

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update

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Community Pharmacy Public Holidays 2024-25 and Pharmacy Opening Hours

Please be reminded of the Public Holiday information request which has been shared by the Primary Care Contracts team via email for completion. All contractors are requested to complete the survey linked [here](#) via Microsoft Forms in order to collect this data by Monday 26th February 2024.

All queries regarding Public Holidays should be directed to PCCT: gram.pcctpharmacy@nhs.scot.

Pre-exposure Prophylaxis – HIV Prevention

Pre-exposure prophylaxis remains an important element in HIV prevention

In 2023, there were 20 new HIV diagnoses in Grampian compared to 14 in 2022.

There remains a risk of sexual acquisition in the local population, particularly for sexually active gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (GBMSM). This risk may not be fully appreciated, and the protective benefits of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) and condoms amongst sexually active GBMSM might be underestimated.

PrEP is available free from Grampian Sexual Health Service. PEP can be accessed from Grampian Sexual Health and via NHS24 out of hours. Free condoms can be accessed via gram.freecondoms@nhs.scot.

We recommend that anyone who feels they may benefit from PrEP attends Grampian Sexual Health for assessment, especially GBMSM who are sexually active with new partners. We ask that you promote this message and encourage any individuals who may benefit from it to discuss their options with Grampian Sexual Health Service.

Please visit www.grampiansexualhealthservices.com for appointments and more information.

Smoking Cessation Update

No Smoking Day - 13th March 2024

You should currently still be displaying the smoking/vaping poster as part of the Government's mandatory poster campaign. This is due to finish on 5/3/24 but we advise that you keep that poster (or an alternative smoking cessation poster) up until after National No Smoking Day on the 13th March 2024. Remember NHSG Resources have lots of free posters and leaflets if you'd like to create a display! [HPAC \(durham.gov.uk\)](http://HPAC.durham.gov.uk).

Attached is a digital graphic for sharing on your own social media pages. Please note that this same graphic has been sent to ALL GP practices in Grampian in poster form to display in their waiting areas. You'll find lots of up to date smoking and vaping information on ASH Scotland's website page here: [Action on Smoking and Health - ASH.](#)

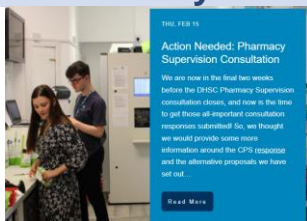
Public Health Update NHS Campaign Calendar

The 2024 campaign calendar is attached as a PDF. Please do think about creating displays for any subjects which may be relevant within your community. You can order resources free of charge here: [HPAC \(durham.gov.uk\)](https://durham.gov.uk). You'll find more information on Health Improvement here: [Hi-Net Grampian – Grampian's Health Improvement Network \(scot.nhs.uk\)](https://scot.nhs.uk).

Facebook Communication

Thanks to those who already follow our [Facebook](#) page! It's proving to be a great tool for communication and we advise you all follow us for updates. We have "followed" all the community pharmacies who have a Facebook page in order to keep up to date with your news too but, if we've missed you, please give us a nudge!

Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



Volunteers for Pharmacy Menopause Digital Development Wanted

CPS is looking into digitally developing services that can be used to support patients in the area of Women's Health, in this instance, Menopause. Our Digital partners, Cohesion Medical, are looking for up to ten volunteers to help develop what a digital service may look like in community pharmacy...



The Happy Place 😊

Buchanhaven Pharmacy Case Study MAT Standards

We are delighted to highlight a Grampian community pharmacy with recognition for the support they provide to people with problematic substance use. Health Improvement Scotland have used Buchanhaven Pharmacy in Peterhead as a case study which demonstrates accessible substance use services in the community. Please see the attached link for more information: [Buchanhaven Pharmacy Case Study MAT Standards - Buchanhaven Pharmacy Case Study MAT Standards \(ihub.scot\)](#)

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 Pharmacy Grampian – NHSG](#)