



Community Pharmacy Communication Update

Tuesday 23rd September 2025

New Items in this edition –


- **SVIP2102 - Closure of TRAVAX and Fit for Travel Websites**




ACTION	SVIP2102 - Closure of TRAVAX and Fit for Travel Websites
	<p>Public Health Scotland will be closing both the TRAVAX and Fit for Travel websites on 22 September 2025.</p> <p>As part of this process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All active TRAVAX subscriptions will be refunded in full. Refunds will be processed automatically, and confirmation will be sent once complete. • The Fit for Travel website will no longer be accessible after this date. <p>We recognise that these resources have been widely used and highly valued by travel health professionals for many years. To support continuity of practice, we encourage you to access Travel Health Pro, which provides comprehensive, evidence-based travel health guidance, vaccine recommendations, country information, and clinical updates.</p> <p>Travel health advice for professionals is now available from Travel Health Pro, which provides comprehensive, evidence-based travel health guidance, vaccine recommendations, country information, and clinical updates.</p> <p>Further information specific to Yellow Fever will follow in due course.</p> <p>A social media campaign will advise Members of the public of the change and direct the public to visit the NHS inform – Travel health and vaccinations page, which includes links to local travel health clinics and TravelHealthPro for further information.</p> <p>We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and engagement with TRAVAX and Fit for Travel. Your role in safeguarding the health of travellers is vital, and we are confident that Travel Health Pro will meet your professional needs going forward.</p>

If you have any questions regarding your subscription or the closure of these services, please contact us at phs.vaccination@phs.scot

John McBride
23/09/2025

Items from previous editions –

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	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>
IMPORTANT INFORMATION	My Diabetes, My Way
 <p>DRAFT_Pharmacy Bulletin 120925.docx</p> <p>Attached</p>	<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> <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>





IMPORTANT INFORMATION	NHSGGC Drug Harms Briefing: Possible Contamination of the Cocaine Supply
<div data-bbox="183 291 236 353"></div> <div data-bbox="105 360 314 412">NHSGGC Drug harms briefing - 12.0</div> <div data-bbox="183 423 236 486"></div> <div data-bbox="153 492 261 517">Poster.pdf</div> <div data-bbox="150 555 202 618"></div> <div data-bbox="108 624 237 676">Poster (print ready).pdf</div> <div data-bbox="92 689 240 725">Attached</div>	<p data-bbox="375 250 1513 331">Please find attached a briefing note and poster that are being issued to services within Glasgow City.</p> <p data-bbox="375 378 1533 501">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 data-bbox="375 580 703 660">Shannon Considine 16/09/2025</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Supply Problem - Rifampicin and Other Tuberculosis (TB) Medicines
	<p data-bbox="375 1021 595 1059">Background</p> <p data-bbox="375 1102 1469 1225">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 data-bbox="375 1267 1506 1668" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="375 1267 1506 1348">· Rifampicin (All formulations: 150 mg, 300 mg capsules; 600 mg IV; 100mg/ 5ml oral suspension)<li data-bbox="375 1391 1217 1429">· Rifinah (rifampicin/ isoniazid) 300/ 150 mg tablets<li data-bbox="375 1471 1236 1509">· Rifater (rifampicin/ isoniazid/ pyrazinamide) tablets<li data-bbox="375 1552 1469 1590">· Voractiv (rifampicin/ isoniazid/ pyrazinamide/ ethambutol) tablets<li data-bbox="375 1632 882 1671">· Pyrazinamide 500 mg tablets <p data-bbox="375 1713 1334 1751">These shortages affect both inpatient and outpatient care.</p> <p data-bbox="375 1794 582 1832">Prescribing</p> <p data-bbox="375 1874 1474 2083">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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IMPORTANT INFORMATION	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>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Additional Pharmaceutical Services NHS Pharmacy First Scotland – Updated PGD’s
 <p>Fusidic acid PGD v3.0 2025.pdf</p>	<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>

 Nitrofurantoin PGD v3.0 2025.pdf  PFS Impetigo assessment form 2025.docx  Trimethoprim PGD v3.0 2025.pdf  UTI PGD assessment form 2025.docx <p>Attached</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>
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<p>IMPORTANT INFORMATION</p>	<p>Disallowed Items Report from the NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde Community Pharmacy Development Team.</p>
	<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.

	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Catherine Scoular 09/09/2025</p>
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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>

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 [\[here\]](#).

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.

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.

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.

Sharps Disposal

Sharps uplifted under Board contracts are limited to those from:

- The Injecting Equipment Provider (IEP) Service
- The annual Flu programme

These services have separate uplift arrangements and are not part of the patient-returned waste service.

Community pharmacies do not have a Board-approved route for accepting general sharps waste from patients.

Patients should be directed to the originator of the sharps—typically their GP or out-patient department.


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.

Thank you again for your understanding and cooperation during this period. We remain committed to supporting you as best we can.

Janine Glen
09/09/2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	FAST Education - New dates
<div data-bbox="181 280 236 344"></div> <div data-bbox="132 353 284 405" data-label="Text"> <p>Fast Education Poster.pdf</p> </div> <div data-bbox="132 416 284 454" data-label="Text"> <p>Attached</p> </div>	<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> Wednesday 24th September 14:00 Tuesday 7th October 10:00 Thursday 23rd October 12:00</p> <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.</p> <p>SIGN UP: https://forms.office.com/e/YiFrAbRwtv</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Esther Pullen esther.pullen@chss.org.uk</p> <p>09/05/2025</p>

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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