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ACTION	FOR FLU PARTICIPATING PHARMACIES ONLY: End Of Flu Service 23/24
	<p>I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the part you have played in the Flu Vaccination programme for 2023/24.</p> <p>6624 vaccinations have been completed throughout the CP network over the 6-month period that the service has been in place. We had 102 pharmacies actively take part covering all parts of NHS GGC.</p> <p>The current programme will cease on <b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> of March</b>, with no access to flu vaccines for patients available thereafter. With this in mind I would like to ask that all residual stock of vaccines after this date are placed within your normal patient returned waste bins for destruction.</p> <p>Can all pharmacies also ensure that all vaccinations administered have been recorded through VMT?</p> <p>Our team is currently liaising with our waste contractors to arrange the uplift of the clinical waste bins that were provided for depositing administered vaccines. Further information will be sent out in due course.</p> <p>There will now be a review period for the whole vaccination programme with a view to deciding what 2024/25 will look like.</p> <p>We are looking to determine the number of unused vaccines within the Community as part of our review period. If you could please complete the Electronic Form: <a href="https://forms.office.com/e/wJzPujReeu">https://forms.office.com/e/wJzPujReeu</a>, this will allow us to forecast for the 24/25 programme.</p> <p>Once again, a huge thanks for your input this flu season.</p> <p>Mani Narwan 04/04/2024</p>


ACTION	FairWarning – Appropriate Access to Clinical Records
 <p>Fairwarning.pdf</p> <p>Attachment</p>	<p>The Board has a moral and legal responsibility to protect the confidentiality of the data it holds and patients expect the information we retain about them will be kept secure and confidential. Your job role may give you access to patients' clinical information and you are reminded of your responsibility to access only the information that is required to allow you to carry out your legitimate duties.</p> <p>To protect against inappropriate access to records, the Board continues to use an audit system called FairWarning which was put in place to provide assurance that clinical information is kept safe. The system provides the Information Governance Team with daily audit reports from clinical systems which allows them to monitor and investigate any potential inappropriate access to records, including staff accessing their own records and those of family members. If, after investigation, a record is found to be accessed inappropriately, then a formal discussion between the member of staff and manager will take place and depending on the severity of the breach, there could be a number of consequences including refresher training and/or formal disciplinary action. Some good practice tips are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Never share passwords with other colleagues or managers.</li><li>2. Keep your LearnPro Safe Information Handling Training up to date. <a href="#">learnPro NHS - Login (learnprouk.com)</a></li><li>3. Be familiar with the FairWarning guidelines:</li></ol> <p>Staff are reminded that if they wish to access their own health information, they should submit a subject access request. The Board's Subject Access Policy provides the relevant information and forms needed and can be found here <a href="#">Subject Access Policy</a></p> <p>If you have any questions on FairWarning or data protection in general, including training, please visit our Information Governance Knowledge Hub here <a href="#">Information Governance Knowledge Hub</a> or contact the Information Governance Team at: <a href="mailto:data.protection@ggc.scot.nhs.uk">data.protection@ggc.scot.nhs.uk</a>.</p> <p>Catherine Scoular 08/04/2024</p>

ACTION	Sharing of identifiable information
	<p>In light of incidents that have occurred in relation to the misappropriation of prescriptions by staff to obtain controlled drugs i would be grateful if you could circulate the following information received from the information governance team to all practices please.</p> <p><i>'It is important to share information to alert other organisations to misuse of controlled drugs incidents. Initial sharing can take place, including a description of the incident, drugs involved and action taken however care should be taken not to identify any individual directly. There may be scope to share minimum personal data based on individual circumstances but further advice should be sought from the Information Governance Team before any identifiable data is shared'.</i></p> <p>It is important to note that each situation should be looked at individually and engagement with the Information Governance team should be made early to discuss what can and can't be shared.</p> <p>Further work will be investigated with the Regional Intelligence network around engaging with contractors to sign up to data sharing agreements.</p> <p>Alan Harrison 08/04/2024</p>

