



Community Pharmacy Communication Update


Tuesday 6th May 2025

New Items in this edition –

- **NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 07 - Pharmaceutical Services: Amendments to The Drug Tariff In Respect of Reimbursement Arrangements From 1 April 2025**
- **NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 08 - Paxlovid Endorsing Guidance**
- **Early Warning System (EWS) Cascade**
- **Topical**

ACTION	NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 07 - Pharmaceutical Services: Amendments to The Drug Tariff In Respect of Reimbursement Arrangements From 1 April 2025
	<p>Please find link below for NHS Circular PCA(P)(2025) 07</p> <p>www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2025-p-07.pdf</p> <p>06/05/2025</p>

ACTION	NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 08 - Paxlovid Endorsing Guidance
	<p>Please find link below for NHS Circular PCA(P)(2025) 08</p> <p>www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2025-p-08.pdf</p> <p>06/05/2025</p>

ACTION	Early Warning System (EWS) Cascade
 <p>EWS - All HSCPS - May 2025.pdf</p>	<p>The Board initiated a test of the Early Warning System (EWS) on the 29th April 2025.</p> <p>Of the 28 cascade systems, 17 were successful. This represents a 61% success rate. Please note, this is a 14% decrease in the EWS which took place in May 2024. I would like to thank those contractors who contributed to successfully completing the 17 cascades.</p> <p>On further scrutiny, we identified the following reasons for failure:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff members were unaware of the cascade process; • The last pharmacy in cascade failed to pass the message to the Master Station;

- The message not being passed on to the next pharmacy; and
- The pharmacy advising they did not receive the message.

We appreciate that there are often competing priorities within the Pharmacy and that time is precious; however, the Early Warning System is specifically used in emergent situations and the transfer of information is imperative.

I have attached a further copy of each of the Board's HSCP's systems. Please identify your pharmacy within that document and print off the relevant cascade. I would like to reiterate the importance of all pharmacy staff, including locums, knowing and understanding the cascade process and what they will need to do in response to a message. It might therefore be helpful to site this document close to your main telephone.

If there is anything in this cascade process which is unclear, or you would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0141 201 6041.




Michelle Cooper
06/05/2025







ACTION	Topical
	<p>May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month.</p> <p>Are you looking for a refresher?</p> <p>Our Skin Cancer Awareness and the role of the community pharmacist webinar with local dermatology consultant Dr Donna Torely, as well as our Summer Sufferings webinar with Dr Craig Masson, GP Clarkston, are great resources you can access on our webpage.</p> <p>Lorna Brown 06/05/2025</p>

Items from previous editions -

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Error in Launch Date in Varenicline Briefing
	<p>New Varenicline PGD – Error with proposed date for signing.</p> <p>Correction - In the launch information for the new PGD for varenicline, in this newsletter last week, the date for signing the PGD and the electronic submission was incorrect. It should have been the 7th May 2025 (not 7th July). Apologies!</p>

	<p>Please aim to have the new PGD signed and submitted to enable prescribing of varenicline within the PHS Pharmacy smoking cessation service by 7th May.</p> <p>The new national varenicline PGD, client assessment form and NHS circular are in the article below (15/4/25) and on the GGC pages on the community pharmacy website www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk/nhs-ggc under Patient Group Directions.</p> <p>If you have any queries please contact the Pharmacy Health Improvement Team at ggc.pharmacyhit@nhs.scot or telephone 0141 201 4945</p> <p>Hilary Millar 24/04/2025</p>
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION	NHS Circular: PCA(P)(2025) 06 - Additional Pharmaceutical Services Public Health Service Smoking Cessation – Updated
 <p>PGD Varenidine tablets Version 1.0 /</p>  <p>NHS Circular PCA(P)(2025) 06 - 10</p>  <p>Assessment Form - Version 1.0 April 2025</p> <p>Attached</p>	<p>The new national PGD for Varenicline is now available <attached>.</p> <p>Please read the PGD, complete the NES Pharmacy e-learning module in TURAS Learn (NHS Scotland Smoking Cessation) and sign the PGD.</p> <p>Once the PGD is signed please complete the electronic submission form: PGDs - Greater Glasgow and Clyde.</p> <p>Once the PGD submission is complete it can be used to provide Varenicline to clients as part of the PHS Pharmacy Smoking Cessation Service. Please sign the PGD and complete the electronic submission by <u>7th May 2025</u>.</p> <p>A CP PHS smoking cessation Varenicline assessment form should be completed by the pharmacist with all clients <attached>. A copy should be sent to the client's GP as detailed and a copy retained in the pharmacy.</p> <p>Please put all quit attempts on PCR and record weekly to ensure payment for the service is received.</p> <p>Also attached is the NHS Chief Pharmaceutical officer's circular detailing the use of the new PGD in the pharmacy smoking cessation service.</p> <p>If you have any queries please contact the Pharmacy Health Improvement Team at ggc.pharmacyhit@nhs.scot or telephone 0141 201 4945</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Let's Chat Vac - GGC Mobile Vaccination Unit Dates (COVID-19) APRIL - JUNE
 Mobile Service West Dunbartonshire.pdf  Mobile Service East Renfrewshire.pdf  Mobile Service Renfrewshire.pdf  Mobile Services Glasgow.pdf  Mobile Services Inverclyde.pdf  Mobile Service East Dunbartonshire.pdf	<p>On behalf of the GGC Vaccination Communication Group</p> <p>Our partners at the Scottish Ambulance Service are 'touring' Greater Glasgow and Clyde in the mobile vaccination units. This service increases the number of access points for patients in our communities to access their winter vaccinations.</p> <p>It is with thanks to our partners across Greater Glasgow and Clyde in securing suitable car parks across a wide range of locations.</p> <p>Sites in addition to NHS premises include Councils, Leisure Facilities, Third Sector Partners, Retail establishments and more! This vital partnership working, enables our continued delivery of the mobile vaccination service.</p> <p>The Mobile Units are offering – Covid -19</p> <p>Please find enclosed Mobile Vaccination Unit dates for April, May and June across GGC, please cascade/display posters relevant to your geographical area.</p> <p>Please also note that Translated resources can be accessed as follows Campaign assets Public Health Scotland News. Translated videos are hosted on YouTube.</p> <p>Pauline Atkinson 29/04/2025</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Care Home eMARS
	<p>We have been made aware of a care home within NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde that has recently adopted an eMARS system. Prior to the system going live, they requested new prescriptions for all medicines out with the usual ordering cycle. They were under the impression they should return all residents' medication to the pharmacy and then reorder the same medication before moving to eMARS.</p> <p>The eMARS supplier confirmed that they do not advise to send any medications which are still in use by the resident back to the pharmacy, as the system has the capability to add stock.</p> <p>They advised that as part of the implementation process, they provide a list of tasks that the home can complete, and one task mentioned is</p>

