

<b>Reporting Committee</b>	<b>JCC - All Wales Individual Patient Funding Request Panel</b>
<b>Chaired by</b>	<b>Elizabeth Abderrahim</b>
<b>Lead Executive Director</b>	<b>Professor Iolo Doull, Medical Director</b>
<b>Date of last meeting</b>	<b>All Wales IPFR Panel meeting 17 September 2025</b>

**Summary of key matters considered by the Committee and any related decisions made.**

The following table demonstrates the number of requests considered at the Chair's Action Panel meetings and All Wales Individual Patient Funding Request (IPFR) Panel meetings during this reporting period.

	<b>Number of Requests discussed as Chair's Actions</b>	<b>Number of Requests discussed by WHSSC IPFR Panel</b>
<b>August</b>	0	18
<b>September</b>	0	17

**Key risks and issues/matters of concern and any mitigating actions**

**Health Board Attendance progress**

There are no concerns to escalate during this reporting period.

**Vice Chair Vacancies**

Following the governance advice received ascertaining that it is indeed appropriate for JCC members to apply for the position of Vice Chair of the All Wales IPFR Panel following the lack of interest from non-JCC Panel members, Professor Iolo Doull was nominated for the position and accepted by Panel members.

**Lay Member Vacancies**

The Panel remains without any Lay Member representation. The two vacancies are yet to be advertised as they are currently awaiting Welsh translation. No further updates have been offered.

**Individual Patient Funding Request (IPFR) Quality Assurance (QA) Group Audit Report – August 2025**

One of the roles of this group is to consider an anonymised random sample of IPFR reports (one from each IPFR panel in Wales) in relation to their completeness, timeliness and efficiency of communication in line with the NHS Wales IPFR policy process. The full terms of reference of the group are available on the All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre website. During this meeting the group

considered one application from each panel considered between April and June 2025.

The report highlighted that eight of the ten criteria assessed were met for the IPFR assessed from the JCC.

The QA Group acknowledged that this Positron Emission Tomography (PET) scan request was out with the PET Commissioning Policy CP50 and so was suitable for IPFR consideration. However, the Group noted the comment of the NWJCC panel included in the meeting record who expressed the opinion that requests for PET scans should not be considered through the IPFR process but dealt with via routine commissioning after assessment by a 'gate-keeper'. The QA Group agree with the sentiments of the panel on this matter.

The Group noted that the decision record of the NWJCC panel states in bold on the first page that the 'Decision Making Guide in the IPFR Policy was used by the panel to aid the decision making in the application'. However, the NWJCC panel are following the revised IPFR policy in which the decision-making guide (included in the appendix to the guide) has not been updated to reflect the changes made in the revised policy. Therefore, if discussions have followed the decision-making guide, these will not align to the updated 9B criteria in the policy the NWJCC panel is following. This could potentially cause issues if a review of a decision is requested.

A letter was not sent to the patient and so this criterion was not met. However, the IPFR co-ordinator provided justification on why this isn't done for PET scan applications. The QA Group accepted this approach as reasonable for these applications.

In the quarter January April to March June, 87% of requests considered by the NWJCC panel met the urgency stipulated. This is the same as the previous quarter but slightly lower than the same quarter in 2024 when 93% of requests met urgency. No additional redactions were required to the paperwork prior to sending to Group members.

### **Feedback from QA attendance at NWJCC IPFR panel meeting**

Fiona Wood, QA Group Lay Member, reported back to the Group on the NWJCC panel meeting she attended on 18 June 2025. Fiona commented that the meeting was chaired well and was attended by representatives from five of the seven health boards although no lay members were present. She also noted that no pharmacy representative was present although two of the applications being considered were for medicines.

The panel considered eight applications in total; the others being three PET scans and three for non-medicines. Each application was introduced by a member of the NWJCC team and the first discussion was on whether the application should be

considered under Part 9A or Part 9B of the IPFR Policy. Fiona reported that discussions followed the decision-making guide. There was debate on the acceptability of panel members sharing their personal clinical experience and expertise with the panel as part of discussions and the use of additional information over that provided in the application form, to support decision making.

The QA Group confirm that additional information either requested and presented in advance of the meeting or presented at the meeting by attendees is permissible within the terms of the IPFR policy. However, this information and the resulting discussions must be fully documented in the meeting record. Such information includes appropriate clinical experience or expertise shared by panel members at the meeting, evidence reviews requested from pharmacy colleagues for medicine requests or Health Technology Wales for non-medicines and relevant evidence available from the IPFR database requested previously for similar applications.

**Matters referred to other Committees**

- None

Confirmed Minutes for each of the meetings are available on request.

<b>Date of next meeting</b>	<b>01 October 2025</b>
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