




Community Pharmacy Communication Update

Tuesday 24th March 2026

New Items in this edition –

- **PHS Alert 2026/10 – Outbreak of Invasive Meningococcal Disease in Kent, England**
- **Mobile Van Locations Week Beginning 23/03/2026**
- **Our Future Health - Consent & Questionnaire invite**
- **Apremilast: Update**

ACTION	PHS Alert 2026/10 – Outbreak of Invasive Meningococcal Disease in Kent, England	
 PHS Health Protection Alert.pdf Attached	Please find attached a PHS alert which is being issued regarding an outbreak of invasive meningococcal disease in Kent, England.	
	Information	Description
	Heading	Outbreak of Invasive Meningococcal Disease in Kent, England
	Source	PHS Alert - 2026/10
	Summary	Information on the outbreak of invasive meningococcal disease in Kent, England and public health response to date. Includes recommendations for stakeholders in Scotland including clinicians, laboratory colleagues and Health Protection Teams.
	Timescale	To remain on HPZone until 23:59 on 30 th April 2026
	Reference	Full briefing at SHPIR - Public health alerts (scot.nhs.uk)
	HPZone context	Meningococcal/Kent, England
Public Health 24/03/2026		

ACTION	Mobile Van Locations Week Beginning 23/03/2026
	Hello and welcome to the weekly roundup from the Mobile Harm Reduction Service.

We've had a great week providing WAND and support to people out in the community and would like to give you a wee update on areas we'll be visiting next week.

We now have 3 vans, meaning we can provide WAND interventions at several places at once, and respond more quickly to requests over the phone.

Wednesday 25th March

Van 1

09.30 to 16.00 - Trongate Pharmacy (City Centre)

Van 2

09.30 to 12.30 - Bob McTaggart (Cowcaddens)

13.00 to 16.00 - Springburn

Thursday 26th March

Van 1

09.30 to 16.00 - Trongate Pharmacy (City Centre)

Van 2

09.30 to 12.30 - Queens Park Hotel

13.00 to 16.00 - Maryhill

Friday 27th March

Van 1

11.00 to 15.30 - Trongate Pharmacy (City Centre)

If you know anyone who would benefit from our service you can call the office on 0141 280 3834 to arrange a suitable day and time. For more service info or an electronic copy of our fliers please email:

mhrsinfo@turningpointscotland.com

Turning Point Scotland


24/03/2026


ACTION	Our Future Health - Consent & Questionnaire invite
	<p>From mid-March we will be sending postal invitations across Scotland to encourage people to consent to join the Our Future Health programme and complete their health and lifestyle questionnaire.</p> <p>This questionnaire provides a range of valuable information on the wider determinants of health, such as self-reported health information, and details about participants' household, socioeconomic status, work and education history, and family history. Many researchers are already using this data to study the causes and risks of common diseases and mental health conditions.</p>

	<p>The goal is to increase the number of consented volunteers and completed baseline questionnaires to continue to build our cohort and provide the Scottish public the opportunity to join the programme ahead of new clinics opening in the future.</p> <p>If anyone would like further information please contact Kate Inglis, Scotland Stakeholder Manager kathleen.feeney@ourfuturehealth.org.uk.</p> <p>Kate Inglis Scotland Stakeholder Manager 24/03/2026</p>
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ACTION	Apremilast: Update
	<p>To provide clarification on the apremilast communication issued last week, this was a notice of intent that the product was being repatriated in line with a national recommendation from National Procurement. We would like to apologise this was not made clear in this communication. Patients are currently being identified and the process will take place over the next 6 to 8 weeks to allow community pharmacies time to run down stock.</p>

Items from previous editions –

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Communication from NSS – Immediate Action Required: Do not send CP4 paper forms to NSS for Scanning
 Community Pharmacist CP4 Form Attached	<p>Please see attached communication from NSS.</p> <p>Catherine Scoular 17/03/2026</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	PHS Health Protection Alert Measles Situational Update 2026
 PHS HPA - Measles Situational Update 20 Attached	<p>PHS Alert: Measles</p> <p>Public Health Scotland published the attached update on the emerging increase in measles reported recently in England. At time of issue, there has been no increased outbreak in Scotland but healthcare professionals are being asked to be more vigilant with anyone presenting with a rash.</p>

Community pharmacists and their teams are asked to be aware of this should anyone present with a rash for NHS Pharmacy First Scotland if there is any doubt or worry that it may be measles, please refer the patient to their GP for further advice.

