Access to Palliative Care Medicines and Advice
through the Community Pharmacy Palliative Care Network, a part of NHS Lothian Pharmacy Service

Information for GPs, community pharmacists and district nurses
Issue 7   April 2012

In this issue:
- How to access the Network
- Network pharmacies — full details
- Palliative Care Medicines Stock List — updated

Changes to the Network

The Lothian Community Pharmacy Palliative Care network is changing. Historically there have been two separate Palliative Care Network schemes operating in NHS Lothian since November 2000. A new single system starts on 2nd April 2012 to provide equity of access to a uniform, quality service to all patients in NHS Lothian.

The aims of the Scheme are to:
- Allow timely access to palliative care drugs for patients being cared for at home
- Provide quality information regarding palliative care drugs to patients, carers and other health care professionals
- Support and maintain a network of “palliative care” community pharmacies in NHS Lothian and liaise with other health care professionals on palliative care issues to ensure ongoing excellence.

How to access the Network

(a) Within normal working hours
1. The GP or community pharmacist contacts the pharmacist at one of the Network pharmacies and informs the pharmacist that they will be receiving a prescription for a drug(s) from the palliative care list. This will ensure that the medicine is immediately available.
2. Where possible the patient’s relative/carer will take the prescription to the pharmacy and pick up the drugs. When this is not possible alternative arrangements will be made to deliver the prescription to the pharmacy and deliver the drugs to the patient. A telephone order or faxed prescription is not acceptable.
3. The network pharmacist will provide advice to the patient/carer when appropriate regarding the drugs supplied. The pharmacist will liaise with the patient’s usual community pharmacist where possible to provide the following information:
   - drugs supplied
   - any ongoing problems
   - advice given
   - likely future requirements.

(b) Outwith normal working hours

Contact with the on-call Network pharmacist is through the NHS Lothian Hub for out-of-hours medical services and the Evening and Night-time Nursing Services. Only these sites hold the Network contact details and will be informed of any changes/updates.

1. The out-of-hours service doctor contacts the on-call network pharmacist via the radiopage number and informs the pharmacist that a prescription is required for a drug(s) from the palliative care list. (A mobile phone number is also available as a back-up service only).
2. Appropriate arrangements are made for the delivery of the prescription(s) to the pharmacy. Where possible the patient’s relative/carer will take the prescription to the pharmacy and pick up the drugs. When this is not possible alternative arrangements will be made to deliver the prescription to the pharmacy and deliver the drugs to the patient as agreed between doctor and pharmacist. A telephone order or faxed prescription is not acceptable.
3. The pharmacist will provide advice to the patient/carer when appropriate regarding the drugs supplied.
4. The pharmacist will liaise with the patient’s usual community pharmacist where possible during the next working day to provide the following information:
   - drugs supplied
   - any ongoing problems
   - advice given
   - likely future requirements.
Welcome to the New Network

The Palliative Care Network Pharmacies

**EDIN South:**
- **John A Smith**, 96 Niddrie Mains Road, Edinburgh EH16 4DT  
  Monday to Friday 9am - 6pm  Saturday 9am - 1pm
- **Boots UK Ltd**, Unit 1, Edinburgh Fort Retail Park, Newcraighall, Edin EH15 3HS  
  Monday to Friday 9am-8.30pm Sat 9am-6.30pm Sun 9.30am - 6pm
- **Gordons Chemists**, 1 Gracemount Drive, Edinburgh EH16 6RR  
  Monday to Saturday 9am - 5.30pm
- **Alexander Pharmacy**, 62-64 Gorgie Road, Edinburgh EH11 2NB  
  Monday to Friday 9am - 5.30pm  Saturday 9am – 5pm
- **Newington Pharmacy**, 46-50 Clerk Street, Edinburgh EH8 9JB  
  Monday to Friday 8.30am - 6.30pm  Saturday 9am - 6pm
- **Colinton Mains Pharmacy**, 84 Colinton Mains Drive, Edinburgh EH13 9BJ  
  Monday to Friday 9am - 6pm  Saturday 9am - 1pm
- **Balerno Pharmacy**, 24 Main Street, Balerno, Edinburgh EH14 7EH  
  Monday to Friday 8.45am - 5.30pm  Saturday 9am - 1pm

**EDIN North:**
- **Boots UK Ltd**, 46-48 Shandwick Place, Edinburgh EH2 4SA  
  Monday to Friday 7.30am - 8pm  Saturday 8am - 6pm  Sunday 10.30am - 5pm
- **Rowlands Pharmacy**, 5A Featherhall Ave, Edinburgh EH12 7TG  
  Monday to Friday 9am - 6pm  (closed 1pm - 2pm)  Saturday 9am - 1pm
- **Barnton Pharmacy**, 195 Whitehouse Road, Edinburgh EH4 6BU  
  Mon,Tues, Thurs and Fri 9am - 5.45pm  Sat 9am - 5.30pm
- **Tesco Pharmacy**, 7 Broughton Road, Edinburgh EH7 4EW  
  Monday to Saturday 8am - 8pm  Saturday 10am - 5pm

