

SECTION 5: NON-FORMULARY PROCESSES

5.2.2: BRIEFING NOTES FOR SPECIALIST ADVISORS SUPPORTING IPTR PANELS

Specialist advice may be sought at either, or both, of the stages of the Individual Patient Treatment Request (IPTR) processes, the first application to the Associate Medical Director (AMD) and/or the appeal to the Board's Medical Director. Where possible, it is preferred that a Specialist Advisor (SA) who provides support to an AMD's panel does not also provide advice to the Medical Director's Appeal panel.

The SA is independent of either panel, does not participate in the final stage of the hearings and does not have voting rights.

The involvement of the SA is in addition to the provision of evidence based analysis of the current literature from the Pharmacy and Prescribing Support Unit.

The input of the SA to the respective panels is:

1. The initial hearing led by the AMD panel:
 - context for the AMD and his/her panel, reviewing this new request against the backdrop of other patients within the Health Board and the treatment(s) they are / are not receiving. There may also be necessity to discuss the management of the condition in Scotland outwith NHS GG&C and /or in the rest of the UK, particularly for medicines / indications which have not been assessed by SMC for whatever reason.
 - any additional clinical information (including any experience with the medicine in clinical practice) not included in the Medicines Information briefing
 - specific advice in response to questions from other Panel Members
 - general advice on alignment of the case with the 'criteria for exceptionality'
2. The Appeal hearing led by the Board's Medical Director:
 - at the appropriate junctures in the hearing, the SA will lead the questioning of the patient's Consultant (appellant) and the AMD (defendant) on clinical issues. He / she may also be invited to ask questions of the patient.
 - The SA will answer questions from the panel
 - The SA will provide context for the panel, reviewing this new request against the backdrop of other patients within the Health Board and the treatment(s) they are / are not receiving. There may also be necessity to discuss the management of the condition in Scotland outwith NHS GG&C and /or in the rest of the UK, particularly for medicines / indications which have not been assessed by SMC for whatever reason
 - In the private session with the panel members after the formal session, advice on alignment of the case with the 'criteria for exceptionality'