

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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ADHD Medicines Shortage – Requests for NHS Treatment of New Adult Patients Following Private Diagnosis

There continues to be uncertainty regarding consistent supplies of a range of ADHD medicines, strengths and formulations. It is essential that the available resources are utilised to manage active patients currently prescribed these medicines.

Due to these shortages NHS Grampian cannot currently support the initiation of treatment for NEW adult patients who have been referred following a Private diagnosis. NHS Grampian specialist services are also not initiating new NHS patients at this time due to this issue. This is in line with Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) guidance on [supporting the system response](#) to the current shortage.

Any patient requesting new NHS initiation of ADHD treatments following a Private diagnosis, or continuation of treatment undertaken privately, should be advised that this is not currently possible. This position will be reviewed when the supply chain issues are stabilised and recovery of treatments for established patients has been achieved. This review will take place no later than 6 months from the date of this statement.

GLP-1 Shortages: NPSA Update

Please find attached information pertaining to the ongoing shortage of GLP-1 medications used in the management of Type 2 Diabetes. This has been produced in consultation with our diabetes specialist service following an update to the National Patient Safety Alert issued on 3rd January 2024.

Primary Care Prescribing Efficiencies – GP Practice Agreement

Please find attached information regarding Primary Care Prescribing Efficiencies – GP Practice Agreement which has been approved and endorsed by NHS Grampian Local Area Committee (LMC). It is hoped that GP Practices will participate in these patient reviews/medication switches to aid in cost efficient prescribing across NHS Grampian.

Also attached is information regarding the first drug to be reviewed under this agreement branded Keppra to generic levetiracetam switch. This information and switch has been endorsed by NHS Grampian neurology specialist service, however acknowledging this requires discussion with patient by clinician due to the sensitive nature of changing epilepsy medications.

Care Home Medication Ordering and Waste Minimisation

The NHS Grampian Medicines Management Team are currently undertaking a number of work streams aimed at cost efficient prescribing / medicines management / waste minimisation. As part of this work the attached documents have been produced which is being disseminated to care homes and their providers. The document aims to reinforce good medication ordering practices for care homes, as well as appropriate management of waste medications/medical appliances. Please disseminate within your networks.

Palliative Care Evening Education Series

The Palliative and End-of-Life Care Network is organising another series of online evening talks for **palliative care network pharmacies**, this time centred around palliative medicine in chronic diseases. These sessions will take place on Teams and are open to anyone with an interest or involvement in palliative medicine. Upcoming sessions are as follows:

CLICK LINK TO REGISTER:

[Palliative care in renal medicine with Dr Laura Clark, Wednesday 7 February, 6pm.](#)

CLICK LINK TO REGISTER:

[Dementia at end of life, with Kenny Davidson, Monday 18 March, 6pm.](#)

Other sessions are being planned for palliative care of respiratory and cardiac conditions. Details to follow when available.

Representative attendance from all palliative care pharmacies is required to fulfil the training requirements of the community pharmacy palliative care network. We can confirm these sessions will not be recorded.

Migraine Management Project – Webinar 31st January 2024

Understanding migraine, treatments and accessing Grampian support

NHS Grampian in co-operation with The Migraine Trust have worked with pharmacy teams to improve migraine management. As part of the project a webinar has been organised which will bring together a pharmacist, GP and Neurology Consultant to discuss why migraine happens, what the current and new treatment options are and how people living with migraine in Grampian can access support.

Date: Wed, 31 Jan 2024

Time: 19:00 - 20:30

Venue: Zoom

We encourage you to attend. The link to register can be found here: [Understanding migraine, treatments and accessing Grampian support. Tickets, Wed 31 Jan 2024 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Smoking Cessation Update

IMPORTANT REMINDER - PCR Errors

The Apr - Dec 2023 ISD data shows there were 134 pharmacy records where the NRT product used is documented as **UNKNOWN**. If you don't know, for whatever reason, what product they are on, please state **NONE** as UNKNOWN gets flagged as an error and we have to amend all 134 records.

Please ensure ALL staff who input onto PCR are aware of this.

Most of these errors were from repeating pharmacies so we will alert the individual pharmacies concerned.

