

WHAT'S NEW IN THE UNSCHEDULED CARE – PHARMACY GUIDE V 19?

Please ensure all pharmacy staff are aware of the tools available in the Unscheduled Care Pharmacy Guide, as they are normally the first contact for patients in the pharmacy.

Changes to the Unscheduled Care PGD

There are no significant changes to version 19 of the PGD. The professional to professional numbers for Tayside and Stobhill in section 11 have been updated.

Unscheduled Care Folder and PGD available online only

The Unscheduled care pharmacy guide is now ONLY available in electronic format. It is the responsibility of each individual and contractor to ensure they are operating to the current, up to date version of the PGD. Health Boards will continue to issue the signed authorisation form required for the PGD to each community pharmacy, and also communicate any changes related to confidential information e.g. telephone numbers for local GP Out of Hours services (Direct Referral). It will also be the responsibility of each contractor/employer to ensure the NHS Community Pharmacy internet site can be accessed by staff and locums from within the pharmacy for reference when required.

http://www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk/unscheduled_care.html

Monday Holiday Preparation

There are 26 local Monday holidays planned in various healthboards over the coming year which many patients and locum pharmacists are often unaware of. Over the Easter Bank holidays there was a marked increase in calls to NHS 24 from patients who would normally receive their daily/weekly collections or deliveries of medication but were missed due to the pharmacy being closed. Please ensure that your patients are reminded in plenty time of any holiday closures and that provision is made for any daily/weekly collections and deliveries which may normally occur on the local holidays.

Medication Liable to Abuse reminder

Below is a list of medication, provided by the 'Specialist Pharmacists on Substance Misuse Group', that may be liable to abuse or included in a reducing dose regimen. Although many urgent/emergency supply requests for this medication will be genuine, please consider only supplying a minimum quantity until a patients prescriber is available, to reduce the risk of abuse.

Antidiarrhoeals containing opioids e.g. Co-phenotrope and Kaolin and Morphine

Baclofen

Benzodiazepines (unless known to be used to treat epilepsy)

Codeine containing products

What's New?

Cyclizine

Dihydrocodeine containing products

Gabapentin

Meptazinol

Pregabalin

Sativex

Sedative antihistamines e.g. Diphenhydramine, Promethazine

Stimulants – Decongestants e.g. Pseudoephedrine

Zaleplon

Zolpidem

Zopiclone

For those patients who require supplies of these medicines in the OOH period please consider the impact upon the patient of not making a supply. If you have doubts over the appropriateness of making a supply under the PGD remember that you can check the patient's Emergency Care Summary (ECS) with their consent, through NHS 24 on 0845 7000 666.

Individual Authorisation Forms

When completing this form please add the pharmacy name and contractor code of your normal work location, tick the Health Board you work in, indicate your position within the pharmacy and fax or post to the relevant Health Board number (Section 11). You can use a single form for up to three Health Boards. If doing so, tick up to three boxes and fax or post to each Board you have selected. This will ensure you are authorised to use the PGD in the Boards indicated.

Contractors must ensure that at least one pharmacist has named their premises or payment cannot be made for a supply under the PGD. Pharmacists have until **30th June 2015** to sign version 19 or payment for supplies made will be stopped (unless the PGD is signed and faxed immediately before a supply is made). Individual pharmacists are reminded that they **must sign** the most recent version of the PGD, which is issued twice every year. If you do not sign and fax or post each time the PGD is issued, and continue to use the CP(US) forms for supply under this PGD, you will be acting illegally.

Use your GPhC number on the Authorisation form and on CP(US) forms.