**MIDLOTHIAN:**
- **Sainsbury's Pharmacy**, Straiton Mains, Straiton, Midlothian EH20 9PW  
  Monday to Friday 8am - 10pm, Saturday 8am - 9pm  Sunday 8am - 7pm
- **Rowlands Pharmacy**, 27 John Street, Penicuik, Midlothian EH26 8HN  
  Monday to Friday 9am - 6pm  Saturday 9am - 5pm

**EAST LOTHIAN:**
- **Boots UK Ltd**, 36 High Street, Haddington EH41 3EE  
  Monday to Friday 9am-6pm  Saturday 9am - 5.30pm
- **The Co-op Pharmacy**, 115 High Street, Tranent, East Lothian EH33 1LW  
  Monday to Friday 8.30am - 5.30pm  Saturday 8.30am - 5pm

**WEST LOTHIAN:**
- **Co-op Pharmacy**, The Faulhouse Partnership Centre, Lanrigg Rd, Faulhouse Bathgate EH47 9JD  
  Monday to Friday 8.30am - 5.30pm  Saturday 9am - 5.30pm
- **Gordons Chemist**, 7 North Street, Armadale, West Lothian EH48 3QB  
  Monday to Friday 9am - 9pm  Saturday 9am - 5pm
- **Village Pharmacy**, 2 Main Street, Winchburgh, West Lothian EH52 6RT  
  Mon, Tues, Thrus and Fri 9am - 5.30pm  Wed and Saturday 9am - 12.30pm
- **Morrison Pharmacy**, Deredge Road North, Livingston EH54 6DB  
  Monday to Friday 8.30am - 8pm  Saturday 8am - 6pm  Sunday 10am - 6pm
- **Deans Pharmacy**, 6 Main Street, Deans, Livingston EH54 8DF  
  Monday to Friday 9am - 6pm  Saturday 9am - 12.30pm
- **Lindsay & Gilmour Chemist**, Health Centre Site, Pharmacy Unit, Burngrange West Calder EH55 8EJ  
  Monday to Friday 9am - 6pm  Saturday 9am - 1pm
- **Boots UK Ltd**, 72/74 High Street, Linlithgow, West Lothian EH49 7AQ  
  Monday to Saturday 9am - 5.30pm

Please discard all previous information about the Community Pharmacy Palliative Care Network
Drugs & Form Quantity

1. Alfentanil 1mg/2ml injection 1x10
2. Alfentanil intensive care (see footnote1) 5mg/ml injection 1x10
3. Cyclizine 50mg/ml injection 2x5
4. Dexamethasone 2mg tablets 1x50
5. Dexamethasone (Organon) 4mg/ml injection 1x10
6. Diamorphine 10mg injection 2x5
7. Diamorphine 30mg injection 2x5
8. Diamorphine 100mg injection 1x5
9. Diazepam 10mg/2.5ml rectal tubes 1x5
10. Fentanyl (matrix patch) 12micrograms/hour patches 1x5
11. Fentanyl (matrix patch) 25micrograms/hour patches 1x5
12. Glycopyrronium 200microgram/ml injection 1x10
13. Haloperidol 5mg/ml injection 2x5
14. Hyoscine Butylbromide 20mg/ml injection 2x10
15. Hyoscine Butylbromide (Buscopan) 25mg/ml injection 1x10
16. Hyoscine Butylbromide 6mg tablets 1x28
17. Metoclopramide 10mg/2ml injection 2x12
18. Midazolam 10mg/2ml injection 2x10
19. Morphine sulphate 10mg/5ml oral liquid 1x100ml
20. Morphine sulphate 100mg/5ml oral liquid 1x30ml
21. Morphine sulphate 10mg/ml injection 2x10
22. Morphine sulphate 30mg/ml injection 2x10
23. Octreotide (see footnotes 1& 5) 1mg/5ml multi-dose vial 1x2
24. Oxycodone hydrochloride 5mg/5ml oral liquid 1x250ml
25. Oxycodone hydrochloride 20mg/2ml injection 1x5
26. Sodium Chloride 0.9% 10ml ampoules 1x20
27. Sodium Chloride 0.9% (see footnote1) 500ml infusion 20
28. Water for injection 10ml injection 2x10

Footnotes:
1. Only stocked at Gordon’s Chemist, 1 Gracemount Drive, EH16 6RR, telephone 0131 664 2249 /Fax 467 7388. Open: Mon-Sat 9am-5.30pm and Deans Pharmacy, 6 main Street, Deans, Livingston, EH54 8DF, telephone/Fax 01506 411570. Open Mon-Fri 9am-6pm and Sat 9am-12.30pm
2. Dexamethasone 4mg/1ml refers to the Organon preparation. Note that the Hospira preparation is dexamethasone 3.3mg/ml.
3. Levomepromazine 6mg tablets are a named-patient product.
4. The strength of midazolam stocked is 10mg/2ml; other strengths should not be used as they are too dilute for preparation of syringes for syringe drivers.
5. Stored in the fridge.

Note: There are two community pharmacies which supply medicines to the Edinburgh Hospices and they may have stocks of other specialist palliative care medicines. Contact either Hospice to obtain details of the Community Pharmacies.

Your comments on the Community Pharmacy Palliative Care Network are welcome.
Please send to: Pam Chisholm, Lead Pharmacist, Lothian Palliative Care Network, Pharmacy Dept REH 0131 537 6625 or pam.chisholm@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk