Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

Engaging at a national level with regulatory bodies

MHRA Patient Group Consultative Forum (PGCF)

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MHRA

- MHRA is the UK Government Agency responsible for ensuring that medicines and medical devices work and are acceptably safe. The Agency's aims are:

  - Protecting public health through regulation, with acceptable benefit-risk profiles for medicines and devices
  - Promoting public health by helping people who use these products to understand their risks and benefits
  - Improving public health by encouraging and facilitating developments in products that will benefit people

- We have a dedicated 'Patient, Public and Stakeholder Engagement (PPSE)' team:

  – engagement@mhra.gsi.gov.uk

  – The term engagement is defined as activities which seek to build and maintain partnerships with external stakeholders including patients and the public
  – Effective engagement identifies opportunities for constructive collaboration

UK Patient Group Consultative Forum

- Provides a forum through which the agency can engage in meaningful dialogue with patients, their carers, patient groups and members of the public
- Supports our wider strategic objectives of safeguarding patient safety and improving public health
- Established in the Autumn of 2014
- Members recruited initially through approaches made to charities and other not-for-profit organisations representing patients or particular health constituencies
- Subsequent members added through patient networks and other patient groups encountered through the work of the PPSE team
- Currently 80+ individual members representing around 30 different primary health issues and long term conditions

‘Rules’

- Role description:
  - Ability to draw on experiences as a patient and as a consumer of medicines and medical devices and translate this into a population level perspective
  - An interest in championing patient safety

- Avoidance of red tape – PGCF kept as informal an arrangement as possible

Topics/ activities

- Improving patient/public reporting of adverse incidents with medical devices
- Patient/public understanding of the reclassification of medicines
- Accelerated Access Review – patient attitudes to risk/benefit of medicines
- Patient views on the packaging of medicines
- UK Medicines Reclassification Platform
- Attend and contribute to Agency Board meetings

Thanks to Mike Dykes

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