

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



Contents

01: ADHD Medicine Supply Issues: Advice for Patients, Parents and Carers

02: Update: Buccal Midazolam Preparations for Prescribing in Paediatrics

03: Patient Safety: Prescribing of 'Higher' Strength Buprenorphine Transdermal Patches

04: Syringe Pump Referral Line

05: Elastic Hosiery Prescriptions

06: Gluten Free Food Service: NHS Inform

07: GP Practice Protected Learning Time (PLT)

08: Introduction to Sexual Health

09: Childhood Vaccination in Children Questionnaire Posters

10: Smoking Cessation Update: Smoking Cessation Training 24th October 2023

11: Public Health Update: World Osteoporosis Day

12: Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up

13: The Happy Place 😊

Before we launch into today's update, we would like to take a moment to thank you all for your efforts during Storm Babet. We know many pharmacy teams have gone above and beyond to support patients with staff remaining in local locations to avoid travel and ensure pharmacies can open. The weather warnings remain in place and we want to ensure all our pharmacy teams stay safe. If you are delayed in opening or require to close early to enable safe travel for your teams, please let PCCT know (gram.pcctpharmacy@nhs.scot)

ADHD Medicine Supply Issues – Advice for Patients, Parents and Carers

Advice for patients, parents and carers on ADHD Medicine Supply Issues has been made available on the attached link, which is expected to remain until January 2024: [ADHD medicine supply issues – advice for patients/parents and carers \(nhsgrampian.org\)](https://www.nhs.uk/healthcare-professionals/medicines/ADHD-medicine-supply-issues-advice-for-patients-parents-and-carers)

Update: Buccal Midazolam Preparations for Prescribing in Paediatrics

Recently some new strengths and preparations (2.5mg, 5mg & 7.5mg pre-filled syringes) of buccal midazolam, as the Epistatus® brand, have become available for prescribing in children as rescue treatment for status epilepticus. Please find the attached document which highlights the preparations recommended locally.

Patient Safety: Prescribing of 'Higher' Strength Buprenorphine Transdermal Patches

When prescribing 'higher' strength buprenorphine patches (i.e. 35, 52.5 or 70 micrograms/hour) to ensure that patients receive an appropriate product with directions detailing the correct frequency of application, it is recommended that:

- Prescribing is done by brand name Bupeaze® , and
- Prescribed directions should be clear: Bupeaze® should be replaced after 96 hours (4 days) at the latest. For convenience of use, the transdermal patch can be changed twice a week at regular intervals, e.g. always on Monday morning and Thursday evening.

This information relates to higher strength buprenorphine patches only, 'lower' strength patches (i.e. 5, 10, 15 and 20 micrograms) should be prescribed generically. Please find the attached guidance for more information.

Syringe Pump Referral Line

In **Aberdeen City**, if any syringe pump, nursing notes or other equipment is accidentally returned to the community pharmacy along with unused medication, please contact the City Community Referral Line on 01224 559140 or gram.citycomrefline@nhs.scot, who will be able to advise which community nursing team was involved (based on the patient's home address) and ask them to organise collection.

For **Aberdeenshire & Moray** patients, please make contact via the patient's medical practice.

Elastic Hosiery Prescriptions

All pharmacy teams are expected to measure and fit standard compression hosiery for patients where clearly prescribed but wrong product issued e.g. XXL size for a very slender leg. Where there is a requirement to measure and fit stockings, an endorsement will enable additional payment of £25 to be awarded to the pharmacy. Please see the attached link: [Compression Hosiery Prescriptions — Community Pharmacy Scotland \(cps.scot\)](#)

There is no additional fee awarded to pharmacies for measuring "made to measure" stockings. For M2M, there is a requirement for the patient to be measured first thing in the morning. CPS have provided a guiding statement regarding this:

If the patient cannot attend the pharmacy in person, a bespoke solution will need to be found by the various members of the CP, GP, Care Team members and the patient. Very much the team members working together to get a solution for the patient.

Gluten Free Food Service

Following a period of website maintenance, the Gluten Free Food Service links for NHS Grampian, Highland and Tayside have now been updated on NHS Inform [here](#).

GP Practice Protected Learning Time (PLT)

For awareness, the Out of Hours Primary Care Service (GMED) will be supporting Protected Learning Time (PLT) for all GP Practices during November 2023:

- Wednesday 15th November 2023: GP Practices within Moray will close from 1:30pm to 6pm.
- Tuesday 21st November 2023: GP Practices within Aberdeenshire will close from 1:30pm to 6pm.
- Wednesday 29th November 2023: GP Practices within Aberdeen City will close from 1:30pm to 6pm.

All GP Practices within the above-mentioned geographical areas will close under each date and time, and will participate in PLT. During these periods of PLT, GMED will provide urgent care and advice to all Grampian patient while their respective practices are closed.

Introduction to Sexual Health

The attached [Youtube Video](#) has been launched by NHS Grampian which provides an overview of local sexual health services. Consultant, Sinead Cook, provides information on STI testing and prevention, contraception, and how to find and access NHS Grampian services, with a walk through video of the clinic.

Please also find attached a flyer with information to register for NHS Grampian's upcoming Introduction to Sexual Health course, which will be held on **Friday 3rd November 2023, between 9am and 12pm** and is being held online via Microsoft Teams.

Childhood Vaccination in Children Questionnaire Posters

An evaluation is currently being undertaken for Childhood Vaccinations in NHS Grampian. You will find the attached questionnaire posters with a QR code, which all community pharmacies in Grampian will receive a hard copy of in the mail over the next few weeks to display for the public. Remember to keep a look out for these arriving at your pharmacy, and encourage the questionnaire to be completed by 19th November 2023.

Smoking Cessation Update Smoking Cessation Training Update

To support community pharmacy teams to deliver the NHS Smoking cessation service in community pharmacy, NES are hosting a webinar to provide an update on the service and current developments for the service. The webinar is running on Tuesday 24th October from 7:30 to 9pm which can be booked on Turas learn: <https://learn.nes.nhs.scot/71263>.

Public Health Update World Osteoporosis Awareness Day

Today is World Osteoporosis Day, which is marked on 20th October each year, and is a prime time to put the spotlight on osteoporosis. This year's tagline of 'Build Better Bones' will highlight the importance of a bone-healthy lifestyle as the foundation for strong bones and a mobile, fracture-free future. There are some fantastic new posters and related resources and communications for sharing on your own social media pages at the link [here](#).

Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



Women's Health
Masterclass: Understanding
Women's Health
Wed 25th October 2023 from 13:30 until
15:00 for the first Women's Health
Masterclass: Understanding Women's
Health.

[Read More](#)



FRI, OCT 13

MHRA Guidance on Dispensing of Valproate- containing Products

Please see here for an update from the
MHRA on the dispensing of Valproate-
containing products. We would
encourage pharmacy teams to read and
understand this guidance - it effectively
mandates origina

[Read More](#)



Naloxone Training for Pharmacy Team Members

The Naloxone Service launches on
October 30th 2023 and requires that all
pharmacy team members complete the
training...

[Read More](#)

The Happy Place ☺

World Pharmacy Technician Day

This year's World Technician Day was held on Tuesday 17th October 2023. The day was created to commemorate and recognise the important contributions of pharmacy technicians, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure patients receive their medications safely and accurately. The role of a pharmacy technician is an integral part of any healthcare system, and it's important to take some time to appreciate all that they do. So join us in showing your support for pharmacy technicians!



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

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