

WELSH HEALTH CIRCULAR



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Issue Date: March 2023

STATUS: ACTION

CATEGORY: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL LETTER

Title: Further extending the use of Blueteq in secondary care

Date of Review: 1 April 2024

For Action by:

Medical Directors, Finance Directors,
Chief Pharmacists, Local Health Boards
and NHS Trusts

Action required by: 1 April 2023

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Enclosure(s): 1. LOCAL HEALTH BOARDS AND NHS TRUSTS REPORTING ON THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEDICINES INTO THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE IN WALES DIRECTIONS 2023.

1. In 2018, the Welsh Government invested in the purchase of Blueteq High-Cost Drug system (Blueteq HCD) to improve monitoring of expenditure on, and use of high-cost medicines commissioned by the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC).
2. Following successful implementation of the system by WHSSC, the Minister for Health and Social Care has agreed that Blueteq use should now be extended to a wider range of medicines to support improved financial governance and collecting information about the use of medicines in priority areas for the NHS.
3. The priority areas included in the list of medicines approved by AWMSG are set out here: <https://awttc.nhs.wales/blueteq> . These medicines should be considered as the first phase of wider use of the system, with additional medicines being added subsequently.
4. Full details of all medicines to be included within the wider implementation of Blueteq will be maintained by AWMSG.

Next Steps

5. Unless directed otherwise, Health boards and NHS Trusts are required to act on the requirements set out in National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006 – Local health boards and NHS trusts reporting on the introduction of new medicines into the national health service in Wales directions 2023.
6. The roll out of the system will be supported by the All-Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre (AWTTC).