	<p>to audit their medication not in use. The aim of this is to prompt a medication review on unnecessary medications and reduce the need to order medicines not being used, causing less waste in the long run.</p> <p>We would recommend that if any similar requests are made to order prescriptions or receive returns, care homes are directed to the eMARS provider for further support and guidance.</p> <p>Jennifer Allardyce 29/04/2025</p>
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Utilisation of GP10a
	<p>We have been made aware of inappropriate use of Stock Order Forms (GP10a) within Community Pharmacies. We are currently unsure of how big the problem may be, however wanted to flag this to everyone as early as possible to ensure that Pharmacy teams were not inadvertently supplying in an inappropriate manner.</p> <p>Only items that are actually supplied to the GP Practice should be annotated on a GP10a form. If any non-listed items are supplied but recorded as an allowed product, to ensure that a payment is realised, then this would be considered fraudulent activity and, as such could be investigated by Counter Fraud Services (CFS). Items should only be added to a GP10a form by a member of the GP practice team.</p> <p>Pamela Macintyre 29/04/2025</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Smoking Cessation Training - Tuesday 20th May 2025		
	<p>In order for a Community Pharmacy to become an accredited Quit Your Way Pharmacy it is mandatory for a one day training programme to be completed by pharmacists, locums and support staff.</p>		
	<p>The training will include key elements from the NES Smoking Cessation training pack, together with brief intervention techniques and NRT products. This session is open to all pharmacy staff. Fees will be paid to the pharmacy contractor to cover the costs of staff attending, (as pre-reg students are paid through NES, no need to claim).</p>		
	<p>We presently have some places available for the event on Tuesday 20th May 2025, places will be allocated on a first-come basis and will be confirmed in writing.</p>		
	<u>Date</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Venue</u>
<u>Tuesday 20th May 2025</u>	<u>9:00 – 16:00</u>	<u>Beresford Suite</u> <u>Leverndale Hospital</u>	

Please contact us ASAP by phone on 0141 201 4945, or by e-mail ggcpharmacyhit@nhs.scot

Parking is available on a first come basis.

Lunch will be provided. Please inform us if you do not require lunch or you have special dietary requirements.

Future Dates:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Venue</u>
<u>Wednesday 4th June 2025</u>	<u>9:00 – 16:00</u>	<u>Easterhouse Health Centre</u>

Places will be allocated on a first-come basis and will be confirmed in writing. Please contact us ASAP by phone on 0141 201 4945, or by e-mail ggcpharmacyhit@nhs.scot to confirm a place.

Anette Robb
Public Health Pharmacy
08/04/2025

[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

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



Community Pharmacy Communication Update


Tuesday 13th May 2025


New Items in this edition –

- **NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 09 - Extension To Serious Shortage Protocols (Ssps) for Estradot® (ESTRADIOL) Patches and Cefalexin 125mg/5ml Oral Suspension Sugar Free**
- **Public Health Posters - Lyme Disease Awareness Month**
- **Reporting Known Or Suspected Illicit Supply of Obesity Medicines Semaglutide (Wegovy) and Tirzepatide (Mounjaro)**
- **FAST Education Offer**

ACTION	NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 09 - Extension To Serious Shortage Protocols (Ssps) for Estradot® (ESTRADIOL) Patches and Cefalexin 125mg/5ml Oral Suspension Sugar Free
	<p>Please find link below for NHS Circular PCA(P)(2025) 09:</p> <p>www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2025-p-09.pdf</p> <p>13/05/2025</p>

ACTION	Public Health Posters - Lyme Disease Awareness Month
	<p>Lyme disease is still on the rise in Scotland. It is caused by being bitten by bacteria passed by the bite of an infected tick and can be serious if not treated early.</p> <p>The Lyme Disease Awareness Month campaign is now LIVE, resources are available to help you spread the word throughout May 2025.</p> <p>Lyme Disease Awareness Month Scottish Government Marketing News – includes Static Images, Posters, Toolkit and Leaflets.</p> <p>All new campaign assets can be found here: Campaign Assets Scottish Government Marketing News</p> <p>The Lyme Disease poster should have now arrived in pharmacies and they are to remain on display until further notice.</p> <p>Elaine Muirhead, Policy Development Manager 09/05/2025</p>

