

# Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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## Alcura Hepatitis C Order Form Update

You will find attached an updated version of the Alcura Scottish Hepatitis C Gilead Order Form. Please ensure to replace this with any previous versions for use.

## Nitrofurantoin: Adverse Drug Reactions

Healthcare professionals prescribing nitrofurantoin should be alert to the risks of pulmonary and hepatic adverse drug reactions and advise patients to be vigilant for the signs and symptoms in need of further investigation. Please [click here](#) to view the advice for healthcare professionals.

## NHS Grampian Locum Distribution List

We are currently undertaking an audit of the NHS Grampian Locum distribution list. If you wish to be added or removed from the locum distribution list, please contact [gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot). A copy of the NHS Grampian Locum List can be provided on request from a contractor, but must not be shared. Each contractor that would like a copy must contact PCS directly.

## Public Health Update

### May is Lyme Disease Awareness Month

You should have now received posters and small flyers to give out to patients. If not, or if you'd like a different size of poster, please contact: [stockorders.DPPAS@theapsgroup.com](mailto:stockorders.DPPAS@theapsgroup.com).

You will find information over the month on our Facebook page: [Community Pharmacies Delivering NHS Services](#). Please like and follow us for up to date information.

As always, please check-in with Suzanne or Denise if you have any Public Health/Health promotion issues or questions.

**FIND A TICK?  
REMOVE IT QUICK.**



To find out more about ticks, including how to remove them, or if you get a red circular rash on your skin, or develop flu-like symptoms visit [nhsinform.scot/lyme-disease](https://nhsinform.scot/lyme-disease) for more info.



## Substance Use Service (SUS) Update

### New and Updated Prescribing Guidance for People Who Experience Problematic Drug or Alcohol Use

The following prescribing guidance for drug and alcohol patients have been updated. · Guidance For The Planned Detoxification Of Alcohol Dependent Patients In Community Or Outpatient Settings · Guidance For The Use Of Buprenorphine Products For The Treatment Of Opioid Dependence In NHS Grampian

There is also new Grampian prescribing guidance for Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) which reflects the Scottish Government's "MAT Standards: Access, Treatment Choice". Health Boards across Scotland have been tasked with reviewing and amending practice in line with these in a bid to improve patient outcomes and reduce drug related death. Standards 1-5 had to be implemented by 31st March 2023, standards 6-10 will be the focus for the coming year.

The following Grampian guidance contains specific information on prescribing methadone, missed doses and supervising doses. It also compares the different opioid substitutes to support product selection and contains links to existing buprenorphine (oral and long acting injection) and benzodiazepine guidance documents. · Guidance for Prescribing Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in Community Settings for Patients Experiencing Problematic Substance Use

We encourage those involved in providing care for people who experience problematic drug or alcohol use to familiarise themselves with these documents. The substance use pharmacy team are happy to answer or redirect any questions to: [gram.smspharmacists@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.smspharmacists@nhs.scot).

### Easy Access to Drug and Alcohol Services in Aberdeenshire – Step-In

To address the increase in drug related deaths, Scottish Government have introduced ten Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) standards. This is to allow people to have same day treatment, where appropriate and access to a range of harm reduction and wider supports.

In order to meet these requirements Aberdeenshire Drug and Alcohol services have set up Step-In points in the five main towns and we are encouraging anyone who wishes support with alcohol and drug use to contact on the options below.

| Location    | Address   | Telephone Number  | Email Contact  |
|-------------|---|---|--|
| Banff       | Seafield House,<br>37 Castle Street,<br>Banff, AB45 1FQ | Landline: 01261<br>455810 ( <i>general<br/>reception in<br/>Seafield House</i> )<br>Mobile: 07721<br>801438 | <a href="mailto:stepinbanff@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">stepinbanff@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a><br><i>For referring organisations SU.</i><br><a href="mailto:stepinbanffsu@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">stepinbanffsu@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a><br><i>For people wishing to speak with staff about<br/>any questions they may have.</i>                 |
| Peterhead   | 88 King Street,<br>Peterhead, AB42<br>1UH               | Landline: 01779<br>403 744<br>Mobile:<br>07879702368  | <a href="mailto:peterheadstepin@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">peterheadstepin@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a><br><i>For referring organisations SU.</i><br><a href="mailto:peterheadstepinsu@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">peterheadstepinsu@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a><br><i>For people wishing to speak with staff about<br/>any questions they may have.</i> |
| Fraserburgh | 48 Broad Street<br>Fraserburgh,<br>AB43 9AH             | Landline: 01346<br>415175<br>Mobile:<br>07721363336   | <a href="mailto:stepinbroch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">stepinbroch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a><br><i>For referring organisations SU.</i><br><a href="mailto:stepinbrochsu@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">stepinbrochsu@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a><br><i>For people wishing to speak with staff about<br/>any questions they may have.</i>                 |

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|                          |   |  |  |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|
| Central<br>Aberdeenshire | 93 High Street,<br>Inverurie, AB51<br>3AB (Temporary<br>premises which<br>is not yet open)  | Landline: TBC<br>Mobile: 07826<br>270662 | <a href="mailto:stepininverurie@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">stepininverurie@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a><br><i>For referring organisations SU.</i><br><a href="mailto:stepininveruriesu@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">stepininveruriesu@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a> -<br><i>For people wishing to speak with staff about<br/>any questions they may have.</i>     |
| Aberdeenshire<br>South   | TBC - Until<br>premises are<br>secured, people<br>will be seen at<br>the most<br>appropriate<br>venue suited to<br>their location | Landline: TBC<br>Mobile:<br>07826209266  | <a href="mailto:stepinstonehaven@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">stepinstonehaven@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a> -<br><i>For referring organisations SU.</i><br><a href="mailto:stepinstonehavensu@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">stepinstonehavensu@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a><br><i>For people wishing to speak with staff about<br/>any questions they may have.</i> |

There is a team of staff ready to greet anyone requiring support with problematic drug or alcohol use. The team is made up of a range of different practitioners:

- Nurse - to advise and prescribe treatment of choice.
- Social Worker - to provide a range of different supports as part of recovery.
- Health Care Support Worker - to provide wider health checks and screening.
- Local Area Coordinator – to provide practical support and access to wider activities
- Support Worker from Alcohol and Drugs Action - to support people who do not require clinical or social work interventions.

