




Community Pharmacy Communication Update

Tuesday 16th September 2025




New Items in this edition –

- **Naltrexone 50mg Tablets**
- **My Diabetes, My Way**
- **NHSGGC Drug Harms Briefing: Possible Contamination of the Cocaine Supply**
- **Rifampicin and TB Medicine Shortages**
- **PGD Levonorgestrel V13**

ACTION	Naltrexone 50mg Tablets
	<p>There is a known shortage affecting naltrexone 50mg tablets. Currently the manufacturer of naltrexone 50mg tablets (AOP Orphan) has advised that this line remains available and can support the increased demand.</p> <p>Please note the use of AOP Orphan naltrexone 50mg tablets for alcohol dependence is off-label, patients can be advised about the shortage and that although the package insert relates only to use for opioid dependency, it is the same treatment that would be used for alcohol dependency.</p> <p>Stock of this line can fluctuate at the wholesalers. If a prescription for naltrexone 50mg tablets is received please attempt to obtain from multiple wholesalers where possible. If a wholesaler is out of stock, please ask when the next expected delivery of stock is expected at their depot.</p> <p>ADRS Central Pharmacy Team 16/09/2025</p>

ACTION	My Diabetes, My Way
 DRAFT_Pharmacy Bulletin 120925.docx	<p>Colleagues across Public Health are keen to raise the profile of the 'My Diabetes My Way' App for people with Type 2 Diabetes as well as ensuring that health care professionals who are likely to engage with people diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes are aware of the Control It Plus - Type 2 Diabetes lifestyle programme.</p>

Attached	<p>To help share this information across Pharmacy Services, including Community Pharmacy network, please see attached flyer that provides more information that can be used in discussions with patients.</p> <p>Elaine Paton 16/09/2025</p>
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ACTION	NHSGGC Drug Harms Briefing: Possible Contamination of the Cocaine Supply
 <p>NHSGGC Drug harms briefing - 12.1</p>  <p>Poster.pdf</p>  <p>Poster (print ready).pdf</p> <p>Attached</p>	<p>Please find attached a briefing note and poster that are being issued to services within Glasgow City.</p> <p>This is in response to the incident in the city centre on Monday (which was reported in the media) and reports of a few other similar incidents.</p> <p>Shannon Considine 16/09/2025</p>

ACTION	Supply Problem - Rifampicin and Other Tuberculosis (TB) Medicines
	<p>Background</p> <p>A National Patient Safety Alert (NatPSA-2025-004-MVA) confirms intermittently available stock, until at least the end of 2025, of the following drugs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Rifampicin (All formulations: 150 mg, 300 mg capsules; 600 mg IV; 100mg/ 5ml oral suspension) · Rifinah (rifampicin/ isoniazid) 300/ 150 mg tablets · Rifater (rifampicin/ isoniazid/ pyrazinamide) tablets · Voractiv (rifampicin/ isoniazid/ pyrazinamide/ ethambutol) tablets · Pyrazinamide 500 mg tablets <p>These shortages affect both inpatient and outpatient care.</p> <p>Prescribing</p>

	<p>Primary care clinicians should not prescribe rifampicin or other TB medicines until shortages are resolved. All prescriptions for TB medicines, or rifampicin for any indication should be supplied from hospital following Infection specialist/ Respiratory advice until the supply issues have been resolved.</p> <p>Ongoing Supply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · If the prescription was initiated in hospital or hospital outpatient clinic, please contact the consultant for the speciality which has prescribed or recommended the medicine. · If the prescription was initiated in Primary Care, please contact an infection specialist (Infectious Diseases/ Microbiology doctors) for review and advice around alternative treatments. · Ensure patients, initiating consultants and, where appropriate, Tuberculosis specialist nurses are made aware of any changes or disruptions to treatment regimens. <p>GGC Antimicrobials Team 16/09/2025</p>
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ACTION	PGD Levonorgestrel V13
	<p>The new, up-to-date PGD for Levonorgestrel is now available on the Community Pharmacy Development Team website.</p> <p>There is no need to return the form to CPDT but please sign and keep a copy for your own records.</p> <p>PGDs - Greater Glasgow and Clyde</p> <p>Please note the Emergency Contraception (EC) Proforma remains unchanged.</p> <p>The West of Scotland Sexual Health Managed Clinical Network and Sandyford both advise that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All clients should be offered Copper-IUD as first line choice • If Copper-IUD is declined or unsuitable then ulipristal is first line emergency hormonal contraception and should be supplied unless contraindicated (see SPC/flowchart) • Levonorgestrel is second line and can be supplied via PGD (see SPC/flowchart). <p>Lianne Hatch 16/09/2025</p>

