



Explanatory notes for WeMeReC Maps: Clopidogrel prescribing

Clopidogrel (Plavix®) is an antoplatelet agent available in 75mg tablets.

The map of Wales is divided by **Local Health Board (LHB)** areas; there are 21 LHBs and one unified healthcare board, each of which is co-terminous with local government unitary authorities.

Health Solutions Wales is an NHS organisation. Its Prescribing Services Unit provides data entry and pricing services relating to prescriptions dispensed within Wales. It also is responsible for the provision of prescribing information and information systems to enable drug expenditure to be monitored.

Further information is available from www.hsw.wales.nhs.uk

Prescribing Units (PUs) is an analysis term that was developed to take account of the greater need of elderly patients for medication. Patients aged 65 and over are counted as three prescribing units and patients under 65 and temporary residents as one.

A **national prescribing incentive scheme** has been endorsed by the **All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG)**. This group provides advice to the Minister for Health & Social Services in Wales in an effective, efficient and transparent manner on strategic medicines management and prescribing. The AWMSG, acting in a strategic and advisory capacity, is the conduit through which consensus can be reached on medicines management issues, especially those affecting both primary and secondary care.

Further information is available from www.wales.nhs.uk/awmsg