Elaine Paton
17/03/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Spanish Prescription for Diazepam Tablets 5mg

The CD Governance Team have had a report from pharmacies who have received a private Spanish prescription for Diazepam Tablets 5mg.

This has been reported to the police by one of the pharmacies. The prescription was for 63 tablets. A few date ranges have been supplied, so there appears to be a number of different prescription forms in circulation.

As with all private prescriptions (or any prescription for that matter) we would ask that due diligence is given to ensuring the prescriber details and the authenticity of any prescription are checked.

Mantej Chahal
17/03/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Invite: Sleepio Evening Learning Event 30.04.26



Sleepio Evening Learning Event.doc

Attached

Please see attached invite to Evening Learning Event.

17/03/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Lets Chat Vac- MVU Posters



23032026_The Forge Shopping Centre.docx



24032026_Barrhead Foundry.docx

On behalf of the GGC Vaccination Communication Group, please find attached MVU Posters for upcoming dates.

17/03/2026
Nicola Cole



25032026_Neilston
Leisure Centre.docx



26032026_Asda
Govan.docx

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Apremilast (Otezla®)

Apremilast (Otezla) came off patent in January 2026, resulting in a significant reduction in the cost of generic products. To ensure cost efficiencies, strengthen medicines governance, and improve oversight of patient care, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde (NHSGGC) will repatriate prescribing from GP practices and dispensing from community pharmacies to secondary care via NHSGGC Homecare Services.

Key Points for Community Pharmacy Teams

- Please continue to dispense existing Apremilast prescriptions where these are presented by patients.
- Ensure careful management of any remaining stock, noting this remains a high-cost medicine.
- Patients who are repatriated to the new pathway will receive their medication via home delivery. Secondary care pharmacy teams will support this transition and provide further information to patients as required.
- If a patient currently receives Apremilast within a compliance aid, please consider whether the patient would be able to manage this medicine outside of the compliance aid. If this is not appropriate, please contact the Community Pharmacy Development Team for advice, providing the patient's CHI number so the specialist service can review and advise on the most appropriate arrangement.

Specialist pharmacists will continue to work with clinical services to ensure robust processes are in place for both new initiations and ongoing repeat prescribing.

If you have any questions, please contact CPDT.

Thank you for your cooperation and support during this transition.

Lesley-Anne Tait

17/03/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	LearnPro Community – Access Changes
	<p>Please note that from 31 March 2026, Community Pharmacies will no longer have access to all LearnPro Community modules.</p> <p>This includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cold Chain Audit • Naloxone module <p>These modules are expected to become available on the NES platform in the near future. Further updates will be shared once access details are confirmed.</p> <p>Michelle Cooper 17/03/2026</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	GGC Medicines Update
	<p>GGC Medicines Update is a series of blogs with important medicines related messages relevant to all healthcare professionals across GGC. Please see below for new blogs and relevant updates.</p> <p>New blogs Click on the following links to access the recently published Medicines Update blogs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covert Medication Pathway for Adults in NHSGGC Acute Care <p>Updated blogs Click on the following links to access the recently updated Medicines Update blogs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital Medicines Added to GP Practice Prescription Record • Delirium: Medication Review in Acute <p>Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHRA Safety Roundup January 2026 • Guideline News January 2026 • MHRA Safety Roundup February 2026 • Formulary Update February 2026

- [Guideline News February 2026](#)

Did you know that March 11th 2026 is [World Delirium Awareness Day](#)? This annual event shines a light on delirium and its impact on patients, families, and healthcare teams. Please see our relevant [covert medication](#) and [delirium](#) blogs above.

Medicines Update blogs are correct at the time of publication. Click [here](#) for further information on Medicines Update.

If you would like to contribute to Medicines Update, please click [here](#) for a guide to blog writing.

Medicines Update blogs are hosted on the [GGC Medicines website](#) and app. The search function on the website can be used to find specific blogs.

Anyone can join our mailing list by contacting us at ggc.medicines.update@nhs.scot

If you find these blogs useful, please share them with your colleagues.

10/03/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

FAST Education - new dates



Fast Education Dates.pdf

Attached

Please see attached offer of further training dates 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

Friday 3rd April 10:00

Tuesday 14th April 15:00

Wednesday 6th May 15:00

Tuesday 19th May 9:00

Wednesday 3rd June 15:00

Thursday 25th June 10:00

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

10/03/2026

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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