

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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Reminder: Autumn Winter Vaccination Programme Survey

Attached below is a link to the 2022-23 NHS Autumn Winter Vaccination Programme survey. Please complete the survey by **12pm on Monday 29th August**. <https://forms.office.com/r/A1fbwRr5Nj>

Reminder: Community Pharmacy Work Flow Survey

We acknowledge the ongoing challenges in community pharmacies relating to all elements of pharmaceutical service provision. In discussion with your team, we would like you to detail the top 5 changes we could make to improve community pharmacy workflow. These could be really simple e.g. pharmacies to align prescriptions for patients so all repeats collected at same time, more medium term asks e.g. specific PGD's or the "big asks" such as a shared PCR accessible by acute pharmacy / pharmacotherapy / community pharmacy. [Survey Link Here](#)

Gina 10mg Vaginal Tablets (Estradiol) Reclassification

Gina 10 microgram vaginal tablets (estradiol): reclassification to a pharmacy medicine product available without prescription Gina 10 microgram vaginal tablets (containing estradiol hemihydrate) are used for the treatment for the treatment of vaginal atrophy due to oestrogen deficiency in postmenopausal women aged 50 years and above, who have not had a period for at least 1 year. Following advice from the Commission on Human Medicines and

careful consideration of the response to consultation, the MHRA has approved the pharmacy (P) legal status for Gina 10 microgram vaginal tablets. A Public Assessment Report has been made available. For more information, please see the pharmacy training materials containing a pharmacy guide and a checklist.

MHRA has Reclassification of medication POM - P and associated training materials: [Gina 10 micrograms vaginal tablets - Risk Management Materials - \(emc\) \(medicines.org.uk\)](https://www.medicines.org.uk/gina-10-micrograms-vaginal-tablets-risk-management-materials-emc)

International Overdose Awareness Day

International Overdose Awareness Day will be held on Wednesday 31st August. A wide range of events will be taking place across Aberdeen. Please promote, more information attached to this email.

**International Overdose
Awareness Day
31st August 2022**



Shortec Liquid 1mg/ml oral solution & Shortec 10mg/ml concentrate oral solution- Discontinued

For information Shortec® liquid 1mg/ml oral solution & Shortec® 10mg/ml concentrate oral solution has been discontinued.

Oxynorm® oral solutions remain available and can support the uplift in demand.

Primary care prescribers have been made aware of the discontinuation and asked to review any patients currently prescribed Shortec® oral solution and switch to generic prescribing to ensure timely supply of medication and minimisation of waste.

Further info: [Discontinuation of Shortec liquid oral solutions – SPS - Specialist Pharmacy Service – The first stop for professional medicines advice](#)

Mexiletine- Continued Treatment

You will probably be aware of the recent Class I Drug Alert and recall for Mexiletine capsules. Mexiletine is used to treat ventricular tachycardia and therefore must not be stopped or interrupted. For most patients, this is not the first line option and therefore there is no licensed alternative. Up until recently, mexiletine was only available as an unlicensed product for this indication, and given the fact that the licensed preparation may be unavailable for several months, we simply suggest that patients are returned to the unlicensed product which they were already taking previously. The dose and formulation should remain the same. Please note that there is a licensed mexiletine product (brand: Namscula) which is not licensed for cardiac conditions (it lists these as a contraindication to use). Therefore, to reduce patient confusion, and ensure flexibility of dosing required for ventricular tachycardia, we recommend that the unlicensed preparation is used (and this position is supported by the Grampian Formulary Group in the interests of patient safety).

See attached letter from Lynne Davidson (Highly Specialist Clinical Pharmacist in Cardiology) for more information.

Morphine Sulphate Prescribing Guide for Home Births

Please see example prescriptions below and information attached to this email.

FORM HBP(5) NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (SCOTLAND)		FORM HBP(5) NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (SCOTLAND)	
Name	Patient Name	Name	Patient Name
Address	Address	Address	Address
Age of under 12 yrs	Age of under 12 yrs	Age of under 12 yrs	Age of under 12 yrs
No. / MRSA	Pharmacy Stamp	No. / MRSA	Pharmacy Stamp
No. of Days Treatment	CHI number	No. of Days Treatment	CHI number
Morphine Sulphate 10mg/ml Solution for injection Send 2 (TWO) 1ml ampoules '10mg to be administered by intramuscular injection for pain during labour by midwife at home birth'.		Naloxone 400 micrograms/ml solution for injection Send 2 x 1ml ampoules 'Give 200micrograms to neonate by intramuscular injection as single dose following delivery'.	
Prochlorperazine 12.5mg/ml solution for injection Send 2 x 1ml ampoules '12.5mg to be given by intramuscular injection for nausea relating to opioid administration'.			
A. DOCTOR Prescriber name - in block capitals		A. DOCTOR Prescriber name - in block capitals	
ADoctor Signature of Prescriber		ADoctor Signature of Prescriber	
Cardiobiology Aberdeen A825 22N GMC No. Code No.		Cardiobiology Aberdeen A825 22N GMC No. Code No.	
Hospital or Clinic: Aberdeen Royal Infirmary N 8 0 5 0		Hospital or Clinic: Aberdeen Royal Infirmary N 8 0 5 0	
51001966912 00620062		51001966912 00620062	

All women planning for a home birth in NHS Grampian who require Morphine as a pain relief option for their labour should have the following medication prescribed in addition to the standard medication

supplied by their community midwifery team. There are issues with community pharmacies not stocking Morphine sulphate 15mg/ml solution for injection therefore all women regardless of their booking weight will be issued with 2 ampoules of 10mg/ml morphine sulphate. Community midwives will be updated by their team leaders regarding this management.

Community Pharmacy Scotland Newsletter Round-up



THU, AUG 25

MHRA - Patient-Facing Research (Contraception/ Reproductive Health)

The MHRA is looking for Community pharmacists currently working in patient-facing roles, to participate in a meeting to consider the practical aspects of making contraceptive tablets more widely avail

[Read More](#)



Ticks and Lyme Disease – Raising Public Awareness and Acting Fast!

Check out our latest blog from our friends at the Lyme Disease Resource Centre with more info on Lyme Disease

[Read More](#)

Newsletter by,
The Pharmaceutical Care Services Team,

Have a great weekend.

Missed a copy of an update? Weekly Updates are uploaded to the [CP Grampian website](#)

Password: NHSGrampianCP2022