

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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Vaccination Services

COVID-19 Service

The COVID-19 vaccination service for 50-64 year olds launched on Monday 24th October. If you do run low on COVID vaccines and require more stock to fulfil your appointments, please liaise with PCS team in the first instance.

Flu Vaccination Service

The Flu vaccination service mop-up launched on Tuesday 1st November. If you have any additional vaccines to be added to VMT, please send a picture of your stock with the BN and expiry visible to gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot and we will request this is added.

For both COVID and Flu vaccination pharmacies, your details will be promoted on the NHS Grampian vaccination pages [Vax Grampian | Vaccination information for the people of the Grampian Region \(grampianvax.com\)](#) and on social media.

Education and Training Update

Medicines Information Teaching Session

An NHS Grampian Medicines Information session has been organised to support and answer commonly asked pharmaceutical questions in community pharmacies.

Topics will include identifying medicines with/without particular excipients, medicines and children, halving patches, medicines and compliance aids, enteral tubes and swallowing difficulties, and interactions.

Please [click here](#) to join the session via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 29th November from 7.30pm.

Smoking Cessation Update

The effect of smoking on psychotropic drugs

Did you know that smoking can reduce the effectiveness of some psychotropic drugs? Please see the attached flyer.

It is important to have an awareness of any patients you have on these drugs who sign up for the smoking cessation programme as they may need to discuss their drug dosage with their Consultant before stopping.

If you'd like to learn more about this, you can complete the ASH Scotland learning modules (which are a pre-requisite for the online IMPACT training on the effects of smoking on mental health). There are 2 modules, each taking around 30 minutes with a quiz at the end. The enrolment key is ASHScotland11. (See link below)

[ASH Scotland eLearning \(ashscotlandmoodle.org.uk\)](#)

Pharmaceutical Care Services Updates

Reminder: Pharmacy First PGD Returns

A reminder to return updated trimethoprim and fusidic acid Pharmacy First PGDs which were released in September. Please note the additional training required to be completed before you return the signature pages. The supporting PCA(P) and TURAS modules for completion are all available [here](#).

GP's and the public have now been notified these amendments are live in all pharmacies.

Bridging Contraception PGD Returns

The sexual health service are advertising on their website that eligible patients may obtain POP contraceptive from community pharmacies. Please ensure you have all completed the required training and have returned your authorisation forms for the [desogestrel PGD](#).

Optometry Referral Form

Please be reminded that community pharmacies are required to complete the **Optometry Referral Form** when referring patients to optometrists.

Please find the PCA(P)(2020)24 circular which provides guidance aimed at both community optometry/ community pharmacy teams and the Optometry Referral form [here](#).

Medicines Management Update

NovoRapid FlexPens Shortage

Please find attached information regarding short term issues with NovoRapid FlexPens 100units/ml solution for injection 3ml pre-filled pens which are due back in stock on 21st November.

Substance Misuse Team Update

Urgent: Prenoxad Missing Needles

We have received information that some kits of Prenoxad might be missing one or both of their needles. Needles are required to administer this product. There are a significant number of kits from the batches which have been distributed in Grampian however the likelihood of kits missing needles is VERY LOW.

Action:

1. To check if the needles are in the kits, **DO NOT OPEN KITS**. Instead hold each kit up to a light source. This should allow you to see through the box a bit and look for two dark squares which are present on each of the needles inside the kit. These should be clearly visible. There are photographs and more information in the attached letters which demonstrate this. Advise patients and clients to do the same.

2. This can be turned into a positive as it's a great opportunity to check with everyone that their kit is in date and still in one piece.
3. Please check all Prenoxad kits that you are currently storing in your service or organisation.
4. Please ask all patients or clients of your services to check their kits. If they are unsure, ask them to bring their kits in so we can check them.
5. Separate out and store any stock you find and let me know. I have contact with Ethypharm and am happy to let them know.
6. If you cannot tell if there are needles in the kit from visual inspection keep it aside and get in touch with me directly for advice (gram.smspharmacists@nhs.scot).

We are keen to ensure patients are not sent away with an open kit. A key part of our local messaging is not to unwrap or open kits unless they are faced with an emergency so that people are confident that their kit is complete, contents have not been tampered and they have everything needed. From the information shared, this should be a very unlikely occurrence but your contact will help me assess this. **There is no issue with Nyxoid nasal spray.**

Further information/images are available on the [Scottish Drugs Forum website](#) and the Class 4 Drug Alert notification can be accessed on the [Community Pharmacy Scotland website](#).

Scottish Healthcare Awards 2022

Congratulations to the Buchanhaven Pharmacy team who have been listed as finalists to attend the Scottish Healthcare Awards in Glasgow this month for Substance Misuse Services in the community. The judges were extremely impressed with the quality of work still taking place in the sector despite the obvious pressures you are having to contend with. The PCS team wish you all the best of luck!

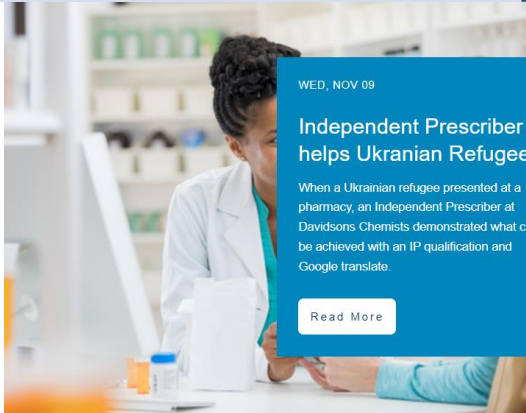


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Community Pharmacy Scotland Newsletter Round-up



WED, NOV 09

Independent Prescriber helps Ukranian Refugee

When a Ukrainian refugee presented at a pharmacy, an Independent Prescriber at Davidsons Chemists demonstrated what can be achieved with an IP qualification and Google translate.

[Read More](#)

THU, NOV 10

Public Health Scotland COVID 19 Guidance

The latest information for Community Pharmacy is now available in the Public Health Scotland COVID-19 Guidance for Health Protection Teams.

[Read More](#)



MON, NOV 07

FreeStyle Libre Deletion From Drug Tariff

Abbott has confirmed that the original FreeStyle Libre sensor will be discontinued in the UK by 31st December 2022. This product is due to be deleted from Part 9 of the January 2023 Drug Tariff.

[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**