

Pharmaceutical Services  
Strathclyde Hospital  
Airbles Road  
MOTHERWELL  
ML1 3BW



**ALL COMMUNITY PHARMACISTS  
IN NHS LANARKSHIRE  
PLEASE SHARE WITH ALL LOCUMS  
AND SUPPORT STAFF AS  
APPROPRIATE**

Date  
Our Ref  
Your Ref

1<sup>ST</sup> December 2008  
GL/AB

Enquiries to  
Direct Line  
Secure/Direct Fax  
E-Mail

Mr G Lindsay  
01698 245058  
01698 245091  
George.Lindsay@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk

Dear Colleague,

**PCA (P) (2008) 17 – ADDITIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES: MINOR AILMENT SERVICE & PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE DIRECTIONS, SERVICE SPECIFICATIONS & PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

**NHS LANARKSHIRE – UPDATE NO: 5**

This letter is being faxed to all NHS Lanarkshire pharmacies without attachments.

The letter with attachments is also being distributed to all pharmacists and support staff on our NHS distribution list. This remains our preferred method of distribution and we continue to encourage all pharmacists/support staff to obtain an nhs.net. e-mail account. This can be readily arranged via Delia Bryce, Community Pharmacy IM&T Facilitator, telephone 01698 377801, [Dellia.Bryce@nhs.net](mailto:Dellia.Bryce@nhs.net)

Additionally, arrangements have been arranged for the letter and attachments to be available on the NHS Lanarkshire section of [www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk) from Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2008.

**SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES**

The Patient Group Directions for:

- Supply of Supply of Levonorgestrel 1500mcg tablet (Levonelle 1500), by pharmacists for Emergency Hormonal Contraception.
- Supply of Azithromycin, by Pharmacists, for the Treatment of Uncomplicated Chlamydia Infection

are now available.

They are very heavily based upon the National Patient Group Directions , but they do include additional information with regard to local child protection procedures, and information about local family Planning, GU Med. and Young Persons clinics

From today, pharmacists who sign up to these PGDs are eligible to supply these services from NHS Lanarkshire pharmacies.

It is essential that all pharmacists providing these services follow the PGDs as they are written and therefore use the Proformas at the back of each of the PGDs to record their assessment and treatment decisions for each patient who they care for under these services.

To commence the services each pharmacist should read and sign the PGD then send their authorisation form back to

**ANNE BUCHANAN  
SECRETARY TO CHIEF PHARMACIST PRIMARY CARE  
STRATHCLYDE HOSPITAL  
AIRBLES ROAD  
MOTHERWELL  
ML1 3BW**

**FAX 01698 245091**

Anne will create a database of each pharmacist and pharmacy who are signed up to the PGD and will share this with the NHS Lanarkshire Sexual Health Services, Practitioner Services in Edinburgh and also with NHS 24. These communications are all important to enable referral of suitable patients to the pharmacy and also to enable remuneration.

We realise that it will take some weeks before every pharmacist, especially occasional locum pharmacists, will have the chance to read and return the PGD but we ask that contractor pharmacists in particular are proactive in communicating with their locums to draw their attention to these PGDs and seek their sign up.

Both of the PGDs make reference to the [www.lanarkshiresexualhealth.org](http://www.lanarkshiresexualhealth.org) website. This is an extremely useful website which you can give to your patients and also refer to in order to advise most up to date locations and times availability of FP, GU MED and Young Persons clinics. Delia has confirmed that this website is accessible via independent community pharmacies and, if not immediately available via the multiples the advice is that a request to make it available should be made via the internal helpdesks. The fact that it is so frequently referred to in the PGDs should be good evidence of its value.

Notwithstanding the availability of information on the web, NHS Lanarkshire are developing hard copies of various leaflets which would support patients and these will be distributed to community pharmacies as soon as they are printed. In addition, with input from the Pharmacy Contractors Committee a publicity poster is being developed will be made available as soon as possible.