Smoking Cessation Remuneration

This is a reminder that 4 week smoking status data should be submitted for all patients, even if they have dropped out. The number of 4 week data set submissions from the PCR is very low compared with the number of quit dates set.

Please be reminded that all patients who access the service should have data submitted for their quit date and their smoking status at 4 weeks post quit. The 4 week data is required for Health Boards to monitor quit rates. The same applies to 12 week data but these submissions are not missed nearly as much as the 4-week data.

| Quit Attempt Event | MDS Submission | Remuneration Basis |
|--|---|--|
| Submission of the MDS information with confirmed quit date (normally first return appointment) £30 | To be electronically submitted once the quit-date is confirmed with client. This will form the basis of the timelines for the 4-week and 12-week post-quit date follow-ups. | At the end of each calendar month a count will be made, by Practitioner Services Division (PSD), on the central smoking cessation database of patients for MDS submissions for new quit attempts that meet the validation requirements. |
| Four week post-quit date £15 This should be performed for every patient who enters the service | To be electronically submitted immediately after the 4-week post- quit date and not later than 6 weeks from the confirmed quit-date. | At the end of each calendar month a count will be made, by Practitioner Services Division (PSD), on the central smoking cessation database of patients for MDS submissions for the 4-week stage that meet the validation - requirements. |
| Twelve week post-quit date £35 | To be electronically submitted between 12 and 14 weeks from the confirmed quit-date.,(If the patients quit attempt is known to have failed during the period the PCR may be submitted between 10 and 14 weeks.) | At the end of each calendar month a count will be made, by Practitioner Services Division (PSD), on the central smoking cessation database of patients for MDS submissions for the 12-week stage that meet the validation requirements |

Smoking Cessation Advice and Support Resources

This is a friendly reminder that during the Government’s smoking awareness campaign, you will find lots of up-to-date smoking cessation advice and support documents on our [NHS Community Pharmacy Website \(scot.nhs.uk\)](http://scot.nhs.uk). These include:

- Link to training course.
- Webinar.
- Training pack for pharmacy programme.
- National Centre for Smoking Cessation and Training (NCSCT) booklet of standards.
- PCR paper copies.
- Link to NHSG Resources.
- Q&A's around smoking programme.
- Support contact details.

Stop Smoking NHS App

Many people may benefit from using an App to track their progress whilst being supported by the pharmacy programme.

On average, a smoker could save £38 a week by quitting. That’s around £2000 a year! Patients may enjoy tracking their savings and goals along with receiving some motivational health reminders and keeping a diary.

Download the FREE NHS Quit Smoking app on Google Play or the App store.



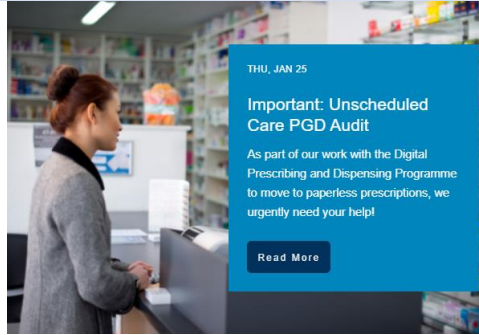
Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up

Measles Outbreak: Information for Community Pharmacy

Our colleagues at Public Health Scotland (PHS) have brought to our attention a recent outbreak of measles...



[Read More](#)



THU, JAN 25

Important: Unscheduled Care PGD Audit

As part of our work with the Digital Prescribing and Dispensing Programme to move to paperless prescriptions, we urgently need your help!

[Read More](#)

Sustainability and Respiratory Prescribing - Webinar Jan 31st 2024

Next in the series of Respiratory Webinars will be held on January 31st 2024...



[Read More](#)

The Happy Place 😊

Pharmacy Staff at Charles Michie, Union Street

This week, Aimee and Ivey wish all the pharmacy staff at Michies Union Street, especially Dawn, a special thank you for being an amazing placement to help both Aimee and Ivey achieve their SVQ in Pharmacy Services. Keep up the good work!

We would like to continue this section as an opportunity for reward, recognition and good news stories of the teams who read this! Please submit any items for inclusion to: gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot.

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

Remember to like our Facebook page for regular updates: [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.