

Executive Summary for Joint Working Agreement between Health and Social Care Board Northern Ireland and Chiesi Limited (Chiesi).

The Health and Social Care Board of Northern Ireland and Chiesi have entered into a Joint Working Agreement for a Pathfinder Project, covering some 30 practices in Northern Ireland initially.

The project will run for one year from March 2014.

The project will utilise Chiesi's Asthma Management Support Programme and Clinical Support Services Plus team of Health Care Professionals together with Health Care Professionals from the Health and Social Care Board, to comprehensively review a proportion of patients with Asthma, identified by surgeries as their priority, in line with BTS/SIGN/NICE Guidelines. The key objectives of the project are:

- To move patients towards becoming symptom free.
- To complete comprehensive reviews of patients with Asthma to improve the management of the patients' medical condition.
- To improve patient health outcomes through medicines optimisation.
- To improve patient health outcomes through comprehensive education, training, optimal medicines use and aid self-management by the provision of written Asthma Action Plans.
- To achieve patient concordance, by improving understanding of their condition, involving patients in discussions about their medicines and improving patient adherence.
- To optimise medication use and thus reduce unnecessary wastage and reduce prescribing costs.
- To enable the Health and Social Care Board to demonstrate clinical effectiveness and cost-effective prescribing.
- To raise the profile of Chiesi in Northern Ireland by Chiesi's support for the NHS in the management of chronic diseases.
- To enable the Health and Social Care Board to provide additional education and training for Health Care professionals in the management of Asthma.

Outcomes from the project will be monitored and regularly reported to the Health and Social Care Board and will be used to demonstrate this joint working project delivers benefits for both patients and the practices involved. Upon successful completion it is hoped this pathfinder project will lead to a wider roll out across additional practices in Northern Ireland.