

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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Medicines Management Shortages Updates

Please find attached information regarding disopyramide 100mg immediate release capsules and 250mg Modified Release tablets shortage and atomoxetine shortage.

Rifinah Tablets

Due to recent supply issues with Rifinah 300/150mg tablets, the manufacturer Sanofi has placed this product onto a quota system. It is currently stocked by AAH and Phoenix wholesalers. Each pharmacy has a separate quota and if no packs have been ordered for a while this will be set at zero. The wholesaler system should indicate if the quota has been exceeded. If the quota has been exceeded then Rifinah tablets can still be ordered but a copy of the prescription (with all patient details redacted) must be sent to DTP-UK@sanofi.com together with your wholesaler account number. Stock should be delivered within 24 - 48 hours of this email being received.

New HIV Pharmacist

We welcome Jennifer Cooper to the role of HIV Specialist Pharmacist. For any HIV medication queries, Jennifer can be contacted via email at jennifer.cooper9@nhs.scot.

Reminder: Migraine Training Sessions

Registration for forthcoming Migraine Management for Pharmacy Teams in NHS Grampian is now live and can be accessed [here](#). Registration will remain open until 4th August. This training has been developed as part of a partnership project between The Migraine Trust and NHS Grampian. The overall objectives of the training is to support pharmacists to recognise, diagnose and treatment migraine. Proposed training venues, dates and times are:

Date	Venue	Time
23 August 2023	Aberdeen (ARI site)	1830 - 2030
30 August 2023	Banchory	1830 - 2030
30 August 2023	Inverurie	1830 - 2030
05 September 2023	Online (MS Teams)	1900 - 2100
06 September 2023	Crimond	1830 - 2030
19 September 2023	Online (MS Teams)	1900 - 2100
20 September 2023	Online (MS Teams)	1900 - 2100

If you have any questions about the training or project, please contact gram.transformationteam@nhs.scot

Smoking Cessation Update

Using Text Messaging within Smoking Cessation Services

Following a text trial pilot some months ago using a small amount of pharmacies, it's been shown that text messaging may be a valuable tool in some instances for keeping communication channels open within the smoking cessation programme.

Face to face consultations are always desirable but, as not everyone is able to come into the pharmacy on a weekly basis, the goal is to keep communication channels open for the full 12 weeks by any means that works for your patient. If you think texting may be a valuable tool in retaining patients, then please do use that method as a further tool of communication.

The pharmacy training pack has been updated and can be found on the CP Grampian website here: [NHS Community Pharmacy Website \(scot.nhs.uk\)](https://www.scot.nhs.uk)

Public Health Update

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. Community Initiatives North East (CFINE) [CFINE - Period Poverty - NACWG \(generationequal.scot\)](https://www.generationequal.scot) can now provide free sanitary products to all pharmacies within Aberdeen City. If you'd like to stock free products, please contact CFINE. They will deliver the products straight to the pharmacy and you can subsequently order on-demand or set up an automatic repeat delivery system.

We now have a direct contact for you specifically for period product orders: fsp@cfine.org

We are also currently looking at options for pharmacies in Aberdeenshire and Moray and will keep you updated.

Public Health Palliative Care survey

A new strategy for palliative and end of life care in Scotland is in development, with sub-groups looking at the different aspects of this type of care. One of these groups is seeking views from the public on how to support the wider community to gain the knowledge, skills, confidence and opportunities to plan, and to give and receive support relating to serious illness, dying, death and bereavement. If you would like to share your thoughts, please click [this link](https://www.office.com), which can also be shared with colleagues, patients/clients, and friends or relatives as appropriate. [PUBLIC HEALTH PALLIATIVE CARE SURVEY \(office.com\)](https://www.office.com)

World Hepatitis Day 2023

Today, 28th July, is World Hepatitis Day. It's 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.

See links for more details:

- <https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-hepatitis-day>
- <https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/stomach-liver-and-gastrointestinal-tract/hepatitis-b>

You can access leaflets and resources at [HPAC \(durham.gov.uk\)](https://www.durham.gov.uk) but a reminder that they're closed for stock taking now until the 11th August.



The Happy Place 😊

Congratulations New Pharmacists

A heartfelt congratulations to all pharmacists who recently passed their June GPhC registration exam. If you require any support getting started in community pharmacy or pharmacy service provision in Grampian, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the PCS team via email below.

Grampian Trainee Pharmacist Shortlisted for National C+D Award



Huge congratulations to Greg Buchan who has been shortlisted for the C+D Awards, Trainee Pharmacist of the Year!

Greg has recently completed his foundation year with Dawn Ferguson at Summerhill Pharmacy. He has clearly impressed the panel with his initiatives to support local patients; undertaking additional learning in suicide prevention, sexual health and integrated drug services, as well as being proactive in our North of Scotland early detection of cancer project and initiating a text service for updates and annual MCR reviews. It is apparent that Greg has really made every opportunity count during his training year and has had an excellent supervisor in Dawn.

Well done Greg, we are so proud to have you represent NHS Grampian in this category, you're already a winner to us. Good luck on the 6th September and enjoy the event. 😊

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

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