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**ALL COMMUNITY PHARMACIES IN  
NHS LANARKSHIRE**

Date 31<sup>st</sup> January 2014  
Our Ref GL/IM  
Your Ref

**ALL GP PRACTICES IN NHS  
LANARKSHIRE**

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**PLEASE SHARE WITH ALL LOCUMS  
AND SUPPORT STAFF AS  
APPROPRIATE**

Dear Colleague

**GLUTEN FREE FOOD SERVICE**

The details of this service are detailed in PCA (P) (2013) 29 which has previously been distributed.

There has been good interest among patients, GPs and pharmacist and to date 114 pharmacies have signed up to deliver the service which becomes operational on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2014. We really hope that all pharmacies and GPs will participate.

There are a few key documents required for the service and are all available on:

<http://www.nhslanarkshire.org.uk/Services/GFFS/Pages/default.aspx>

These include:

- I. **The patient information leaflet.** This is a very quick read which is useful for GP and pharmacy staff as well as patients.
- II. **The patient registration form.** This can be completed by GP or dietician but must be signed by the GP.

- III. **Updated January 2014 Gluten Free Food Formulary.** This has been updated today and supersedes previous versions. We expect the vast majority of supplies to come from the broad range of products on this formulary.
- IV. **Gluten Free Food Requirement Form.** A simple form for patients to order their needs.
- V. **List of pharmacies currently providing the service.** I expect this will be regularly updated until all pharmacies are doing so.

There are also a series of “related” links to background information and the NES pharmacy GFFS resource pack which is very good.

Over the next week or so I plan to replicate these documents on our usual pharmacy website.

**There are two other important points which pharmacists should ensure they do when completing a CPUS form to supply a patient. These are that:**

- **The patient's CHI number must be complete. This is essential for payment.**
- **The practice code of the patient's GP practice must also be added to the CPUS form. This is essential for the spend on Gluten Free Foods to be appropriately allocated.**

There is quite an enthusiasm for the service because it should deliver benefits for patients, GPs and pharmacists so I certainly encourage its adoption.

Like any new service, there will be points for us all to learn, and notwithstanding that this is a national pilot with national review, I would be keen to hear of any constructive ideas from local GPs and pharmacists which may help us deliver this service as well as possible.



**GEORGE LINDSAY  
CHIEF PHARMACIST  
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