

# Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



## Contents

01: PGD Paracetamol 120mg/5mL Oral Suspension, at the time of administration of Meningococcal Group B Conjugate (Bexsero) Vaccine

02: Compliance Aid – Medicines Stability

03: Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week 18<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

04: Public Health Update:

- FITSurgery Service
- Alcohol and Diabetes

05: Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up

06: The Happy Place 😊

## PGD Paracetamol 120mg/5mL Oral Suspension, at the time of administration of Meningococcal Group B Conjugate (Bexsero) Vaccine

We have received a number of enquiries this week to confirm the appropriate guidance to follow for patients less than 8 weeks old in relation to the NoS PGD for Paracetamol 120mg/5mL Oral Suspension at the time of administration of Meningococcal Group B Conjugate (Bexsero) Vaccine. While the inclusion criteria for this PGD does state patients aged 6 weeks or over, the licensing of paracetamol on Pharmacy First is 8 weeks and over only. Therefore, if the patient is less than 8 weeks old at the point of vaccination, they would require a prescription for paracetamol supply as this falls out-with the licensed aged to supply on Pharmacy First.

[Patient Group Direction For The Administration Of Paracetamol 120mg/5mL Oral Suspension, At The Time Of Administration Of Meningococcal Group B Conjugate \(Bexsero®\) Vaccine, By Approved Healthcare Professionals Working Within NHS Grampian, Highland, Orkne](#)

## Compliance Aid – Medicines Stability

A reminder that all pharmacy teams are responsible for ensuring that any medication requested for inclusion in a compliance aid is assessed for stability before agreement. There are a number of tools available to pharmacy teams to undertake this requirement, perhaps the most convenient is the Specialist Pharmacy Service medicines compliance aid stability tool available here: [Medicines in Compliance Aids Stability Tool – SPS - Specialist Pharmacy Service – The first stop for professional medicines advice](#)

You may need to register to obtain an account to gain access to certain areas of SPS, community pharmacists / teams can do this via your NHS email.

## Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week

This year the Scottish focus for World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) from 18<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023 will be on sustainability and will include an antibiotic amnesty. Now more than ever, we need to continue to work together to prevent serious infections (including COVID-19) while reducing inappropriate antibiotic use. Please continue to explain to patients that antibiotics do not prevent or treat viral infections including COVID-19; antibiotics can cause side effects, including nausea and diarrhoea, and their use can also increase the risk of spreading infections that are caused by bacteria resistant to antibiotics. Please make or renew your pledge to be an [Antibiotic Guardian](#) and promote this to colleagues. Thank you for your continuing efforts to ensure antibiotics are used wisely and preserved for future generations.

There are lots of resources on the [TARGET website](#) to help get these messages across to patients:

- [Self-care Leaflet](#) including translations in many different languages
- [Respiratory Tract infection leaflet](#)
- [Antibiotic checklist](#)



Further resources for promotion are available on request: [gram.antibioticpharmacists@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.antibioticpharmacists@nhs.scot).

## Public Health Update

### FITSurgery Service

Have you heard of FITSurgery? This is NHS Grampian's new service to help inform patients and their carers what they need to know before, during and after surgery. A new website has been set up and you can find out more about the service [here](#). There are posters available to order from NHSG Resources as attached in the PDF. Please help to promote this service in your pharmacies and on your own social media pages.

### Alcohol and Diabetes

As seen on our [Facebook page](#) on Tuesday, this week we highlighted Diabetes Awareness Day. Do you know that managing alcohol consumption can help prevent or manage diabetes? Find out more [here](#). You'll maybe remember we highlighted the launch of the Try Dry app back in August. It's a bit like "counting your steps" but for alcohol. Please advertise the App on your own social media pages and signpost any relevant patients to it



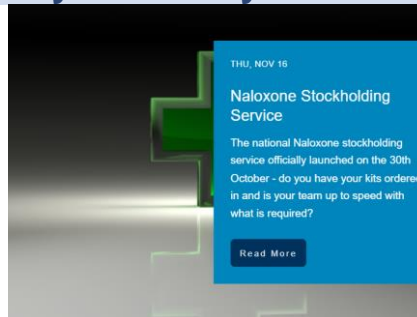
## Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up

### NHS24 Unscheduled Care Tool - Have your say!

We are working with colleagues in NHS24 to support community pharmacy teams in delivering the unscheduled care service. On listening to feedback from the front line, we are hearing that it's not always easy to tell what items can be supplied to patients...



[Read More](#)



### Dentistry - PHS Poster Campaign

The current Public Health Poster Campaign is Dentistry. The 'Brush Up' campaign has been designed to increase awareness of the Reform and key patient rights which support the public in understanding...

[Read More](#)



## The Happy Place 😊

### World Diabetes Day – 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023

This week marked World Diabetes Day. 100 years ago, Aberdeen's very own John Macleod along with Frederick Banting won a Nobel Prize for discovering the treatment which has gone on to save millions of lives around the world - insulin!

Have you seen the wonderful new statue of John Macleod at the Duthie Park? Since then, our scientists have made incredible breakthroughs – from helping people with type 1 to make their own insulin, to putting type 2 into remission.

[NHS Grampian Diabetes](#) contains information and links for services and resources that are useful for people living with diabetes and their carers across Grampian.



***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](mailto:gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot)