

Pharmacy Department
NHS Lanarkshire Headquarters
Kirklands
Fallside Road
Bothwell
G71 8BB
www.nhslanarkshire.co.uk



**ALL COMMUNITY PHARMACY
CONTRACTORS
ALL GP SURGERIES
IN NHS LANARKSHIRE**

Date	3 December 2012
Your Ref	[your ref]
Our Ref	GL/AB
Enquiries to	George Lindsay
Direct Line	01698 858315
Fax	01698 858271
Email	George.Lindsay@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk

Dear Colleague,

**CHRONIC MEDICATION SERVICE –
OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENCE SERIAL PRESCRIBING & DISPENSING**

One of the important aspects of the chronic medication service component of the “new” Community Pharmacy Contract is the ability for GPs to issue a single electronic long term (24 – 48 weeks) prescription for patients on stable repeat medication. That prescription will be dispensed at a frequency decided by the GP (e.g. every 8 weeks) and among the benefits there should be improved efficiency in the administrative processes of generating and dispensing prescriptions. The concept is also designed to provide GPs with feedback directly into the patient record in the GP clinical system when a patient’s medication is dispensed, as well as communication of a pharmacist “treatment summary report”

This “serial prescribing” system has been tried by a number of early adopters throughout Scotland over the past year or so and a lot of learning has been achieved which has given The Scottish Government confidence to promote its wider roll out. We are now beginning this process within NHS Lanarkshire and in doing so we are very conscious that the systems will work best where there is

- **Enthusiasm from community pharmacists and local GPs to jointly develop serial prescribing**
- **A willingness among the pharmacy/GP surgery combinations to adapt to the systems as they evolve and to provide feedback on the benefits and any problems encountered**

and our plan is to offer the service initially to pharmacies and GP surgeries who fulfil these criteria.

The purpose of this letter is to make all community pharmacy contractors and GPs aware of this plan and to seek “notes of interest” by Tuesday 18th December. Thereafter Delia Bryce and Judith Milligan and myself will contact interested parties with a view to setting dates early in the New Year for establishing the service.

If you are interested, please talk to your local surgery or community pharmacy to see if they will work on this venture with you, and if that is the case, let me know via e-mail

George.Lindsay@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk

Delia Bryce (07920594839) and Judith Milligan (07810155474) will also be happy to take calls from anyone wishing further information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'George Lindsay'.

**GEORGE LINDSAY
CHIEF PHARMACIST
NHS LANARKSHIRE PRIMARY CARE**