ACTION	Reporting Known Or Suspected Illicit Supply of Obesity Medicines Semaglutide (Wegovy) and Tirzepatide (Mounjaro)
 Reporting Known Suspected Illicit Su Attached	<p>Please see attached a letter from Professor Alison Strath, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer about the emerging concerns around the illicit supply of these medicines.</p> <p>As a result of those concerns Police Scotland are now encouraging healthcare professionals to report any concerns on the illicit supply of weight loss medicines which can be done anonymously via their online portal.</p> <p>Kind regards Irene Fazakerley Medicines Policy Officer</p> <p>09/05/2025</p>

ACTION	FAST Education Offer
 FAST Training Session.pdf Attached	<p>Please see attached offer of training run by Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland on the FAST tool for identifying a stroke.</p> <p>The dates and information are noted below and a poster is attached which can be displayed in staff areas.</p> <p>This training is funded by the Scottish Government, and it is strongly recommended that clinical and non-clinical staff working with patients in Emergency Departments, Primary Care (including community pharmacies), and the Scottish Ambulance Service attend one of the sessions.</p> <p>Each session will be no longer than 30 minutes, and will include a short presentation and time for discussion / questions via Microsoft Teams. This training is for patient-facing clinical and non-clinical staff working in only Emergency Departments, Primary Care, and the Scottish Ambulance Service (i.e. reception staff included), throughout Scotland.</p> <p>A CPD certificate will be available for staff upon completion. Dates and times are as follows:</p> <p><u>FAST Education Dates</u> Thursday 29th May 11:00 Monday 9th June 13:00 Wednesday 25th June 10:00 Tuesday 22nd July 15:00 Wednesday 6th August 19:00 Monday 25th August 13:00</p>

Please can all attendees sign up via the following Microsoft Forms link. A Microsoft Teams invite will be sent out for the session nearer the date.

SIGN UP:

<https://forms.office.com/e/YiFrAbRwtv>

Please share this information with your clinical teams and encourage them to sign up. Please get in contact with me if you have any further questions.

Esther Pullen


esther.pullen@chss.org.uk

09/05/2025

Items from previous editions –



IMPORTANT INFORMATION	NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 07 - Pharmaceutical Services: Amendments to The Drug Tariff In Respect of Reimbursement
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 Mobile Service Renfrewshire.pdf  Mobile Services Glasgow.pdf  Mobile Services Inverclyde.pdf  Mobile Service East Dunbartonshire.pdf	<p>Sites in addition to NHS premises include Councils, Leisure Facilities, Third Sector Partners, Retail establishments and more! This vital partnership working, enables our continued delivery of the mobile vaccination service.</p> <p>The Mobile Units are offering – Covid -19</p> <p>Please find enclosed Mobile Vaccination Unit dates for April, May and June across GGC, please cascade/display posters relevant to your geographical area.</p> <p>Please also note that Translated resources can be accessed as follows Campaign assets Public Health Scotland News. Translated videos are hosted on YouTube.</p> <p>Pauline Atkinson 29/04/2025</p>
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Pamela Macintyre
29/04/2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Smoking Cessation Training - Tuesday 20th May 2025

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Parking is available on a first come basis.

Lunch will be provided. Please inform us if you do not require lunch or you have special dietary requirements.

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Anette Robb
Public Health Pharmacy
08/04/2025

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Community Pharmacy Communication Update

Tuesday 20th May 2025

New Items in this edition –

- **Increase in Measles – Community Pharmacy Awareness**
- **New Shortage Alternative Medicines eForm – Supporting Smoother Communication with GP Practices**
- **Primary Care Workforce Strategy- Staff & Contractor Engagement Workshop on 4th June 2025**
- **QYW Training - Wednesday 4th June**
- **Reminder Primary Care Workforce Strategy Survey**
- **Let's Chat Vac - SVIP1615 Changes Routine Childhood Vaccination Schedule and The Selective Neonatal Hepatitis B Vaccination Programme from 1 July 2025**

ACTION	Increase in Measles – Community Pharmacy Awareness
	<p>NHS GGC Public Health Protection Unit (PHPU) are currently investigating a number of cases of measles within the Board area.</p> <p>Community pharmacy teams should be aware of any patient presenting with potential measles symptoms (including rising fever, conjunctivitis, cough, not eating, generally unwell with rash spreading from ears, to face to trunk) must be advised to contact their GP as soon as possible for further investigation as measles is classed as a notifiable disease.</p> <p>Specific clinics for MMR vaccinations are being arranged as part of the public health response for at risk patients and is being communicated separately to encourage uptake.</p> <p>More information on signs and symptoms of measles can be found on NHS Inform website.</p> <p>Elaine Paton 20/05/2025</p>

ACTION	New Shortage Alternative Medicines eForm – Supporting Smoother Communication with GP Practices
	<p>We're pleased to share that a new electronic form has been developed to help streamline communication between community pharmacies and GP practices when managing medicine shortages.</p> <p>This Shortage Alternative Medicines eForm is designed to make the process more efficient and collaborative. It enables community pharmacies to propose suitable alternatives that are either in stock or readily available, supporting faster decision-making and ensuring continuity of patient care.</p> <p>To ensure a smooth and consistent rollout, HSCP teams will be reaching out to each pharmacy individually in the coming weeks to walk you through the form and provide guidance on its use. We're aiming for a planned and supportive implementation, with the goal of making this tool a helpful part of everyday practice.</p> <p>We're confident this new process will enhance communication, reduce administrative burden, and ultimately improve the patient experience.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your engagement and continued collaboration.</p> <p>Kathryn Chisholm 20/05/2025</p>

