**[HEIW: Medicines Administration Units Consultation](https://heiw.nhs.wales/news/medicines-administration-units-consultation/)**

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) is the professional body for pharmacists in Great Britain. We are the only body that represents all sectors of pharmacy in Great Britain. The RPS leads and supports the development of the pharmacy profession including the advancement of science, practice, education and knowledge in pharmacy. In addition, we promote the profession’s policies and views to a range of external stakeholders in a number of different forums.

We welcome the opportunity to respond to the HEIW consultation about the newly updated and developed suite of Agored Cymru Level 3 Medicines Administration units for use by health services in Wales. The units were developed by an all-Wales Task and Finish Group.

The range of administration routes included in the suite provides a good base of knowledge for support workers involvement in Medicines Management in hospital and community settings in Wales. All Wales standards across the varying levels of responsibility will ensure consistency of training across Wales. The education programme would be for varying levels of roles and responsibility. The hub and spoke structure ensure that support workers can focus on spoke units which are relevant for their role.

It is reasonable for patients to expect that each healthcare professional involved in delivering their care is competent in the skills required to perform their role safely. For those involved in prescribing or administering medicines this includes the ability to calculate drug doses safely and accurately.

We would like to highlight two documents which may help to inform the Medicines Administration Units:

1. The [Professional Guidance on the Administration of Medicines in Healthcare Settings](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rpharms.com%2FPortals%2F0%2FRPS%2520document%2520library%2FOpen%2520access%2FProfessional%2520standards%2FSSHM%2520and%2520Admin%2FAdmin%2520of%2520Meds%2520prof%2520guidance.pdf%3Fver%3D2019-01-23-145026-567&data=04%7C01%7CJonathan.LloydJones%40rpharms.com%7C6d81681adac545e0eea008d96325214e%7C99193c61658d4076952f07c345a3be97%7C0%7C0%7C637649833378904719%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=F1ldboOnKNNHEgMmIV9f%2F2lvsk4w0CU7TSKPsgyd4ig%3D&reserved=0) (Jan 2019) was co-produced by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) and Royal College of Nursing (RCN) and provides principles-based guidance to ensure the safe administration of medicines by healthcare professionals. The guidance is aimed at registered healthcare professionals; the principles, however, can be applied in any healthcare setting by any persons administering medicines.
2. The Royal College of Nursing, Royal Pharmaceutical Society and the Specialist Pharmacy Service were asked to advise on the practice of prescribing alongside the dispensing/supply/administration of medicines by the same health care professional where this is a routine part of the package of care. In March 2020 [the Guidance on Prescribing, Dispensing, Supplying and Administration of Medicines](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rpharms.com%2FPortals%2F0%2FRPS%2520document%2520library%2FOpen%2520access%2FProfessional%2520standards%2FSSHM%2520and%2520Admin%2FRCN%2520RPS%2520additional%2520guidance.pdf%3Fver%3D2020-03-05-121229-987&data=04%7C01%7CJonathan.LloydJones%40rpharms.com%7C6d81681adac545e0eea008d96325214e%7C99193c61658d4076952f07c345a3be97%7C0%7C0%7C637649833378894769%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=8ud0FhDylHJYt4tU%2FFg3bMVl8FvU2s%2FjETihtIaSSlc%3D&reserved=0) were published. The prescribing and dispensing/supply and/or administration of medicines should normally remain separate functions performed by separate health care professionals to protect patient safety.

We welcome the opportunity to work with HEIW to develop the units.