

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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Strep A Update

In last week's update (09.12.22) we sent a number of documents regarding Strep A infections and antibiotic liquid preparation shortages. Please ensure all staff have reviewed this information:

1. **PHS information on Strep A infections.**
2. **Community pharmacy guidance for the weekend regarding OOH services (GMED) and antibiotic provision to patients.**
3. **Specialist Pharmacy Service information on using solid oral dosage forms in children.**

Updated Information

Alternative liquid antibiotic preparations:

The NHS Grampian Antimicrobial Team (AMT) information relating to alternative antibiotic preparations has now been withdrawn and is superseded by national HIS and SAPG (attached). Please share this with all relevant team members.

Serious Shortage Protocols:

3 NHS PCA(P)s detailing Penicillin serious shortage protocols (SSPs) were sent to you today (16.12.22):

- **PCA(P)(2022)35** Phenoxyethylpenicillin 125mg-5ml oral solution sugar free
- **PCA(P)(2022)36** Phenoxyethylpenicillin 250mg-5ml oral solution sugar free
- **PCA(P)(2022)37** Phenoxyethylpenicillin 250mg-5ml oral solution

If you cannot see any of these emails in your inbox please contact us, and we will resend. Alternatively we host all updates and documentation on our website.

Changing to an alternative antibiotic preparation:

IP pharmacists: when an antibiotic has been prescribed for Strep A/Scarlet Fever is unavailable AND prescribing is within your scope of practice, an alternative antibiotic preparation can be prescribed in line with HIS/SAPG guidance.

Non-IP pharmacists: when an antibiotic has been prescribed for Strep A/Scarlet Fever is unavailable, timely contact with a prescriber should be made to seek guidance on an appropriate alternative. It is not appropriate to change the medicine prescribed for a patient e.g. phenoxymethylpenicillin to amoxicillin, without discussing with a clinician.

Emergency Care Summary

All community pharmacists, employed or locum, must have access to ECS for patients. This is vitally important over the weekend, evenings and over the festive holidays.

We received a report that one patient went to 4 different pharmacies last Saturday trying to track down a prescription, which could have easily been resolved if the pharmacists had checked ECS.

If you require access to ECS, please contact us and we will provide you with an application form.

If you do have ECS access but your password needs to be reset, please contact gram.cpfacilitators@nhs.scot from your NHS.scot email account.

Facebook Page

We now have a Facebook Page! Please give us a “Like”. We will use this page to share information on NHSG services and messaging. Please feel free to share any of our posts onto your own Pharmacy pages. Please remember this page is accessible to the public so please do not message or comment on any of our posts with confidential information. [Facebook link here.](#) Or search for below:



Community Pharmacies Delivering NHS Grampian Services

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Winter Wellness



NHS Grampian have today launched a Winter Wellness guide and Winter Support webpage, to help people across the north-east lead healthy lives throughout the coming months. The booklet **‘Keep Warm, Safe, and Well this Winter’** covers everything from healthy eating to dealing with the cost-of-

living crisis. The guide will be available to anyone via the NHS Grampian Winter Support website – www.nhsgrampian.org/wintersupport

These pages hold even more helpful information and advice, designed to keep everyone in Grampian warm, safe, and well.

Health Promotion

All community pharmacies should by now have received and be displaying the Right Care, Right Place poster as their PHS poster.

If there are any queries specifically about receiving posters, these should be directed to stockorders.DPPAS@theapsgroup.com For more information: www.gov.scot/publications/right-care-right-place-2/

Naloxone Campaign



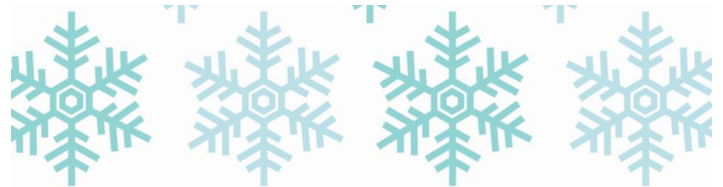
We have attached an MP4 to this email. If you are able to please display this file on your advertising boards. New posters are also available from [Health Info Resources here.](#) These posters have a blank space for your own information e.g.

“Ask our Staff” or “Ask at the counter”. The festive period can be a very difficult and often lonely time for people so please do check your naloxone supplies!

The Happy Space 😊

Charitable Pharmacies

It’s great to see so many of you hosting donation points or raffles for a number of charities. Winter and the festive period can be a very difficult time for many, especially with the ongoing cost of living crisis. Thank you for your contributions.



“CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT GIVING FROM THE HEART MORE THAN GIVING FROM THE STORE.”

.....
-TONI SORENSON

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Christmas Jumper Day Photo

Last week was Christmas Jumper Day!

Millions of people up and down the country were coming together at their workplace, school or with friends to raise money for the Save the Children charity. Did your pharmacy take part? Please send us photos of your staff with their festive jumpers on and we will share in next week's update! Save the Children is a great cause who back charitable causes across the UK and abroad. If you would like to donate [see link here](#)



Staff at Davidsons Ballater wearing their Christmas Jumpers! Great effort!

Community Pharmacy Scotland Newsletter Round-up

THU, DEC 15



Pharmacy Update - Antibiotics Availability

CEO Harry McQuillan is back this evening with a quick update on the availability of antibiotics affecting the network.

[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**

We are aware of a log in error. If this appears press the back icon and navigate once again to section of website.

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