

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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Medicines Management Update

Shortages of Glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP1) receptor agonists

Please find the attached document in relation to the prescribing and supply of all Glucagon-like Peptide-1 (GLP1) medications. Supplies are not out of stock, but intermittently available. It is anticipated that supply challenges will continue until mid-2024.

Efforts should be made to locate stock for patient, this may include contacting manufacturers to confirm availability/quota information as well as other pharmacies.

Where there is a likelihood that supplies will not be procured to ensure a continued supply of medication to the patient, timely contact should be made with the patients prescriber to advise of supply issues and request the prescribing of a suitable alternative.

Pharmacy Waste Segregation Update

Please see the attached pharmacy waste segregation chart which has been revised by National Services Scotland (NSS). The greatest change to pharmacy waste segregation is that all inhalers must be disposed of in **Purple Stream bins**.

The gas accelerant in inhalers is particularly bad for the environment, so to ensure they are incinerated at a higher temperature which destroys these gases, they need to be placed into purple stream bins.



Substance Use Service Update

NEW RESOURCE: Opioid Replacement Therapy Options Treatment Video (by Aberdeen City Drug and Alcohol Teams)

The Timmermarket team have produced a video which describes the different opioid replacements available. It is primarily designed for use with patients to help them choose the option which they think might best suit them however it can also be used as training for staff. Please share with your teams.

To view the YouTube video, [click here](#) or scan the attached QR code. If you have any questions, please get in touch with the Substance Use Service Team. gram.smspharmacists@nhs.scot



Nomination of Members to the Area Pharmaceutical Committee (APC) for the Period of 1st September 2023 – 31st August 2026

NHS Grampian's Area Pharmaceutical Committee (APC) provides advice to the Grampian Health Board. A key objective of the Committee is to ensure engagement of the pharmacy profession in clinical and service development. This forum enables practising frontline pharmacists and technicians to influence the contribution of the pharmacy profession and to work with other professionals to provide safe, effective and integrated healthcare to the people of Grampian.

We require an active Committee with members from across Grampian, with a wide variety of experience who can provide appropriate information and advice to NHS Grampian's Board. Committee members represent their peers/colleagues and as such have a responsibility to actively communicate with their peers/colleagues to seek opinion and disseminate information as appropriate. The commitment is to attend 6 meetings per year for a 3 year period. The meetings will be via Microsoft Teams, with the option to hold an annual face-to-face meeting. Expenses are paid to contractors/ contractor employees to cover locum fees where back fill is required.

Please find attached the APC Election Flyer and Nomination Form for more information. All nominations for election must be submitted no later than **12pm on Friday 11th August 2023**.

Smoking Cessation Update

Vaping Support Requests in Community Pharmacies

We are currently gathering information around vaping issues across Grampian. It would be extremely helpful to receive information from pharmacies about the specific questions you are being asked around vaping and also to gauge how many people are presenting to pharmacies for support, both wanting to use a vape as an NRT tool and in quitting vaping altogether, to: gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot.

Patients with vaping queries should be referred to Quit Your Way Services (QYWS): 0800 84 84 84.

Public Health Update

Public Health Services Pharmacy Visits

The NHS Grampian Public Health Practitioners, Denise Stirling and Suzanne Cowie, are currently on a round of opportunistic visits to all pharmacies. These visits are an opportunity for you to discuss any issues around health promotion and your smoking cessation services. If your pharmacy would prefer a pre-arranged appointment, please contact your relevant Public Health Practitioner:

suzanne.cowie@nhs.scot – Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire South

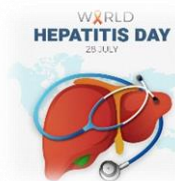
denise.stirling@nhs.scot – Moray and Aberdeenshire North

Health Promotion/Information Resources Service

Please be advised that Health Promotion Resources will be closed for stock taking purposes from 27th July 2023 to 11th August 2023. During this time, they will be unable to process any orders so ensure you get any orders submitted before that date. More information is available [here](#).

World Hepatitis Day – 28th July 2023

World Hepatitis Day is an opportunity to step up national and international efforts on hepatitis, encourage actions and engagement by individuals, partners and the public and highlight the need for a greater global response as outlined in the WHO's Global hepatitis report of 2017. Low coverage of testing and treatment is the most important gap to be addressed in order to achieve the global elimination goals by 2030. More information is available [here](#).



Period Poverty

The Period Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Act 2021 ("the Act") was passed by the Scottish Parliament on 24 November 2020 and received Royal Assent on 12 January 2021. Within *Aberdeen City*, [Community Food Initiatives North East](#) (CFINE) and [National Advisory Council on Women and Girls](#) (NACWG) can now provide free sanitary products to all pharmacies. CFINE will deliver the products straight to the pharmacy and you can subsequently order on-demand or set up an automatic repeat delivery system.

If you wish to stock free products within your pharmacy, please contact CFINE on: info@cfine.org or 01224 596156. We are also currently looking at options for pharmacies in Aberdeenshire and Moray and will keep you updated.

The Happy Place ☺

Happy World Chocolate Day!

Who doesn't like chocolate? Sweet, creamy, delicious (and arguably, good for you!), chances are if you don't like this prized delicacy then you're in the minority! World Chocolate is an annual celebration of all things, you guessed it, chocolate! Do we need another excuse to indulge?

World Chocolate day is actually a relatively new event, first celebrated back in 2009. The date July 7th was specifically chosen, because it was on this day in the year 1550 that chocolate arrived in Europe.



If you would like to use this section to say thanks to one of your team, do contact us!

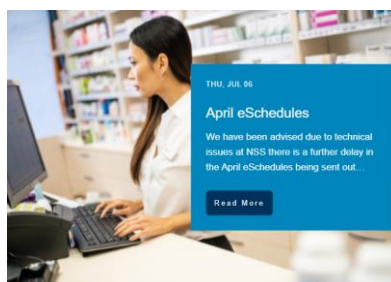
Community Pharmacy Scotland Newsletter Round-up



Additions and Deletions to Part 7 as of 1st July 2023

The new updated version of Part 7 is now available for July 2023. In this month there are several additions and deletions we wanted to make you aware of.

[Read More →](#)



THU, JUL 06

April eSchedules

We have been advised due to technical issues at NSS there is a further delay in the April eSchedules being sent out...

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nDCVP Contractor Contact Details

In nDCVP should P&CFS require to contact a pharmacy/contractor to clarify any aspect of a claim this will now be undertaken via email. This used to be done by telephone...

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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](#)



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