ACTION	Primary Care Workforce Strategy- Staff & Contractor Engagement Workshop on 4th June 2025
	<p>We are starting to develop the first Primary Care Workforce Strategy to take us to 2029. We held a series of sessions in March & April to ask staff and contractors working in and providing services within a Primary Care setting about their views of where they would like us to be by then. We would like to share what you said and hear more from those who couldn't make it to the spring sessions.</p> <p>Do you have ideas to shape the future of our primary care workforce? Would you like your say on what is important to you and how you and your service works in primary care? If yes, then you may be interested in attending the next primary care engagement session.</p> <p>How can you attend? To join this MS Teams session, please click here. You do not need to register. You will be advised to add this date and link to you online diary.</p> <p>What if you can't make it or want to find out more? Delivering on optimising our workforce is a key priority of our Primary Care Strategy 2024-2029. You can see more details of what's in the Primary Care Strategy here.</p>

If you have any questions regarding the workforce strategy, please reach out to the primary care support team at ggc.primarycaresupport@nhs.scot

Ann Forsyth
20/05/2025

ACTION

QYW Training - Wednesday 4th June 2025



40. QYW Training -
Easterhouse HC-4th

Attached

In order for a Community Pharmacy to become an accredited Quit Your Way Pharmacy it is mandatory for a one day training programme to be completed by pharmacists, locums and support staff.

The training will include key elements from the NES Smoking Cessation training pack, together with brief intervention techniques and NRT products. This session is open to all pharmacy staff.

We presently have some places available for the event on Wednesday 4th June 2025. Places will be allocated on a first-come basis and will be confirmed in writing.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Venue</u>
Wednesday 4th June 2025	9:00 – 16:00	Easterhouse Health Centre 9 Auchinlea Road, Easterhouse, Glasgow. G34 9HQ

Please contact us ASAP by phone on 0141 201 4945, or by e-mail ggcpharmacyhit@nhs.scot

Parking is available on a first come basis.

Lunch will be provided. Please inform us if you do not require lunch or you have special dietary requirements.

Annette Robb
20/05/2025

ACTION

Reminder Primary Care Workforce Strategy Survey

NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde (NHSGGC) Primary Care Workforce Strategy 2025-2029 - please take our simple survey to tell us what's important to you

NHSGGC published it's first Primary Care Strategy 2024-2029 last year. The strategy adopts a whole-system approach, developed through extensive collaboration with patients and staff across general practice, dental, pharmacy, and optometry settings. A strategic priority of the strategy is Optimising our workforce. We are committed to developing and delivering

	<p>a strategy focused on ensuring the sustainability of primary care in the medium to long term.</p> <p>You can see more details here of what's in the Primary Care Strategy.</p> <p>We are now developing the first Primary Care Workforce Strategy to take us to 2029 and are asking staff working in and providing services within a Primary Care setting about your views of where you would like us to be by then. Comments and suggestions were gathered during a series of staff & contractor engagement workshops held in the spring but we want to make sure everybody gets the opportunity to shape our strategy.</p> <p>To take part, please click on the Primary Care Workforce Strategy Survey link. The survey closes at 5pm on Friday 23rd May.</p> <p>If you have any questions regarding the workforce strategy, please reach out to the primary care support team at: ggc.primarycaresupport@ggc.scot.nhs.uk</p> <p>Ann Forsyth 20/05/2025</p>
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ACTION	<p>Let's Chat Vac - SVIP1615 Changes Routine Childhood Vaccination Schedule and The Selective Neonatal Hepatitis B Vaccination Programme from 1 July 2025</p>
	<p><u>Sent on behalf PHS.</u></p> <p>Following advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) on the upcoming changes to the childhood schedule, Public Health Scotland (PHS) has revised the 'Protect your child against serious diseases' leaflet. This is to ensure that parents and carers have access to up-to-date information about the routine childhood vaccination programme.</p> <p>The changes will take place across 2 phases. Changes in Phase 1 will begin from 1 July 2025 with Phase 2 coming into effect from January 2026. PHS would be grateful for your support in replacing your existing stock of this leaflet to ensure health professionals access the correct version to support informed consent, prior to vaccination. Due to the phased approach, PHS will provide an updated version of this leaflet again later in the year so would encourage you to manage stock accordingly.</p> <p>This resource will be available to order online once stock is available.</p> <p>The front cover of the updated leaflet is displayed below for your convenience. This leaflet should be used from 1 July 2025:</p>



Please only order the stock you will require until the end of December 2025. An updated final version of this resource will be available to order before December 2025.

To order this leaflet in other formats (such as Easy Read and large print) or languages, please email phs.otherformats@phs.scot

If you would like to provide feedback, please email phs.svipconfidenceandequity@phs.scot

With effect from **9 June 2025** can you please recycle any existing stock you have of the following leaflet as it will not contain the correct information:



In addition, PHS has also revised the '**What to expect after vaccination: Babies and children up to 5 years**' information resource.

You can also order this resource online once stock is available.

With effect from **9 June 2025** can you please recycle any existing stock you have of the previous version as it will not contain the correct information.


