



All-Party Parliamentary Group for Prescribed Drug Dependence

Emergency General Meeting Minutes 27th March 2019

Present:

Oliver Letwin MP (OL)	APPG Chair
Earl of Sandwich (ES)	Co-chair
Baroness Masham of Ilton	Co-chair
Norman Lamb MP	Co-chair
Lucy Powell MP	Co-chair elect
Lady Sandwich (CS)	
James Davies (JD)	Secretariat
Anne Guy (AG)	Secretariat (co-ordinator)
Peter Kinderman (PK)	Secretariat
Harry Shapiro (HS)	Secretariat

Guests

Andrew Gregory	Sunday Times Health Editor
Andrew Green	GPC UK Clinical and Prescribing Policy Lead. BMA Council member.

Apologies

Luciana Berger MP	Co-chair	Dan Poulter MP
Luke Montagu (LM)	Secretariat	

Item	Description	Who	By When
1	<p>EGM</p> <p>The APPG received the sad news of Paul Flynn's death on 18th February whose work for the APPG from 2015- June 2018 was greatly appreciated and he will be much missed.</p> <p>With Luciana's resignation from Labour on the same day, a vacancy was created for a Labour co-chair.</p> <p>Lucy Powell MP (Lab) was proposed for election as co-chair and unanimously elected by the parliamentarians present.</p> <p>The secretariat coordinator to notify the APPG Register within 28 days.</p>	AG	23/4
2	<p>Updates on APPG activity</p>		
2.1	<p>PHE review: JD confirmed that a meeting of a new subgroup of the ERG had taken place in line with PHE's plan to refine its data analysis.</p>		
2.2	<p>NICE Guideline on Depression in Adults (CG90): OL / NL confirmed they have been engaged in ensuring a meeting takes place between NICE and the Coalition of Stakeholders to</p>		

<p>2.3</p>	<p>discuss its proposed “additional work” on the guideline. The meeting will take place in May, date to be confirmed.</p> <p>RCGP meeting: PK updated the group on a recent meeting with representatives of the RCGP to consider ways forward for collaborative working including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the development of appropriate toolkits for GPs summarising information about pain medications and antidepressants, and to support social prescribing inviting a RCGP rep to the next APPG meeting 		
<p>2.4</p>	<p>Guidance for Psychological Therapists: As this will be published after the PHE review has announced its findings, the launch date will be re-set once the PHE publication date is known. OL/JD/AG to discuss positioning in a separate meeting.</p>	<p>OL/ JD/ AG</p>	<p>12/4</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Opioid use in the UK The meeting then heard presentations from HS and Andrew Gregory on the latest information on trends in opioid painkiller use in the UK and associated issues.</p> <p>It was noted that as the scope of the PHE review includes prescribed opioid pain medications (excluding those for cancer and terminal pain) it makes sense to consider how to proceed after the PHE review has been published.</p>		
<p>4</p>	<p>Next meeting Date to be set, probably in May, after the next full ERG meeting date is known.</p>	<p>AG</p>	<p>19/4</p>