

Meeting report for Antimicrobial Expert Advisory Group meeting 1

Wednesday 21st January 2026, at 11am

Meeting held via MS Teams

Attending

Louise Dunsmure, Marisa Lanzman, Rachel Berry, Zoe Kennerley, Rakhi Aggarwal, Lisa Boateng, Frances Garraghan, Mark Gilchrist, Blessing Ukoha-Kalu, Rakhee Patel, Nirlep Agravedi, Conor Jamieson

Jegak Seo, Rebecca Braybrooks

Apologies

Preety Ramdutt, Delyth Ahearne, Aaron Brady, Avril Tucker

Amira Guirguis,

1: Recognition

Title	Welcome
Description	Introductions and actions from last meeting Worker agreements, pics and bios Actions from 07.10.25: - Check if posters (from Conference) can be shared with AmEAG before the RPS conference - Revive the WhatsApp group - Webinar re: how can do research in infection Future meeting dates: - 25 March 11-1pm (online) - 04 June 11-1pm (online)
Outcomes	The Chair welcomed everyone on the call and short introductions were heard from all. The draft notes from the previous meeting were approved, and can be added to the website. In the last meeting the Strategy consultation response was discussed in depth. This was submitted on behalf of the group. There has been no further update on this. Actions from the last meeting regarding the RPS Conference 2025 – can AmEAG have sight of the posters before they are presented at Conference? (RB to check with Events team) The group had a discussion on using AI to optimise time by using AI tools to complete reviews on works – posters etc. The group now has a new link with digital group (Digital Pharmacist Expert Advisory Group: DPEAG) – who have shared AMS digital strategy . DPEAG have their own agenda, could be able to do cross project work, regular invites to meetings every 6mths. DPEAG reach out to add more AMS/AMR to masterclasses (refine links).

Reach out to CPEAG and PCPEAG for AMEAG – joint working? (amnesty, RA)

Discussion around reviving the WhatsApp group – updated with current members, to be used for quick responses to media requests etc.

Future meeting dates – ACTION RB to send out Teams invites

The group had a good discussion on ideas for projects to review. The discussion points covered:

- WAAW CMO letter 3 areas for improvement (CMO advice around target 26/27 areas) Across primary/ secondary care. How do we standardise, showcase work, meeting directions of CMO letter. ICB land is currently difficult. Where are people finding difficulties – threats/ opportunities around primary/ secondary access (opat services shut down, people not qualified to teach etc)
- changes strategic commission not clinical. Run through centralised governance. How is primary care intergrated? Localised discussions.
- Pharmacy minimum competency AMR not included – undergrad level (not on GPhC requirement, infection only)
- 3 prong approach -Contingent looking at all undergrad, registered, BSAC provides support/ analysis – NHSE-funded piece to come out shortly. Competencies to be released. BSAC/ NHSE piece is Capability framework for healthcare professionals working in antimicrobial stewardship roles
- Competency frameworks....to review

<https://academic.oup.com/jacamr/article/8/1/dlaf245/8416185>

- AMS should be everyone's responsibility, across all pharmacists not just AMR/ prescribing...not required to be specialist to know about it.
- How to discuss curriculum and how to get GPhC attention – write a letter outlining requirements?

Discussion on mentoring and mentors with the <https://ams-leap.com/> programme being mentioned along with the RPS mentor programme. Consultants should be supporting mentors/ mentees

<https://www.rpharms.com/development/credentialing/directories-of-credentialed-rps-members/directory-of-consultant-pharmacist-credentialed-members>

Discussion on Welsh AMS situation, NHS workforce planning/ staffing levels, AMS in primary care/ GP practice , where does ASM sit in ICBs and how can it be prioritised?

ACTION – LD to bring together a short task and finish group to support pulling together resources to signpost – ICB AMS resources

Further discussion was heard on EPMA systems, building a good framework. The digital vision was published last year. Funding was provided to a number of

	organisations to review and provide user guides/ best practice guides on how to optimise systems. Publication should be seen end of April. National funding will be available – analogue to digital. Ambition to improve productivity – intro AI (Frontline productivity programme) £280 mill over 4 yrs to bid for. Many different bits to apply for. - details to follow -- https://www.digitalhealth.net/2026/01/details-of-nhs-digital-productivity-programme-leaked-online/ Topics to focus on: GPhC Letter ICB gap Mentoring Digital vision
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2: Relevance

Title	AmEAG and RPS
Description	Updates from Science and Research Team and around RPS
Purpose	To hear updates from around RPS
Outcomes	RPS Chief Scientist, Amira Guirguis, will hold an internal meeting with the RPS Education Team and bioMérieux to develop an AMR/AMS toolkit. The first scoping meeting will take place soon. If any opportunities arise to work with AmEAG, we will share them. -- need to review make sure there's no replication/ duplication. Use what we have already in place. Flemming initiative – WAAW public engagement

Title	AmEAG activities
Description	1. Updates from AmEAG members on projects (Chair + all) 2. Any updates to WAAW page - https://www.rpharms.com/recognition/all-our-campaigns/antimicrobial-resistance-stewardship/waaw 3. Antibiotic Amnesty work 4. Webinar re: how can do research in infection
Outcomes	- FG and RB – share blog work that was completed during WAAW. Good engagement. - Collate call to action responses? Impact (reach out to DAO)

Title	Sustainability Agenda
Description	Progress actions since last meeting Further actions that the group can take

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Outcomes	Greener pharmacy toolkit – Reached out to colleagues, supplement being provided elsewhere. Don't want to duplicate – will pause on this to wait for more information. Consultation response – do we get feedback from organisations? No we don't usually get feedback from responses.
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RPS AmEAG: <https://www.rpharms.com/about-us/who-we-are/expert-advisors/antimicrobial-expert-advisory-group>

RPS Events: <https://www.rpharms.com/events>

RPS Consultations: <https://www.rpharms.com/recognition/working-with-government/consultation-responses>