Items from previous editions –

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Additional Pharmaceutical Services NHS Pharmacy First Scotland – Updated PGD's
<div data-bbox="150 412 204 474"></div> <div data-bbox="87 481 258 533">Fusidic acid PGD v3.0 2025.pdf</div> <div data-bbox="150 586 204 649"></div> <div data-bbox="71 656 274 707">Nitrofurantoin PGD v3.0 2025.pdf</div> <div data-bbox="143 721 199 784"></div> <div data-bbox="71 790 280 842">PFS Impetigo assessment form 2025.docx</div> <div data-bbox="150 855 204 918"></div> <div data-bbox="71 925 268 976">Trimethoprim PGD v3.0 2025.pdf</div> <div data-bbox="143 990 199 1052"></div> <div data-bbox="71 1059 280 1111">UTI PGD assessment form 2025.docx</div> <div data-bbox="113 1167 261 1205">Attached</div>	<p>Please find the Scottish Government Circular regarding NHS Pharmacy First Scotland Updated PGDs (link below):</p> <p>http://www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2025-p-20.pdf</p> <p>We have attached the three updated PGDs which support the national service.</p> <p>The PGDs and further supporting documentation, can be found at the following link:</p> <p>NHS Community Pharmacy Website (scot.nhs.uk)</p> <p>Lianne Hatch 09/09/2025</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Disallowed Items Report from the NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde Community Pharmacy Development Team.
	<p>We have been made aware that you have received a Disallowed Items Report from the NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde Community Pharmacy Development Team. Please be advised that this report should not be used at this time, as it does not currently provide meaningful reasons for claim rejections.</p> <p>We will add disallowed items reporting via your eschedule once NSS and CPS have confirmed that the rejection reasons generated are accurate and as expected, it is hoped that this will be made available no later than the end of calendar year 2025.</p> <p>Following the release of the above report, we have received a high volume of queries from contractors seeking clarification on rejected claims. Two items highlighted were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elastic Hosiery products currently held in the Scottish Drug tariff Part 4. Following current agreed Scottish Government legislation, these products must be prescribed and dispensed as outlined in Page 5 and not by the brands and manufacturers listed in the Notes to Contractors section. We

are in the final stages of negotiating with the Scottish Government to amend this legislation and will update further upon conclusion. In the meantime, PSD processes monthly adjustments for Elastic Hosiery rejections.

- Cyanocobalamin products, which is listed under the Selected List Scheme (SLS). As you may be aware, prescriptions for SLS items must be endorsed by the prescriber on both electronic and paper prescriptions. If the endorsement is missing, the claim will be rejected in accordance with legislation.

Earlier this year, both Community Pharmacy Scotland (CPS) and NSS were informed of an issue with electronic SLS endorsements not being applied correctly by the Optum (EMIS) practice system. Optum addressed this in their June 2025 drug and code update, and while we were advised in August that all EMIS sites had received the patch, we have since learned that not all practices have implemented the update.

There is no requirement to contact us individually. In the meantime, we are actively working with Optum to ensure the updated software is rolled out as soon as possible. Please continue to submit your claims as usual, but please note that the system will continue to reject these if not correctly endorsed.

We are aware that we will need to make retrospective adjustments to reimburse you for these items. However, we cannot provide a date for when these will be done at present. PSD has started to analyse Cyanocobalamin claims from March 2025 to June 2025 dispensing months in the first instance. These will then need to be quality assured before passed to the Adjustment Team for processing. Monthly analysis will then continue from July 2025 until we have received confirmation all Optum practices have deployed the upgrade.





We are also aware that other items are being rejected and may be contained in this report. PSD is currently in the process of analysing and making monthly adjustments for various rejected items, e.g. Pharmacy First and the Elastic Hosiery rejections mentioned above. We are working on a plan to provide further information on these as soon as possible. The reimbursement for these items will be handled through a coordinated process.

