

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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CPUS Prescribing

A reminder that controlled drugs are not included within the unscheduled care PGD (with the exception of phenobarbital for epilepsy). Our prescribing data shows some alarming use of gabapentin and pregabalin on CPUS. This will be followed up directly with the individual pharmacies. You must ensure you all provide CPUS prescriptions within the scope of the Unscheduled Care Service: [NHS Community Pharmacy Website \(scot.nhs.uk\)](https://www.scot.nhs.uk/nhscommunitypharmacy/)

GMED Professional to Professional Line Update

As you may be aware, a system outage has caused difficulty accepting referrals from community pharmacies via the GMED professional to professional line.

GMED are currently undertaking a business continuity arrangement following only part of the system being recovered.

The pharmacy Prof-to-Prof line is therefore not operational at present.

Permethrin Pharmacy First - Scabies

A small number of residents and staff at Bayview Care Home have recently been diagnosed with scabies infestation.

A number of other residents and staff have also experienced similar symptoms suggesting transmission is occurring within the residential setting. As a consequence treatment is being advised to all residents and permanent staff, agency and NHS visiting staff who have symptoms, and those visitors who have recently visited residents with symptoms.

In addition, where staff and visitors have themselves experienced symptoms of infestation, treatment is recommended for all of their household members and close personal contacts.

Please find the attached letter from Christopher Littlejohn, consultant in Public Health, for further information.

Treatment will be provided via GP prescription, however where this cannot be sought timely, we ask community pharmacies to support the supply of permethrin under Pharmacy First where appropriate.

Pharmacy First: Trimethoprim Training Update

We received some feedback from pharmacists concerning the wording of exclusion criteria of women >65 in the updated TURAS training. This was fed back to SG and the TURAS training will now be updated to reflect the PGD.

NES Funded Independent Prescribing places

We are now collating interest from pharmacists who wish to become CIPs. Please note that post-foundation training programme pharmacists should NOT apply for these positions.

To be considered for one of these NES funded places, please return the attached pre-application to gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot by **Monday 17th October**.

Pre-applications will be prioritised and a list of preferred candidates sent to NES for the next stage of the application process.

NES Pharmacy: DPP drop in sessions

As part of NES' ongoing work to support pharmacists to become Designated Prescribing Practitioners (DPPs), NES will be hosting a series of drop in lunch time sessions. Here people can come along, ask questions and share experiences of the role. Meeting links below:

[Monday 31st October 12:30-1:30pm](#)

[Thursday 3rd November 12:30-1:30pm](#)

CO Monitoring Survey

With a view to restarting Carbon Monoxide monitoring within community pharmacy smoking cessation programmes, we'd like to gauge what your needs would be moving forward with regard to CO machines.

Please submit a response to the survey by **Friday 28th October**: [Co Monitoring Survey](#)

North Cancer Alliance Community Pharmacy Lung Cancer Pathway Project

In 2021 the North Cancer Alliance, backed by the Scottish Government's Detect Cancer Early Program, set up a project looking to establish a formal communication pathway from community pharmacy to GP practices for people presenting with symptoms possibly linked to cancer. The project has been running in a small number of pharmacies in Grampian since June 2022 with a focus on lung cancer, and is now looking to expand the number of pharmacies involved.



Training will be provided to support pharmacy staff to identify possible lung cancer symptoms, to help

support discussions with people displaying symptoms and in use of the pathway.

If you would like more information please get in touch: gram.noscpccancerpathways@nhs.scot

Martina Freeman – Lead Pharmacist.
martina.freeman@nhs.scot

First Contact Physiotherapists: Independent Prescribers

First contact Physiotherapists are now working as Independent Prescribers. To confirm, they use the same process as GP Pharmacists when prescribing. For example, use of GP name, stamp and signature on GP10 paper.

Abiraterone / Zytiga

No new patients are currently being started on community pharmacy prescriptions for abiraterone / Zytiga. Existing patients will continue with supplies, all must be endorsed and supplied as Zytiga but please do not hold stock of Zytiga in your pharmacies as patient supplies will be moving back to secondary care in a phased approach.

Aldara® (imiquimod) 5% cream shortage

A shortage of Aldara® (imiquimod) 5% cream has been identified. At present no resupply date is available. An alternative brand of imiquimod 5% cream remains available, however licensed indications are different which may require additional counselling to patients. Please read attached update for full details.

Community Pharmacy Scotland Newsletter Round-up

MON, OCT 10

Temazepam Short Supply

We would like to make you aware that the Short Supply flag has now been applied to both Temazepam 10mg Tabs, and Temazepam 20mg Tabs for the months of October, November, and December 2022.

[Read More](#)



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THU, OCT 13



Foundation (Pre-registration) Yr 23/24 Cohort

If your pharmacy has noted an interest in taking a Trainee Pharmacist in 2023/24 and you had intended on submitting a preference list to NES to aid in the matching process, the deadline for this to be

[Read More](#)

WED, OCT 12



Courier Collection- Postal Strikes

With the upcoming industrial action planned for the 20th October by Royal Mail, this will impact the next planned courier collection, also scheduled for the 20th.

[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](#)

Username: **NHSGrampian** Password: **NHSGrampianCP2022**