Pauline Atkinson
20/05/2025


Items from previous editions –

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 09 - Extension To Serious Shortage Protocols (Ssps) for Estradot® (ESTRADIOL)
	Please find link below for NHS Circular PCA(P)(2025) 09: www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2025-p-09.pdf 13/05/2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Public Health Posters - Lyme Disease Awareness Month
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	<p>Lyme disease is still on the rise in Scotland. It is caused by being bitten by bacteria passed by the bite of an infected tick and can be serious if not treated early.</p> <p>The Lyme Disease Awareness Month campaign is now LIVE, resources are available to help you spread the word throughout May 2025.</p> <p>Lyme Disease Awareness Month Scottish Government Marketing News – includes Static Images, Posters, Toolkit and Leaflets.</p> <p>All new campaign assets can be found here: Campaign Assets Scottish Government Marketing News</p> <p>The Lyme Disease poster should have now arrived in pharmacies and they are to remain on display until further notice.</p> <p>Elaine Muirhead, Policy Development Manager 09/05/2025</p>
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Reporting Known Or Suspected Illicit Supply of Obesity Medicines Semaglutide (Wegovy) and Tirzepatide (Mounjaro)
 <p>Reporting Known or Suspected Illicit Supply</p> <p>Attached</p>	<p>Please see attached a letter from Professor Alison Strath, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer about the emerging concerns around the illicit supply of these medicines.</p> <p>As a result of those concerns Police Scotland are now encouraging healthcare professionals to report any concerns on the illicit supply of weight loss medicines which can be done anonymously via their online portal.</p> <p>Kind regards Irene Fazakerley Medicines Policy Officer</p> <p>09/05/2025</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	FAST Education Offer
 <p>FAST Training Session.pdf</p> <p>Attached</p>	<p>Please see attached offer of training run by Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland on the FAST tool for identifying a stroke.</p> <p>The dates and information are noted below and a poster is attached which can be displayed in staff areas.</p> <p>This training is funded by the Scottish Government, and it is strongly recommended that clinical and non-clinical staff working with patients in Emergency Departments, Primary Care</p>

(including community pharmacies), and the Scottish Ambulance Service attend one of the sessions.

Each session will be no longer than 30 minutes, and will include a short presentation and time for discussion / questions via Microsoft Teams. This training is for **patient-facing** clinical and non-clinical staff working in **only Emergency Departments, Primary Care, and the Scottish Ambulance Service** (i.e. reception staff included), throughout Scotland.

A CPD certificate will be available for staff upon completion. Dates and times are as follows:

FAST Education Dates

Thursday 29th May 11:00

Monday 9th June 13:00

Wednesday 25th June 10:00

Tuesday 22nd July 15:00

Wednesday 6th August 19:00

Monday 25th August 13:00

Please can all attendees sign up via the following Microsoft Forms link. A Microsoft Teams invite will be sent out for the session nearer the date.

SIGN UP:

<https://forms.office.com/e/YiFrAbRwtv>

Please share this information with your clinical teams and encourage them to sign up. Please get in contact with me if you have any further questions.

Esther Pullen

esther.pullen@chss.org.uk

09/05/2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 07 - Pharmaceutical Services: Amendments to The Drug Tariff In Respect of Reimbursement

Please find link below for NHS Circular PCA(P)(2025) 07

www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2025-p-07.pdf

06/05/2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 08 - Paxlovid Endorsing Guidance

Please find link below for NHS Circular PCA(P)(2025) 08

06/05/2025

**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION**

Early Warning System (EWS) Cascade



EWS - All HSCPS -
May 2025.pdf

Attached

The Board initiated a test of the Early Warning System (EWS) on the 29th April 2025.

Of the 28 cascade systems, 17 were successful. This represents a 61% success rate. Please note, this is a 14% decrease in the EWS which took place in May 2024. I would like to thank those contractors who contributed to successfully completing the 17 cascades.

On further scrutiny, we identified the following reasons for failure:-

- Staff members were unaware of the cascade process;
- The last pharmacy in cascade failed to pass the message to the Master Station;
- The message not being passed on to the next pharmacy; and
- The pharmacy advising they did not receive the message.

We appreciate that there are often competing priorities within the Pharmacy and that time is precious; however, the Early Warning System is specifically used in emergent situations and the transfer of information is imperative.

I have attached a further copy of each of the Board's HSCP's systems. Please identify your pharmacy within that document and print off the relevant cascade. I would like to reiterate the importance of all pharmacy staff, including locums, knowing and understanding the cascade process and what they will need to do in response to a message. It might therefore be helpful to site this document close to your main telephone.

If there is anything in this cascade process which is unclear, or you would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0141 201 6041.

Michelle Cooper
06/05/2025







**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION**

Topical

May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month.

Are you looking for a refresher?

	<p>Our Skin Cancer Awareness and the role of the community pharmacist webinar with local dermatology consultant Dr Donna Torely, as well as our Summer Sufferings webinar with Dr Craig Masson, GP Clarkston, are great resources you can access on our webpage.</p> <p>Lorna Brown 06/05/2025</p>
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Let's Chat Vac - GGC Mobile Vaccination Unit Dates (COVID-19) APRIL - JUNE
 Mobile Service West Dunbartonshire.pdf  Mobile Service East Renfrewshire.pdf  Mobile Service Renfrewshire.pdf  Mobile Services Glasgow.pdf  Mobile Services Inverdyke.pdf  Mobile Service East Dunbartonshire.pdf	<p>On behalf of the GGC Vaccination Communication Group</p> <p>Our partners at the Scottish Ambulance Service are 'touring' Greater Glasgow and Clyde in the mobile vaccination units. This service increases the number of access points for patients in our communities to access their winter vaccinations.</p> <p>It is with thanks to our partners across Greater Glasgow and Clyde in securing suitable car parks across a wide range of locations.</p> <p>Sites in addition to NHS premises include Councils, Leisure Facilities, Third Sector Partners, Retail establishments and more! This vital partnership working, enables our continued delivery of the mobile vaccination service.</p> <p>The Mobile Units are offering – Covid -19</p> <p>Please find enclosed Mobile Vaccination Unit dates for April, May and June across GGC, please cascade/display posters relevant to your geographical area.</p> <p>Please also note that Translated resources can be accessed as follows Campaign assets Public Health Scotland News. Translated videos are hosted on YouTube.</p> <p>Pauline Atkinson 29/04/2025</p>