The Chlamydia service has several component parts and an algorithm illustrating this is also published on the website. In summary, the key points are that:

- Patients can access Chlamydia test kits from a variety of sources including ordering them via [www.lanarkshiresexualhealth.org](http://www.lanarkshiresexualhealth.org)
- All results go to the Sexual Health Services Health Advisers
- For patients who are asymptomatic but are Chlamydia +ve and Gonorrhoea –ve the Health Adviser will offer the patient the opportunity to be treated in a pharmacy of their choice ( as long as a PGD has been returned)

- The Health Adviser will contact the pharmacy with details of patients who have indicated they will attend the pharmacy
- The Health Adviser will also initiate Partner Notification
- The patient will access the pharmacy for assessment against the PGD and subsequent treatment and advice from the pharmacist

At this stage the mainstay of the pharmacy service is therefore associated with treatment. However, it is a requirement of the service specification that a screening service is also offered. Within NHS Lanarkshire this will be delivered by the making Postal Test Kits available from community pharmacies. These kits are being assembled in early December and are likely to be distributed to all pharmacies in the next fortnight. Further information will be provided at that time.

We realize that the NHS treatment of EHC and Chlamydia including service accessibility by patients under 16 years of age is new service within NHS Lanarkshire and as such we will be auditing the practice. This will take the form of a questionnaire to be sent to all Community Pharmacies in NHS Lanarkshire week begin the 5<sup>th</sup> January 2009 and a further follow-up approximately 4 weeks later. That questionnaire will seek reviews and experiences of pharmacists within NHS Lanarkshire who have been providing the service.

In addition, should pharmacists identify any issues which they are concerned about in the interim period or at any other period they should contact George Lindsay at the above telephone number to discuss this as soon as is practical for them.

## **SMOKING CESSATION SERVICE**

To date we have received approximately 50 completed National Minimum Datasets for patients who are being supported to stop smoking within NHS Lanarkshire. Many of these were the form initially distributed in August. However, I need to redraw the attention to all pharmacists and support staff of the updated National Minimum Dataset tailored to NHS Lanarkshire and which is available at the NHS Lanarkshire section of [www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk).

This gives clear details about how the form should be completed and returned to NHS Lanarkshire. It is essential the one of these forms is completed for each quit attempt and patients require a new form for each new quit attempt. Sections A, B, and C are completed at the first assessment and section D is completed 4 weeks later. **Thereafter** the form is returned to NHS Lanarkshire who will follow the patient up at 3 month and 12 months intervals.

We are finding a few recurring problems with data completion.

Foremost among these are

- Pharmacists not completing the section to indicate which pharmacy is providing the service
- Only one page of the two page form being returned
- The forms being returned with no quit dates identified
- The forms being returned without the four week follow up being completed.

It really is important that the forms are completed correctly for it is the only way of verifying successful quit attempts and hence the contribution which the pharmacy services are making to this important health target. Please therefore review your practice in completing these forms and seek advice from your local Community Pharmacy Practitioner Champion or Smoking Cessation Facilitator if you want any one to one advice. Again details of how these contacts are on the NHS Lanarkshire section of [www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk)

Yours sincerely

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

Enc:

Copy to:

James Semple, Chair, NHS Lanarkshire Pharmacy Contractors Committee  
Christine Gilmour, Chief Pharmacist, NHS Lanarkshire  
Edward Mallinson, Consultant in Pharmaceutical Public Health  
Alastair Thorburn, Head of Prescribing, NHS Lanarkshire  
Elspeth Russell, Manager, NHS Lanarkshire Smoking Cessation Service  
Lesley Armitage, Consultant in Public Health Medicine (Smoking Cessation)  
Anne McLellan, Family Planning Lead, NHS Lanarkshire  
Alison Currie, Consultant in GU Medicine, NHS Lanarkshire  
Alison Graham, Medical Director, NHS Lanarkshire  
Philip McMenemy, Associate Medical Director, NHS Lanarkshire  
Community Pharmacy Practitioner Champions x 10  
Malcolm Clubb, Community Pharmacy Scotland