

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate

Weekly Update

Dear All,

There is lots of really important content this week. Please ensure that all staff have access to this weekly communication. All pharmacy queries should continue to be sent to:

gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot

1. Pharmacy Closures & Locum Notification

From Tuesday 12th July, any intended pharmacy closure notices received by PCCT due to lack of pharmacist cover will be shared by PCS with our registered locum pharmacists in a final attempt to cover these vacancies and prevent a pharmacy closure. We hope by using these networks we will provide some added resource and support for emergency closures due to COVID / staff sickness etc. This should not be used as routine source of locum cover, it is for emergencies only.

If you are a locum community pharmacist who has not registered with NHS Grampian, please complete the locum registration form contained within the NHSG Locum Pharmacist Pack [here](#) and return to gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot

2. Monday 11th July – Local Holiday

A reminder that Monday is a local holiday and as such, many GP surgeries and pharmacies will be closed. The list of pharmacies and their opening times is available here: [NHS Community Pharmacy Website \(scot.nhs.uk\)](https://www.scot.nhs.uk/nhs.uk/community-pharmacy/)

3. Control Drug Incident Reporting

Reminder to all Community Pharmacists and Locum Pharmacists to report CD Incidents using the attached form on the same day the error/incident is discovered. It is the responsibility of the Pharmacist in charge (on that day) to report these incidents to the CD team, whether they are the regular pharmacist or locum for the day. The CD team can be contacted at gram.cdteam@nhs.scot

4. Smoking Cessation Data

Quarterly smoking cessation data information was previously shared by post. From next week the team will now email you with your quarterly figures. The next batch of data will cover October-December 2021. If you have an queries please contact Denise/Suzanne at gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot

5. Pharmacy First Access for Refugees

A reminder to all CPs, the Pharmacy First service can be accessed by all refugees who are not yet registered with a GP in Scotland. There are now 7 Ukrainian Welcome Hub Hotels in Aberdeen City. These hubs continue to house refugees who are unlikely to be registered with a GP.

A reminder also Pharmacy First Patient Leaflets are available [here](#) in a variety of different languages including Ukrainian.



6. Sexual Health Services - Appointments

The SHS are prioritising appointments for emergencies / urgent presentations, abortion and LARC so don't have many "routine" pill consultation appointments available. They are currently trying to direct this workload to GPs but with a number of practices currently providing emergency service only due to absences, it is proving difficult for some patients to obtain appointments and medication. Please ensure that patients are not left without repeat medication where appropriate, do utilise the unscheduled care PGD.

7. Testosterone Prescribing

Following recent increased media attention we are aware that a number of GP practices are experiencing increased requests from female patients for testosterone gel. Please find attached to this email some key points for your information regarding such requests.

8. MedWatch Newsletter

We attach for your information the latest MedWatch newsletter and Shared Learning Points. In this issue they highlight the responsibility of Yellow Cards, your professional duty of candour and more information on World Patient Safety Day-17th September 2022.

9. AIDS is over, if you want it

The Martin Fisher Foundation has launched its new HIV animation which is free for all to share and use- please share on your information screens and social media messaging. The animation will update peoples' knowledge around HIV; its aims to increase testing coverage and with improved understanding and decreased fear, will go some way to tackling HIV related stigma. See attachment to this email for more information.

Thanks for your continued hard work this week. Have a great weekend.

Kindest regards,



Sarah Buchan

Pharmaceutical Services Improvement and Development Manager



www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk

Username: NHSGrampian
Password: NHSGrampianCP2022