Harm reduction advice and equipment will also be available from the above locations.

Anyone wishing to access services will be offered an appointment on the day a referral is received or will be seen when they attend if people choose to drop into the Step-In locations. The Step-In locations will be open from 9am-5pm Monday to Friday, appointments will be offered out with these times for people who require this. Where people do not live close to these locations, Step-In staff will arrange transport to these venues or will see people at a time and place suitable to them e.g. in their town/village.

The Step-In approach offers intensive care from a multi-disciplinary team to provide a non-judgemental, welcoming and responsive service. All concerns and needs identified at assessment will be listened to and actions to support these will be provided and included in individualised care plans. The Step-Ins will continue to develop and provide easy access to a wider range of support from key partners including advocacy, housing, welfare benefits and employability.

If you would like any more information on Step-In, please contact [gillian.robertson4@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:gillian.robertson4@aberdeenshire.gov.uk).

## The Happy Place 😊

This week, we are delighted to share with you two local pharmacists who have represented Grampian recently to promote community pharmacy:

### **Laura Karim, Presentation of PFP research at the 2023 Health Services Research and Pharmacy Practice Conference, Bradford University.**

Laura Karim is currently a Scottish Government funded Clinical Academic Fellow doing research focused on integration of independent prescribing (IP) in community pharmacy. This work is in the context of the national Pharmacy First Plus (PFP) service which aims to support access to advice and treatment for common clinical conditions using IP. Laura recently presented her early findings at the HSRPP conference at University of Bradford, where she shared that generally, there were high levels of positivity about the service, but respondents noted some diversity of response in relation to aspects related to the actual operationalisation of the service in community pharmacy practice, indicating there is some more work required around aspects such as training, staff resource, working relationships and management. On this basis, further work is planned to carry out detailed 'case studies' in a number of community pharmacies to explore this in even further depth and from the perspective of the whole community pharmacy team and also staff within General Medical practices. We look forward to working with Laura closely on this project in Grampian.

### **Douglas Forsyth, Pharmacy Show at SHMU Radio**

Douglas Forsyth of Bairds Pharmacy, was a guest on Jillian Evans' health show on Shmu yesterday, representing community pharmacy, alongside pharmacy primary care colleagues Liz Robertson and Claire Douglas. The show was an engaging and informative session for local citizens, promoting the range of services available and how community pharmacies and primary care teams work together. Some really great examples of positive patient care were shared and it also provided an opportunity to promote the breadth of career opportunities available in pharmacy to budding students. A wonderful showcase and a great example of collaborative working, well done to all and special thanks to Doug for representing community pharmacy so eloquently! To listen back to the hour-long show, please [click here](#).

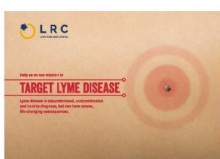
***If you would like to use this space in our update to say thanks to one of your team, do contact us!***

## Community Pharmacy Scotland Newsletter Round-up

### Ticks and Lyme Disease – Raising Public Awareness

Our colleagues at Lyme Disease Resource Centre have put the following resource together for community pharmacists

[Read More](#)



### Unscheduled Care - Ask Me Anything

Last month we hosted an ask me anything on unscheduled care, below is a comprehensive list of the questions asked on the night with the answers included

[Read More](#)

### PCA(P)(2023)17 - Pharmaceutical Services Amendments to the Drug Tariff

This Circular advises of changes in the Drug Tariff effective for dispensings 1 May 2023

[Read More](#)



## Community Pharmacy Champion Contact Details

| Name             | Contact Details  |
|------------------|--|
| Anne Marshall    | <a href="mailto:Anne.marshall1@nhs.scot">Anne.marshall1@nhs.scot</a>             |
| Avril Walker     | <a href="mailto:Avril.walker2@nhs.scot">Avril.walker2@nhs.scot</a>               |
| Moray Vacancy    | <i>Contact Us If Interested</i>  |
| Yousef Al-Obaidi | <a href="mailto:Yousef.al-obaidi@nhs.scot">Yousef.al-obaidi@nhs.scot</a>         |
| Matthew Hamilton | <a href="mailto:matthewjohn.hamilton@nhs.scot">matthewjohn.hamilton@nhs.scot</a> |
| Tatum Al-Obaidi  | <a href="mailto:tatum.al-obaidi@nhs.scot">tatum.al-obaidi@nhs.scot</a>           |

# Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



Newsletter by,

*The Pharmaceutical Care Services Team,*

All weekly updates are uploaded to the [CP Grampian website](#).

*Please like our Facebook page for regular updates and information:*

[Community Pharmacies Delivering NHS Grampian Services](#)



**PS** – We have reverted back to our previous newsletter format based on YOUR feedback about this being easier to read on mobile devices. We are happy to receive all feedback and comments to improve our communications to you, please don't hesitate to get in touch on [gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot)