

Executive Summary

A Joint Working Project between Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals Limited (BMS) on behalf of the BMS-Pfizer Alliance and Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care Board (BSOL ICB)

Name of Project:	Title: Reducing the number of avoidable Atrial Fibrillation (AF) related strokes across Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care Board.
Project Overview:	<p>The aim of the JW is to: Reduce the number of avoidable Atrial Fibrillation (AF) related strokes across BSOL Integrated Care Board (ICB) by standardising access to services through pathway redesign.</p> <p>The project will operate in the local Integrated Care Board (ICB) of Birmingham and Solihull that is the single board for the Integrated Care System (ICS). The ICB is a corporate public body formed from various public bodies including the now abolished Birmingham and Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) (the “BSOL”) covering the same geography. The project will deliver three core initiatives across the ICB, these are designed to first establish the baseline of AF care across the ICB. Once known the project aims to systematically raise this baseline through minimising variation by the establishment of a common AF pathway and ensuring that new and existing patients are risk-assessed and appropriately anticoagulated.</p> <p>Core Project Initiatives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Roll out of the West Midlands Academic Health Science Network (WMAHSN) AF pathway and primary care templates for AF care 2) WMAHSN medical educational workshops for AF treatment and care 3) The identification of existing patients with sub-optimal anticoagulation care within practices will be done using a case finding tool aligned to CVD Prevent. <p>Each of the initiatives will deliver a core set of inputs and outputs that drive the delivery of the project outcomes. There will be the opportunity to tailor how and where the initiatives are delivered to meet and reflect the needs of the local population and NHS teams. This project aligns with the AHSN National programme of “Detect, Protect and Perfect”, where AF is one of the key work streams [1]</p>
Project Objectives:	<p>The primary aim of the project is to reduce the number of avoidable AF related strokes across BSOL ICB by standardising access to services through pathway redesign. It will achieve this by delivering the following three objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1 – Map and understand the variation in clinical care pathways for patients with AF across the ICB. • Objective 2 – Standardise the decision to start anti-coagulation (AC) across the ICB – Protect • Objective 3 – Identify & Improve care and outcomes of patients diagnosed with AF – Protect & Perfect
Patient Benefits:	<p>The expected patient benefits comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improved likelihood that a patient with AF presenting anywhere in the ICB will be initiated on AC ▪ More AF patients treated appropriately, helping to avert future strokes ▪ Improved care of patients on AC through standardisation of the AF care pathway ▪ More rapid implementation of relevant national policy, supporting a population-wide reduction in strokes locally ▪ Helping address the current unmet need will help reach more of the local vulnerable populations and help address health inequality
Stakeholders:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care Board ▪ West Midlands Academic Health Sciences Network ▪ Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals Limited (BMS), who is entering into the agreement on its own behalf and for the benefit of Pfizer Limited (the Alliance Partner).

Timelines:	The project will begin from August 2021 and last for a 18-month period. The project started in September 2021 due to a delay caused by Covid-19 pandemic. Both parties have agreed to extend the project timeline to March 2023.
Agreed arrangements	BMS will provide a resource and funding contribution of £54,216.00 towards the joint working project. The NHS will provide a resource-based contribution of £49,158.00.

References:

1. Partners ICH. Atrial Fibrillation (AF) toolkit Detect, Protect and Perfect 2017 [Accessed: 20th Feb 2020]. Available from: <http://www.londonscn.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/detect-protect-perfect-london-af-toolkit-062017.pdf>.