provide a statistical profile. Note if policy affects both staff and service users, please provide profile for both.**

<b>Category</b>	<b><i>What is the makeup of the affected group? ( %) Are there any issue or problems? For example, a lower uptake that needs to be addressed or greater involvement of a particular group?</i></b>
Gender	All
Age	All
Religion	All
Political Opinion	All
Marital Status	All
Dependent Status	All
Disability	All
Ethnicity	All
Sexual Orientation	All

### **2.3 Qualitative Data**

**What are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the categories in relation to this policy or decision and what equality issues emerge from this? Note if policy affects both staff and service users, please discuss issues for both.**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Needs, Experiences and Priorities</b>
Gender	
Age	It should be noted that good practice dictates that some prescribing notes and cautions relate to specific age groups e.g. the elderly or under 20s.
Religion	
Political Opinion	
Marital Status	
Dependent Status	
Disability	
Ethnicity	
Sexual Orientation	

#### 2.4 Multiple Identities

**Are there any potential impacts of the policy or decision on people with multiple identities? For example; disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people.**

No – the Formulary will benefit all categories and groups. It will offer equality of opportunity irrespective of equality category or multiple identities therein.

**2.5 Based on the equality issues you identified in 2.2 and 2.3, what changes did you make or do you intend to make in relation to the policy or decision in order to promote equality of opportunity?**

<i>In developing the policy or decision what did you do or change to address the equality issues you identified?</i>	<i>What do you intend to do in future to address the equality issues you identified?</i>

**2.6 Good Relations**

**What changes to the policy or decision – if any – or what additional measures would you suggest to ensure that it promotes good relations? (refer to guidance notes for guidance on impact)**

<i>Group</i>	<i>Impact</i>	<i>Suggestions</i>
Religion		
Political Opinion		
Ethnicity		

**(3) SHOULD THE POLICY OR DECISION BE SUBJECT TO A FULL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT?**

A full equality impact assessment (EQIA) is usually confined to those policies or decisions considered to have major implications for equality of opportunity.

**How would you categorise the impacts of this decision or policy? (refer to guidance notes for guidance on impact)**

**Please tick:**

Major impact	
Minor impact	
No further impact	√

**Do you consider that this policy or decision needs to be subjected to a full equality impact assessment?**

**Please tick:**

Yes	
No	√

**Please give reasons for your decisions.**

The Formulary is being developed to promote high quality, safer, more rational and cost-effective prescribing.

Development of a new Formulary is not considered likely to have significant implications for equality of opportunity in respect of drugs that are recommended for initiation by prescribers.

**(4) CONSIDERATION OF DISABILITY DUTIES**

**4.1 In what ways does the policy or decision encourage disabled people to participate in public life and what else could you do to do so?**

<i>How does the policy or decision currently encourage disabled people to participate in public life?</i>	<i>What else could you do to encourage disabled people to participate in public life?</i>

**4.2 In what ways does the policy or decision promote positive attitudes towards disabled people and what else could you do to do so?**

<i>How does the policy or decision currently promote positive attitudes towards disabled people?</i>	<i>What else could you do to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people?</i>



## (5) CONSIDERATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

### 5.1 Does the policy or decision affect anyone's Human Rights? Complete for each of the articles

ARTICLE	Yes/No
Article 2 – Right to life	No
Article 3 – Right to freedom from torture, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment	No
Article 4 – Right to freedom from slavery, servitude & forced or compulsory labour	No
Article 5 – Right to liberty & security of person	No
Article 6 – Right to a fair & public trial within a reasonable time	No
Article 7 – Right to freedom from retrospective criminal law & no punishment without law	No
Article 8 – Right to respect for private & family life, home and correspondence.	No
Article 9 – Right to freedom of thought, conscience & religion	No
Article 10 – Right to freedom of expression	No
Article 11 – Right to freedom of assembly & association	No
Article 12 – Right to marry & found a family	No
Article 14 – Prohibition of discrimination in the enjoyment of the convention rights	No
1 <sup>st</sup> protocol Article 1 – Right to a peaceful enjoyment of possessions & protection of property	No
1 <sup>st</sup> protocol Article 2 – Right of access to education	No

*If you have answered no to all of the above please move onto to move on to **Question 6** on monitoring*

**5.2 If you have answered yes to any of the Articles in 5.1, does the policy or decision interfere with any of these rights? If so, what is the interference and who does it impact upon?**

List the Article Number	Interfered with? Yes/No	What is the interference and who does it impact upon?	Is it legal?* Yes/No

*\* It is important to speak to your line manager on this and if necessary seek legal opinion to clarify this*

**5.3 Outline any actions which could be taken to promote or raise awareness of human rights or to ensure compliance with the legislation in relation to the policy or decision.**

(6) **MONITORING**

6.1 What data will you collect in the future in order to monitor the effect of the policy or decision on any of the categories (for equality of opportunity and good relations, disability duties and human rights?)

Equality & Good Relations	Disability Duties	Human Rights

Approved Lead Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Policy/Decision Screened by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note that having completed the screening you will need to ensure that a consultation on the outcome of screening is undertaken, in line with Equality Commission guidance.**

**Please forward completed schedule to: Anne McGlade, Equality Manager, Business Services Organisation  
Email: [anne.mcglade@hscni.net](mailto:anne.mcglade@hscni.net)  
Telephone 028 90535577**

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