



All-Party Parliamentary Group on
Crohn's and Colitis

All-Party Parliamentary Group on Crohn's and Colitis

20th March 2024, 15:30pm. Room Q, Portcullis House.

Chaired by Sarah Green MP, APPG on Crohn's and Colitis Co-Chair.

Attendees

Gary Porter, Lord Porter of Spalding
Barbara Young, Baroness Young of Old Scone
Hannah Bardell MP
Jane Hunt MP
Sarah Green MP
Christine Jardine MP

Dr Christian Selinger (Guest speaker, IBD clinician)
Ruth Wakeman (Director of Services, Advocacy, and Insight, Crohn's & Colitis UK)
Fern Howard (Interim Head of Policy and Campaigns, Crohn's & Colitis UK)
Thomas Preece (Policy Manager, Crohn's & Colitis UK)
Hannah Wright (Policy Lead, Crohn's & Colitis UK)

Minutes

- Sarah Green MP welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited the Crohn's & Colitis UK team to introduce themselves.
- Ruth Wakeman gave an introduction on the topic of homecare medicines services. She outlined the benefits of these services when they work well, and the issues patients face when they do not. She highlighted the scale of the problem for people with Crohn's and Colitis, where two-thirds of those using homecare services had issues in the last year.
- Fern Howard read aloud a testimony from a patient living with Crohn's Disease, the difficulties she faced with homecare medicines services, and the impact of this on her health and wellbeing.
- Dr Christian Selinger spoke about the medical impact of IBD medication being delayed or missed, including flare-ups and loss of response to treatment. He also spoke about the impact of this on the workload of healthcare professionals, who spend time trying to resolve patient issues with homecare medicines providers.
- Lord Porter of Spalding gave an update on the House of Lords Public Services Committee inquiry into homecare medicines, the Government response to their findings, and the Committee's follow-up questions to the Government.
- The group discussed the commissioning of homecare medicines services, the lack of data and oversight, the financial cost, and key stakeholders across Government and the healthcare sector.
- The group outlined potential actions and activities to raise further awareness of this issue, and to encourage inquiry recommendations to be adopted.
- Crohn's & Colitis UK updated the group on upcoming activities, noting that it is World IBD Day on May 19th, and Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week from December 1st to 7th.