

SMC Patient and public involvement group (PAPIG)

During 2008 SMC received 33 Patient Interest Group disease specific submissions in support of 24 of the new medicines considered. 50% of these submissions received an accepted or accepted with restriction decision from SMC.



During 2008, three members of PAPIG retired with the thanks of the Consortium, having completed their terms of office. Three new members have joined and the fourth replacement is being actively sought.

Raising awareness of SMC and its Public Involvement arm remains a high priority for PAPIG and a new information document, explaining the procedure for approval for medicines and the reason why some are not approved has been published on the SMC Website. The same document has been sent to the Directors of Public Involvement and Community Health Partnership Managers in all of Scotland's Health Boards, plus all of the Patient Interest Groups on the SMC database to re-publicise and stimulate interest from potentially more Patient Interest Groups, to encourage them to make submissions for medicines that are of interest to their members.

PAPIG delivered a presentation at the SMC Conference - "Looking Back, Looking Forward" in September. This presentation explained the role of PAPIG, its achievements to date and its future objectives.

The members of PAPIG continue to act as advocates for the needs of patients and their carers; by bringing a different perspective to the evaluation of new medicines; ensuring that social, economic and quality of life issues are brought to the discussions on the evaluation of new medicines. PAPIG continues to encourage Patient Interest Groups to observe SMC at its monthly deliberations. Future plans include an offer of training to support Patient Interest Groups in the preparation of submissions and particular help for the smaller, less well resourced groups.

Patient Interest Groups who made submissions to SMC in 2008:

Action for Dystonia, Diagnosis,
Education and Research
Action on Pain
Anticoagulation Europe
Beating Bowel Cancer
Bowel Cancer UK
British Lung Foundation
Dystonia Society
Epilepsy Scotland
Hepatitis B Foundation UK
Highland Hospice
HIV Scotland (2)
Leukaemia CARE
Lymphoma Association
Marie Curie Cancer Care
Myeloma UK (4)
National Kidney Federation
National Osteoporosis Society (2)
Pain Association Scotland
Pain Concern (2)
Psoriasis Scotland/Psoriasis Scotland
Arthritis Link Volunteers
Rare Cancers Forum (4)
Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation (2)
Sarcoma UK

The total number of Patient Interest Group submissions since 2003 has now reached 150.

PAPIG would like to acknowledge the continued support shown to them by SMC and the Secretariat.

Sheila Tunstall-James
on behalf of PAPIG

PAPIG Membership

Mrs Sheila Tunstall-James, Public Partner (*Chair*)
Ms Margo Biggs, Public Partner (*from March 2008*)
Dr Andrew Power, SMC Member (*from June 2008*)
Mr Andrew Powrie-Smith, ABPI, SMC Member (*from June 2008*)
Mr Keith Thompson, Public Partner (*from March 2008*)
Mrs Pat Murray, SMC Member (*to August 2008*)
Mrs Wendy Nganasurian, Public Partner (*to March 2008*)
Mr Mike Wallace, ABPI, SMC Member (*to March 2008*)