

NHSGGC ADTC Position Statement
Medicines - Achieving Value and Sustainability
in Prescribing: Guidance

1.0 Introduction

The ADTC is constituted to promote the safe, effective and efficient use of medicines within the principles of realistic medicine to maximise health gains for patients. Prescribing in NHSGGC is supported by the NHSGGC Medicine and Non-Medicine Formularies which aim to promote the effective use of medicines and minimise unwarranted variation in prescribing practice across NHSGGC.

The ADTC endorses the Scottish Government's [Medicines - achieving value and sustainability in prescribing](#)¹ guidance which provides guidance for NHS Health Boards and clinicians, to minimise the unwarranted variation in the prescribing of medicines and make the most efficient use of resources. It supports the principles of Realistic Medicine through shared decision making, encouraging medicine review, and ensuring medicines with low or limited value are not prescribed inappropriately. Prescribers are encouraged to have due regard for this guidance when considering prescribing the items included. However, it does not remove the clinical discretion of the prescriber in discussing and agreeing the most suitable treatment for individuals in accordance with their professional duties and to minimise harm or unintended consequences.

1.1 Aim of Position Statement

To ensure that the ADTC, its subgroups and individual prescribers are aware of the Scottish Government's Medicines - achieving value and sustainability in prescribing: guidance.

1.2 Objectives

1.2.1 To recommend that medicines of low clinical value are not recommended or prescribed.

1.2.2 To recommend that medicines of limited clinical value are only recommended or prescribed in exceptional circumstance.

1.3 Scope

This position statement applies to recommendations made in the NHSGGC Formularies, clinical guidelines and to all individual prescribers.

2.0 Roles and Responsibilities

2.1 NHSGGC

NHSGGC is responsible for establishing, documenting and maintaining an effective system to minimise the unwarranted variation in the prescribing of medicines and make the most efficient use of resources as per the principles of the Scottish Government's Medicines - achieving value and sustainability in prescribing: guidance.

2.2 ADTC and its subcommittees

The ADTC, and its subgroups work together to promote the safe, effective and efficient use of medicines. This position statement should be adhered to when reviewing proposals and making prescribing recommendations.

Doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other healthcare professionals have a responsibility to ensure unwarranted variation in the prescribing of medicines and make the most efficient use of resources as per the principles of the Scottish Government's Medicines - achieving value and sustainability in prescribing: guidance.

References

1. The Scottish Government. Achieving achieving value and sustainability in prescribing. Edinburgh: Scottish Government; 2024.