

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update

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Contents

01: Power Cuts - Planned and Unplanned

02: EHC Referrals for <18s

03: Insulin Pen Recycling

04: IEP Online Training

05: Reminder: GMED Queries

06: The Happy Place ☺

Power Cuts - Planned and Unplanned

We have attached a factsheet amended from the NHS Grampian Daily Brief on what steps you and your pharmacy teams need to take to prepare for planned or unplanned power cuts.

It is important we are all as prepared as we can be to deal power outages. Please ensure you update your Business Continuity Plan to reflect this guidance.

Action:

Have you got a back-up power generator in your pharmacy or are you interested in installing one? If so, we would like to hear from you. We will also capture this information for our NHS Grampian Pharmaceutical Care Services Contingency Plan.

EHC Referrals for <18's

The sexual health service have received a number of enquiries of how best to refer patients under 18 for follow up when they have accessed EHC in pharmacies. The service have kindly provided the following guidance for pharmacy teams:

The best way to make referrals would be by sending the PGD Appendix 5 referral form via email to gram.gshhealthadvisers@nhs.scot or by post to: Health Advisers, Grampian Sexual Health, Health Village, Frederick Street, Aberdeen, AB24 5HY.

We will phone under 16s to offer them an appointment for STI screening / ongoing contraception as appropriate and under 16/17 year olds will receive a text message about how to access our service – either phoning to book an appointment or attending the drop in service. Pharmacists themselves can also advise anyone

to check our website for information on how to access our service: [the ins & outs - Site \(grampiansexualhealthservices.com\)](http://theinsandouts-site.grampiansexualhealthservices.com)

Insulin Pen Recycling- PenCycle

Do you know about the PenCycle pre-filled pen recycling initiative by Novo Nordisk?

A massive 23 million empty pens go to landfill waste every year. Nova Nordisk is committed to environmental change and have developed a new, innovative process that lets them recycle pre-filled pens are their use.

Signing up is free of charge and upon doing so you will receive:

- Information leaflets
- Promotion Poster
- Stickers
- Pencycle return box
- Recycling Bin

The process is really simple!

- Provide pen users with PenCycle return boxes
- Accept users returned boxes when full
- Collect PenCycle return boxes
- Arrange collection with Alliance Healthcare

For more information [see link here.](#)

Please let us know if you decide to sign up!

Harm Reduction and Injecting Equipment Provision Online Training

Please see the attached flyer promoting Harm Reduction and IEP training. These sessions will be held via Teams on:

Wednesday 15th February (19:00-21:00)

[Click Here For M-Teams Link](#)

Monday 13th March (19:00-21:00)

[Click Here for M-Teams Link](#)

Please refer to the links under these dates if you are able to attend. These sessions are delivered

by the Scottish Drugs Forum. If you have any issues accessing this event link, please email: gram.smspharmacists@nhs.scot

What Will Be Covered?

- Current Trends in Drug Use
- Practical Harm Reduction Advice
- Different Equipment Stocked by IEPs
- Upcoming Changes to IEP Equipment Suppliers
- Practicalities of Delivering IEP

The event is open to all - preference will be given to staff from IEP pharmacies if numbers are high. We encourage as many staff as possible from IEP pharmacies to attend but would expect **all IEP pharmacies to be represented** by someone who can feedback to others who cannot attend.

Reminder: GMED Queries

⚠️ **There is no direct referral from community pharmacy to GMED at present. GMED can support with prescription queries only.**

GMED will support community pharmacy teams out of hours with queries from GMED and primary care generated prescriptions.

For this, you may phone 01224 558002 and ask to speak to a clinician. Due to the significant increase in workload at the moment, they cannot guarantee call back will be within 1 hour, so please consider this when you contact them.

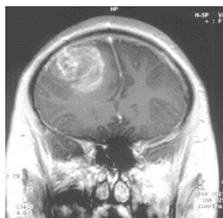
Please do not email gram.gmedurgent@nhs.scot unless you are reporting a pharmacy closure out of hours.

We will resume discussions with the GMED clinicians regarding direct referral models of care once out of contingency.

The Happy Place 😊

Vaccine Could Cure and Even Prevent Brain Cancer Developed by Scientists

In Boston, a potentially-revolutionary treatment for deadly brain cancer is showing promising early signs in mice both for the eradication and prevention of tumours and individual cancer cells.



A vaccine in the true sense of the word, the method involves repurposing living cancer cells to destroy the tumours which spawned them. More [Info here.](#)

Community Pharmacy Scotland Newsletter Round-up



Newsletter by,

The Pharmaceutical Care Services Team,

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.

This should bypass the error