



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
	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 www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2025-p-08.pdf 06/05/2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Early Warning System (EWS) Cascade
 EWS - All HSCPS - May 2025.pdf Attached	<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;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The message not being passed on to the next pharmacy; and • The pharmacy advising they did not receive the message. <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Michelle Cooper 06/05/2025</p>
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION	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>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Let's Chat Vac - GGC Mobile Vaccination Unit Dates (COVID-19) APRIL - JUNE
 <p>Mobile Service West Dunbartonshi</p>  <p>Mobile Service East Renfrewshire.pdf</p>	<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>

 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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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 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>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Utilisation of GP10a
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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.

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.

Pamela Macintyre
29/04/2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Smoking Cessation Training - Tuesday 20th May 2025

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. 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).

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.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Venue</u>
<u>Tuesday 20th May 2025</u>	<u>9:00 – 16:00</u>	<u>Beresford Suite 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 ggc.pharmacyhit@nhs.scot to confirm a place.

Anette Robb
Public Health Pharmacy
08/04/2025

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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