[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

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



Community Pharmacy Communication Update

Tuesday 27th May 2025



New Items in this edition –

- **Reminder of NHSGGC Preferred List options for Oxycodone Hydrochloride (Oral Formulations)**
- **NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 10 - Additional Pharmaceutical Services Public Health Service – Updated Service Specification for Community Pharmacy Provision of Prophylactic Antipyretic (Paracetamol) Following the Meningococcal Group B Vaccine; and Other Childhood Vaccinations**
- **Memo for CPs to Request a CD Destruction Visit**
- **Community Pharmacy Disulfiram Service**
- **Community Pharmacy Cancer Awareness Workshop**
- **Anti-viral Treatment of COVID-19**

ACTION	Reminder of NHSGGC Preferred List options for Oxycodone Hydrochloride (Oral Formulations)
	<p>Please find below a reminder of NHSGGC's preferred list options for Oxycodone Hydrochloride (oral formulations)</p> <p>Oxycodone tablets and capsules should be prescribed by brand name. The current brands of choice are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxypro® tablets for modified release (12 hourly preparation) • Shortec® capsules for immediate release (as required use) <p>NB Oxycodone hydrochloride tablets are also available in an immediate release formulation under the brand name Oxyact® tablets. These are not currently included in NHSGGC formulary.</p> <p>When completing a clinical check ensure that the dose and frequency are appropriate for the prescribed formulation.</p> <p>Julia Heydon 27/05/2025</p>


ACTION	NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 10 - Additional Pharmaceutical Services Public Health Service – Updated Service Specification for Community Pharmacy Provision of Prophylactic Antipyretic (Paracetamol) Following the Meningococcal Group B Vaccine; and Other Childhood Vaccinations
	<p>Please find link below for NHS Circular PCA(P)(2025) 10:</p> <p>www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2025-p-10.pdf</p> <p>27/05/2025</p>

ACTION	Memo for CPs to Request a CD Destruction Visit
	<p><u>Destruction of Controlled Drugs - Schedule 2 CD stock</u></p> <p>Schedule 2 Controlled Drug stock that has expired or is no longer required must only be destroyed in the presence of an Authorised Witness.</p> <p>Community Pharmacists requiring destruction of Schedule 2 Controlled Drug stock should complete the new electronic form here or use the QR code below to request a visit. The new form takes on average only 2-3 minutes to complete as you do not need to list the CDs when requesting an appointment.</p> <p>In advance of the visit, please:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that all items are recorded in an appropriate CD register; • Check that balances are correct; • Ensure that there are no unresolved discrepancies; • Ensure that there are sufficient kits for the volume of CDs requiring destruction; • Have a member of staff available for the duration of the appointment; and • Print off and complete the Controlled Drugs Destruction Form listing all Schedule 2 CDs requiring destruction – this will be needed to sign off each CD during the visit <p>The CD Officer will have a number of pharmacies and hospital sites to visit each day, so please complete the steps above in advance of the visit to avoid delays at your pharmacy which can have a knock-on effect on the visit schedule for the rest of the day.</p> <p>If you have any questions, then please get in touch with the CD Governance Team via gqc.cdgovernance@nhs.scot or 0141 201 6032</p>

	<p>To report a CD incident or concern, please use the form HERE or use the QR code below:</p> 	<p>To request a CD destruction visit, please click HERE or use the QR code below:</p> 	
	<p>Mantej Chahal 27/05/2025</p>		

ACTION	Community Pharmacy Disulfiram Service
<p>Guidelines for Community Pharmacy</p> <p>NEO Disulfiram Therapy Module.p</p> <p>SLA Disulfiram Therapy.pdf</p> <p>Attached</p>	<p>As participants in the Community Pharmacy Disulfiram Service will be aware, during the COVID 19 pandemic breathalysing patients who received supervised disulfiram within a community pharmacy setting was not permitted.</p> <p>To date, breathalysing has not be recommenced in full across the NHS GGC Community Pharmacy Disulfiram Service.</p> <p>Breathalysing indicates alcohol consumption at that present time - with consideration to the pharmacology of disulfiram we are aware that a disulfiram-alcohol reaction can occur up to 14 days after discontinuation of the drug. Therefore, 'breathalysing prior to disulfiram supervision' does not ensure patient safety and the complete avoidance of a disulfiram-alcohol reaction.</p> <p>We have considered that there are no recommendations around 'breathalysing prior to disulfiram supervision' in the summary of product characteristics for disulfiram, relevant NICE guidelines or other guidance documents utilised in the treatment of alcohol use disorder.</p> <p>The Service Level Agreement (SLA) underpinning the service has now been updated to remove the use of breathalysers as part of the community pharmacy disulfiram service.</p> <p>If you have had any arrangements in place with local ADRS teams around breathalysing, please be aware that these will now conclude. Breathalysers will be uplifted from community pharmacies in the upcoming months. There may be an interim period during where 'breathalysing' remains on the prescription direction however local ADRS teams have been informed of this change on 24/04/2025 and are aware breathalysing is not part of this service.</p> <p>Please find attached the updated Community Pharmacy Disulfiram Service guideline noting in particular the updated sections around patient information and patient assessment. The updated SLA and NEO 360 Disulfiram Module Guidance is also attached.</p>