Catherine Scoular
09/09/2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Pharmaceutical Waste Queries
	<p>We've recently seen a noticeable increase in the number of emails sent to the CPDT generic mailbox regarding waste uplifts—whether to confirm the next scheduled uplift or to request an ad hoc collection.</p> <p>Due to current staffing levels within the CPDT, our response times are unfortunately longer than we would like. We sincerely apologise for any delays and appreciate your patience. Regrettably, we do not anticipate an improvement in staffing before the end of this calendar year.</p> <p>To help address the most common queries, please see the guidance below:</p> <p>Frequency of Uplifts All pharmacies in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde are on either a 12-week or 8-week uplift schedule. If you're unsure of your pharmacy's schedule, you can check by entering your contractor code into cell F7 of the spreadsheet available [here].</p> <p>Ad Hoc Uplift Requests Ad hoc uplifts will generally not be arranged if your next scheduled uplift is due within the next 4 weeks. If an uplift is essential—for example, due to health and safety concerns—please make this clear in your request.</p> <p>Bin Allocation Each pharmacy has an agreed allocation of bins. Due to vehicle capacity, Tradebe can uplift and replace up to 10 bins per visit. If you have more than 10 bins, additional visits will be required.</p> <p>Out-of-Date Stock The Tradebe contract covers patient-returned waste only. If you need to dispose of out-of-date stock, this must be arranged privately.</p> <p>Sharps Disposal Sharps uplifted under Board contracts are limited to those from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Injecting Equipment Provider (IEP) Service • The annual Flu programme <p>These services have separate uplift arrangements and are not part of the patient-returned waste service.</p>

	<p>Community pharmacies do not have a Board-approved route for accepting general sharps waste from patients.</p> <p>Patients should be directed to the originator of the sharps—typically their GP or out-patient department.</p> <p>Email Follow-Ups If you need to follow up on a previous message, please include a note in the subject line such as “2nd Email” or “Chasing Response”. This helps us triage and prioritise messages more effectively.</p> <p>Thank you again for your understanding and cooperation during this period. We remain committed to supporting you as best we can.</p> <p>Janine Glen 09/09/2025</p>
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Using Health Literacy Tools in Your Consultations
	<p>Please see link below some useful Health Literacy information including tools that can be accessed on NHS Inform to help support your patient consultations.</p> <p>https://sway.cloud.microsoft/nuoK7SaS4rcqiilN?ref=Link</p> <p>Janice Blair 02/09/2025</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	ACTION REQUIRED: PLEASE READ - National PGD for Urgent Provision of Medicines, Appliances and ACBS Products - Version 32
 Authorisation Form V32.pdf  Direct Referral.pdf  PGD V32.pdf  PGD Medicines V32 A-Z.pdf	<p>We have been asked by NHS 24 to advise you that the National PGD for Urgent Provision of Current Prescribed Medicines, Appliances and ACBS products has been updated to version 32. This is now ONLY available electronically via the NHS Scotland Community Pharmacy internet site:</p> <p>GGC’s local page: Patient Group Directions (PGDs) – NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde (scot.nhs.uk)</p> <p>This PGD must be read, agreed to, and signed by all pharmacists involved in its use. For an overview and explanation of the changes please review the “What’s New” section attached.</p> <p>Please note:</p>



What's New
V32.pdf

Attached

- Pharmacists no longer need to submit a paper copy of their signed PGD to **NHSGGC**; the signed PGD should be logged via our Electronic form: <https://forms.office.com/e/41mAByUe1X>
- A copy of the individual signing sheet should be completed and kept for the pharmacists' own information.
- All pharmacists, managers, relief managers and locum pharmacists must sign this form for any supply they make on a UCF/CP4 form under the PGD to be legal.
- Pharmacists who work across several health boards should complete their individual signing sheet, tick the boards they work for, and follow the submission/return process on P2 of the Authorisation Form V32.

Lianne Hatch
02/09/2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

PCA (P)(2025) 19 - Pharmaceutical Services Amendments to The Drug Tariff Part 11 Discount Clawback Scale

Please find link below for NHS Circular PCA(P)(2025) 19 - Pharmaceutical Services Amendments to The Drug Tariff Part 11 Discount Clawback Scale

www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2025-p-19.pdf

02/09/2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

FAST Education - New dates



Fast Education
Poster.pdf

Attached

Please see attached offer of training run by Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland on the FAST tool for identifying a stroke.

The dates and information are noted below and a poster is attached which can be displayed in staff areas.

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.

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

Wednesday 24th September 14:00

Tuesday 7th October 10:00

Thursday 23rd October 12:00

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**

Smoking Cessation Training – Wednesday 17th September 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.

We presently have some places available for the event on 17th September 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 17th September 2025	9:00 – 16:00	Clydebank Health Centre

Please contact us ASAP by phone on 0141 201 4945, or by e-mail ggc.pharmacyhit@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

29/07/2025

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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: ggc.newpharmacy.applications@nhs.scot