ACTION	Medicines savings
	<p>As you are may be aware, medicines costs are rising significantly and there is also an increasing volume of prescriptions as we recover from the pandemic. Alongside this, demand and complexity of care across NHS GGC is increasing post-pandemic and the population is increasing. All of this is resulting in a significant financial pressure to NHS GGC where the savings required to close the current gap between funding and costs in the 2024/25 financial year is growing all the time. The primary care team are working on efficiency savings projects and polypharmacy reviews which will result in some savings, but this will not close the gap to the extent needed. So we need your help too.</p> <p>Some actions in Community Pharmacy which may help are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Recommend the most cost-effective alternative available when medicines are in short supply. See <a href="#">medicines-shortages-guidance.pdf (scot.nhs.uk)</a></li> <li>· Encourage patients/prescribers to adhere to generic medicines prescribing policy and <a href="#">NHSGGC formulary</a> medicine choices</li> <li>· Please do not create an expectation that a branded or non-formulary medicine will be prescribed by an NHS prescriber. eg. medicines initiated within a private episode of care.</li> <li>· Check what items a patient needs prior to requesting repeat prescriptions within managed repeat services, do not assume they need all items eg. GTN sprays, Salbutamol inhalers, emollients</li> <li>· Check what 'prn' items a patient needs at each serial prescription supply, only supply what the patient needs and requests.</li> <li>· Request GP practice remove any medicines a patient is no longer taking if active on repeat list.</li> <li>· Highlight to the primary care Pharmacy team if you are receiving a high volume of avoidable returns from care homes</li> <li>· Discourage NHS supply of medicines that are cheap to purchase and <b>don't offer NHS supply to patients on Pharmacy First when seeking to buy OTC</b> eg. paracetamol, antihistamines especially when made as a direct request</li> </ul> <p>If you have any other suggestions for how we can reduce spend on medicines, please let us know by emailing <a href="mailto:ggc.cpdevteam@nhs.scot">ggc.cpdevteam@nhs.scot</a></p> <p>Alan Harrison 08/04/2024</p>

ACTION	NES Frailty event
	<p><b>Frailty - Know the Score! Interactive Webinar - Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 19:00-20:30pm</b></p> <p>Link to Book - <a href="#">Frailty: Know the Score!   Turas   Learn (nhs.scot)</a> (please log in to Turas then click link!)</p> <p>Would you like to know more about frailty?</p> <p>Would you like to understand the impact of medicines linked to frailty?</p> <p>Would you like to support patients living with frailty?</p> <p>We know that frailty impacts on a large percentage of the population, and this is growing exponentially. Patients living with frailty need support in all healthcare settings to live with long term conditions and the pharmacy team have a key role in supporting medicines review.</p> <p>This webinar is designed to open up conversations with pharmacy teams to better understand frailty and improve knowledge on the medicines that impact on this condition. To deliver this we will use case studies and provide a list of useful resources that support this learning.</p> <p><b>Learning aims:</b></p> <p>To help pharmacy teams improve their knowledge and understanding of people living with frailty and the impact of medicines on frailty.</p> <p><b>Learning outcomes:</b></p> <p>At the end of the event you will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Understand what frailty looks like in different healthcare settings.</li><li>2. Explain the different tools used to identify frailty and how to apply them in practice.</li><li>3. Understand the impact that medicines have on patients living with frailty.</li><li>4. Demonstrate the principles of polypharmacy review and medicines de-prescribing for patients living with frailty.</li></ol> <p>Lynsey Boyle 08/04/2024</p>

ACTION	Smoking Cessation recording on PCR
 <p>Smoking Cessation PCR.pdf</p>  <p>Smoking Cessation recording.pdf Attachments</p>	<p>The smoking cessation support tool assessment in the Pharmacy Care Record (PCR) has been updated and improved.</p> <p>Details of the changes are in the document attached.</p> <p>The PCR User Guidance has been updated to reflect the changes and is available on the 'News' page of the Community Pharmacy Scotland Website or from the Pharmacy Health Improvement Team email <a href="mailto:pharmacyhit@ggc.scot.nhs.uk">pharmacyhit@ggc.scot.nhs.uk</a> or call us on 0141 201 4945</p> <p>Annette Robb 08/04/2024</p>

ACTION	Specials A-Z GGC CP December 2023 – March 2024 REVIEW DELAYED
 <p>Specials A-Z.pdf</p> <p>Attached</p>	<p>PLEASE NOTE: This resource has exceeded its review date. Please exercise caution in the current use of the resource.</p> <p>Alison McAuley Central Prescribing Team 08/04/2024</p>

**Communication Update Index link**

[INDEX - Community Pharmacy Communications Updates](#)

Any queries should be directed to the contact provided – where no specific contact is shown, queries should be directed to [ggc.cpdevteam@nhs.scot](mailto:ggc.cpdevteam@nhs.scot)

We are keen for any feedback you have about this Update. Please submit your comments/suggestions to: [cpdt@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:cpdt@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)