	<p>As the amendments made do not materially change the clinical aspects of the service, there is no need for pharmacy contractors to formally re-commit to the service (by signing up to the SLA again). The assumption will be that all current participants will continue. If however you feel that the changes prevent your continued participation in the service, please indicate your withdrawal from the service to: ggc.cpdevteam@nhs.scot by end June 2025.</p> <p>ADRS Pharmacy Team 27/05/2025</p>
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ACTION	Community Pharmacy Cancer Awareness Workshop
 CRUK Poster.pdf Attached	<p>Cancer Research UK is hosting an online webinar for NHSGGC community pharmacy staff on raising cancer awareness in the community. Attached is the event poster with more details.</p> <p>The workshop will cover:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to reduce the risk of cancer • The importance of spotting cancer early • National cancer screening programmes <p>This evening webinar is online – Thursday 19th June 2025 - 7-9pm</p> <p>Places are limited. To book please contact the Pharmacy Health Improvement Team on: - Email ggc.pharmacyhit@nhs.scot or Telephone 0141 201 4945</p> <p>Annette Robb 27/05/2025</p>

ACTION	Anti-viral Treatment of COVID-19
	<p>There are 2 licensed treatments for COVID-19 available in the UK, Lagevrio® (molnupiravir) and Paxlovid® (nirmatrelvir and ritonavir). Both are now commercially available from Alliance.</p> <p>Within GGC the assessment of patients requiring treatment for COVID-19 is being undertaken by pharmacist independent prescribers (PIP) within Primary Care. If treatment is indicated the PIP should contact the patient's chosen pharmacy with the details. Please treat this as an emergency supply at the request of a health professional. A prescription should follow in the post within 72 hours.</p> <p>NB it is important that these treatments are started as soon as possible, therefore please do not delay ordering of the product until the prescription arrives. As these patients often have significant co-morbidities these medicines should not be prescribed as part of the PF+ service.</p>

Pamela Macintyre
27/05/2025

UPDATE

QYW Training - Wednesday 4th June 2025 - CANCELLED

The training date previously communicated for Wednesday 4th June has now been cancelled.

The new date for training is as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Venue</u>
Tuesday 18th August 2025	9:00 – 16:00	Beresford Suite Leverndale Hospital

Please contact us ASAP by phone on 0141 201 4945, or by e-mail ggcpharmacyhit@nhs.scot

Parking is available on a first come basis.

Lunch will be provided. Please inform us if you do not require lunch or you have special dietary requirements.

Annette Robb
20/05/2025

Items from previous editions –

**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION**

Increase in Measles – Community Pharmacy Awareness

NHS GGC Public Health Protection Unit (PHPU) are currently investigating a number of cases of measles within the Board area.

Community pharmacy teams should be aware of any patient presenting with potential measles symptoms (including rising fever, conjunctivitis, cough, not eating, generally unwell with rash spreading from ears, to face to trunk) must be advised to contact their GP as soon as possible for further investigation as measles is classed as a notifiable disease.

Specific clinics for MMR vaccinations are being arranged as part of the public health response for at risk patients and is being communicated separately to encourage uptake.

More information on signs and symptoms of measles can be found on [NHS Inform website](#).

Elaine Paton
20/05/2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATI	New Shortage Alternative Medicines eForm – Supporting Smoother Communication with GP Practices
	<p>We're pleased to share that a new electronic form has been developed to help streamline communication between community pharmacies and GP practices when managing medicine shortages.</p> <p>This Shortage Alternative Medicines eForm is designed to make the process more efficient and collaborative. It enables community pharmacies to propose suitable alternatives that are either in stock or readily available, supporting faster decision-making and ensuring continuity of patient care.</p> <p>To ensure a smooth and consistent rollout, HSCP teams will be reaching out to each pharmacy individually in the coming weeks to walk you through the form and provide guidance on its use. We're aiming for a planned and supportive implementation, with the goal of making this tool a helpful part of everyday practice.</p> <p>We're confident this new process will enhance communication, reduce administrative burden, and ultimately improve the patient experience.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your engagement and continued collaboration.</p> <p>Kathryn Chisholm 20/05/2025</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATI	Primary Care Workforce Strategy- Staff & Contractor Engagement Workshop on 4th June 2025
	<p>We are starting to develop the first Primary Care Workforce Strategy to take us to 2029. We held a series of sessions in March & April to ask staff and contractors working in and providing services within a Primary Care setting about their views of where they would like us to be by then. We would like to share what you said and hear more from those who couldn't make it to the spring sessions.</p> <p>Do you have ideas to shape the future of our primary care workforce? Would you like your say on what is important to you and how you and your service works in primary care? If yes, then you may be interested in attending the next primary care engagement session.</p> <p>How can you attend? To join this MS Teams session, please click here. You do not need to register. You will be advised to add this date and link to you online diary.</p> <p>What if you can't make it or want to find out more?</p>

	<p>Delivering on optimising our workforce is a key priority of our Primary Care Strategy 2024-2029. You can see more details of what's in the Primary Care Strategy here.</p> <p>If you have any questions regarding the workforce strategy, please reach out to the primary care support team at ggc.primarycaresupport@nhs.scot</p> <p>Ann Forsyth 20/05/2025</p>
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Reminder Primary Care Workforce Strategy Survey
	<p>NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde (NHSGGC) Primary Care Workforce Strategy 2025-2029 - please take our simple survey to tell us what's important to you</p> <p>NHSGGC published its first Primary Care Strategy 2024-2029 last year. The strategy adopts a whole-system approach, developed through extensive collaboration with patients and staff across general practice, dental, pharmacy, and optometry settings. A strategic priority of the strategy is Optimising our workforce. We are committed to developing and delivering a strategy focused on ensuring the sustainability of primary care in the medium to long term.</p> <p>You can see more details here of what's in the Primary Care Strategy.</p> <p>We are now developing the first Primary Care Workforce Strategy to take us to 2029 and are asking staff working in and providing services within a Primary Care setting about your views of where you would like us to be by then. Comments and suggestions were gathered during a series of staff & contractor engagement workshops held in the spring but we want to make sure everybody gets the opportunity to shape our strategy.</p> <p>To take part, please click on the Primary Care Workforce Strategy Survey link. The survey closes at 5pm on Friday 23rd May.</p> <p>If you have any questions regarding the workforce strategy, please reach out to the primary care support team at: ggc.primarycaresupport@ggc.scot.nhs.uk</p> <p>Ann Forsyth 20/05/2025</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Let's Chat Vac - SVIP1615 Changes Routine Childhood Vaccination Schedule and The Selective Neonatal Hepatitis B
	<u><i>Sent on behalf PHS.</i></u>

Following advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) on the upcoming changes to the childhood schedule, Public Health Scotland (PHS) has revised the '**Protect your child against serious diseases**' leaflet. This is to ensure that parents and carers have access to up-to-date information about the routine childhood vaccination programme.

The changes will take place across 2 phases. Changes in Phase 1 will begin from 1 July 2025 with Phase 2 coming into effect from January 2026. PHS would be grateful for your support in replacing your existing stock of this leaflet to ensure health professionals access the correct version to support informed consent, prior to vaccination. Due to the phased approach, PHS will provide an updated version of this leaflet again later in the year so would encourage you to manage stock accordingly.

This resource will be available to order online once stock is available.

The front cover of the updated leaflet is displayed below for your convenience. This leaflet should be used from **1 July 2025**:



Please only order the stock you will require until the end of December 2025. An updated final version of this resource will be available to order before December 2025.

To order this leaflet in other formats (such as Easy Read and large print) or languages, please email phs.otherformats@phs.scot


If you would like to provide feedback, please email phs.svipconfidenceandequity@phs.scot

With effect from **9 June 2025** can you please recycle any existing stock you have of the following leaflet as it will not contain the correct information:



	<p>In addition, PHS has also revised the 'What to expect after vaccination: Babies and children up to 5 years' information resource.</p> <p>You can also order this resource online once stock is available.</p> <p>With effect from 9 June 2025 can you please recycle any existing stock you have of the previous version as it will not contain the correct information.</p> <p>Pauline Atkinson 20/05/2025</p>
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION	NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 09 - Extension To Serious Shortage Protocols (Ssps) for Estradot® (ESTRADIOL) Patches and
	<p>Please find link below for NHS Circular PCA(P)(2025) 09:</p> <p>www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2025-p-09.pdf</p> <p>13/05/2025</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	FAST Education Offer
 <p>FAST Training Session.pdf</p> <p>Attached</p>	<p>Please see attached offer of training run by Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland on the FAST tool for identifying a stroke.</p> <p>The dates and information are noted below and a poster is attached which can be displayed in staff areas.</p> <p>This training is funded by the Scottish Government, and it is strongly recommended that clinical and non-clinical staff working with patients in Emergency Departments, Primary Care (including community pharmacies), and the Scottish Ambulance Service attend one of the sessions.</p> <p>Each session will be no longer than 30 minutes, and will include a short presentation and time for discussion / questions via Microsoft Teams. This training is for patient-facing clinical and non-clinical staff working in only Emergency Departments, Primary Care, and the Scottish Ambulance Service (i.e. reception staff included), throughout Scotland.</p> <p>A CPD certificate will be available for staff upon completion. Dates and times are as follows:</p> <p><u>FAST Education Dates</u> Thursday 29th May 11:00 Monday 9th June 13:00 Wednesday 25th June 10:00 Tuesday 22nd July 15:00</p>

Wednesday 6th August 19:00
Monday 25th August 13:00

Please can all attendees sign up via the following Microsoft Forms link. A Microsoft Teams invite will be sent out for the session nearer the date.

SIGN UP:

<https://forms.office.com/e/YiFrAbRwtv>

Please share this information with your clinical teams and encourage them to sign up. Please get in contact with me if you have any further questions.

Esther Pullen

esther.pullen@chss.org.uk

09/05/2025

**IMPORTANT
INFORMATI**

**Let's Chat Vac - GGC Mobile Vaccination Unit Dates (COVID-19)
APRIL - JUNE**



Mobile Service
West Dunbartonshi



Mobile Service East
Renfrewshire.pdf



Mobile Service
Renfrewshire.pdf



Mobile Services
Glasgow.pdf



Mobile Services
Inverdyde.pdf



Mobile Service East
Dunbartonshire.pdf

On behalf of the GGC Vaccination Communication Group

Our partners at the Scottish Ambulance Service are 'touring' Greater Glasgow and Clyde in the mobile vaccination units. This service increases the number of access points for patients in our communities to access their winter vaccinations.

It is with thanks to our partners across Greater Glasgow and Clyde in securing suitable car parks across a wide range of locations.

Sites in addition to NHS premises include Councils, Leisure Facilities, Third Sector Partners, Retail establishments and more! This vital partnership working, enables our continued delivery of the mobile vaccination service.

The Mobile Units are offering – Covid -19

Please find enclosed Mobile Vaccination Unit dates for April, May and June across GGC, please cascade/display posters relevant to your geographical area.

Please also note that Translated resources can be accessed as follows [Campaign assets](#) | [Public Health Scotland News](#).
Translated videos are hosted on [YouTube](#).

Pauline Atkinson
29/04/2025