

Community Pharmacy Communication Update



Tuesday 3rd February 2026

New Items in this edition –

- **Fraudulent Private Prescriptions for Codeine Linctus**
- **Action Required: COPD PGD Renewal**
- **Prescribing Support Dieticians**
- **Pharmacy Opening Hours – Public Holiday 2026/2027**
- **PrescQIPP Resources Available to Community Pharmacy Teams**
- **PCA (P) 2026 – 03 - Extension to Serious Shortage Protocols for Estradot® Patches and Creon® 10000 Gastro-Resistant Capsules**

ACTION	Fraudulent Private Prescriptions for Codeine Linctus		
	<p>There have been recent reports in England of fraudulent private prescriptions being presented for Codeine Linctus. Please remain vigilant for suspected fraudulent private prescriptions for this and other medicines with abuse potential.</p> <p>We would be grateful if you could highlight to us if any prescriptions of this nature are presented to you.</p> <p>As with all private prescriptions (or any prescription for that matter) we would ask that all due diligence is given to ensuring the prescriber details and the authenticity of any prescription are checked before a professional and clinical decision is made as to whether supply is appropriate. This may include checking that a private prescriber is appropriately registered and consider contacting the issuing clinic directly to confirm that a prescription is genuine. Be aware that contact details printed on a fraudulent prescription, including telephone numbers, may also be false, so verify these independently using reliable sources.</p> <div data-bbox="319 1776 1378 2106" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> Community pharmacies <p>To report a CD incident, please use the form HERE or use the QR code below:</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div> </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> <p>To request a CD destruction visit, please click HERE or use the QR code below:</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div> </td> </tr> </table> </div> <p>Controlled Drugs Governance Team</p>	Community pharmacies <p>To report a CD incident, please use the form HERE or use the QR code below:</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>	<p>To request a CD destruction visit, please click HERE or use the QR code below:</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>
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ACTION	ACTION REQUIRED: COPD PGD RENEWAL
 Amoxicillin.pdf  Doxycycline.pdf  Prednisolone.pdf	<p>Please find attached new versions of the three PGDs which support the local service relating to the exacerbation of COPD.</p> <p>The previous versions of the PGDs expired at the end of January 2026.</p> <p>As previously, please sign and record your acceptance of the professional responsibilities associated with the PGDs here: PGDs - Greater Glasgow and Clyde (office.com)</p> <p>The SLA which supports this service expires at the end of March 2026. This is currently being reviewed and an updated SLA will be distributed to the community pharmacy network before the expiry date.</p> <p>All information on the COPD service can be accessed here.</p> <p>Community Pharmacy Development Team 03/02/2026</p>

ACTION	Prescribing Support Dieticians
	<p>Important Information- This week it is feeding tube feeding awareness week. #FeedingTubeAwarenessWeek</p> <p>Tube feeding is required when a patient is unable to meet their nutritional requirements orally therefore have had a tube inserted either via their nose, stomach or jejunum. Patients in NHSGGC who are fed via this method are registered with the contracted company Nutricia who then supply and deliver their feed and ancillaries directly to their door. Community pharmacies should never be requested to dispense tube feed products which generally come in 500,1000 or 1500ml containers. Some community pharmacies have dispensed these products in the past year which would have been done in good faith but should not be happening.</p> <p>Action required by community pharmacies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you receive a prescription for these products in the future please return this to the GP ASAP as it has probably been sent in error. These prescriptions require to be sent by the GP to Nutricia

in England on a monthly basis to allow the timely delivery of the products required by the patients.

For anymore information or queries please contact the prescribing support Dietitians by email gpc.prescribingsupportdieticians@nhs.scot or on 0141-201-6012.

Hannah Duncan
Wendy McGaugie
03/02/2026

ACTION

Pharmacy Opening Hours – Public Holiday 2026/2027

Public holidays for 2026/2027 have now been agreed by the NHS GGC Area Partnership Forum and CP GGC. The full list is available on our website:

<https://www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk/nhs-boards/nhs-greater-glasgow-clyde/public-holidays/>

To support planning for pharmaceutical service provision across public holidays, we are collecting opening information from all contractors. This year, the process has been streamlined through a new Microsoft Form to simplify submissions and reduce duplication.

Please complete the relevant form, even if you are closing:

- **Independent pharmacies:** *Public Holiday Opening 2026/2027 – Independent Pharmacy NHS GGC* – [Public Holiday Opening 2026/2027 – Independent Pharmacy NHS GGC – Fill in form](#)
- **Multiples (Boots, Well, Rowlands, M&D Green, or others using central submission):** *Public Holiday Opening – Multiples Contractors (NHS GGC)* – [Public Holiday Opening – Multiples Contractors \(NHS GGC\) – Fill in form](#)

Deadline: Friday 20 February 2026

A draft list will be circulated before each holiday for contractors to review and request any changes.

For help or queries, please contact Lianne Hatch at the Community Pharmacy Development Team at gpc.cpdevteam@nhs.scot.

We welcome any feedback you may have as we introduce this new process. Your insights help us ensure the system works effectively for everyone and allows us to identify any areas that may need refinement.

	<p>Please feel free to share any comments, suggestions, or concerns. Your input is invaluable in helping us continue to improve and provide the best possible support.</p> <p>Thank you for your cooperation.</p> <p>Lianne Hatch 03/02/2026</p>
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ACTION	PrescQIPP Resources Available to Community Pharmacy Teams
 PrescQIPP.pdf Attached	<p>Just a quick reminder that community pharmacy teams across NHSGGC have access to our PrescQIPP subscription, which provides a range of practical resources to support everyday practice.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bite-sized learning and CPD webinars • medicines safety and optimisation guidance • implementation tools and briefings • prescribing and cost-effective use information that supports conversations with GP practices <p>We share this information periodically to help ensure new team members are aware of the access available.</p> <p>If you're not yet registered, details on how to sign up are included in the attached flyer.</p> <p>Kathryn Chisholm 03/02/2026</p>

ACTION	PCA (P) 2026 – 03 - Extension to Serious Shortage Protocols for Estradot® Patches and Creon® 10000 Gastro-Resistant Capsules
	<p>Please see link below for PCA(P) 2026 – 03 - Extension To Serious Shortage Protocols For Estradot® Patches And Creon® 10000 Gastro-Resistant Capsules</p> <p>www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca-p-2026-03.pdf</p> <p>03/02/2026</p>

Items from previous editions –

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	ACTION REQUIRED – Pharmacy Pilot Study for Strep A
 S2T3 IP participant info FINAL.pdf  Pharmacy_Pilot_Study_Checklist GGC Fe Attached	<p><u>Feasibility study for community pharmacies and independent pharmacist prescribers using point of care testing to aid the management of sore throat.</u></p> <p>We are recruiting for expressions of interest from Independent Prescribers (IP) working in community pharmacies in the Greater Glasgow and Clyde (GGC) area for paid participation in a 16 week feasibility study for Group A Streptococcal Point of Care Testing for sore throat management.</p> <p>Please find attached information regarding the pilot project.</p> <p>We require 6 pharmacies to participate. The participant criteria are detailed in the pdf. If you are interested please complete the eligibility checklist and return to Lorna Brown by <u>31st January 2026</u>.</p> <p>If we receive in excess of 6 notes of interest, we will apply criteria such as volume of antibiotic prescribing in sore throats and look for a range of pharmacies across the HSCP areas.</p> <p>Rachel Bruce 27/01/2026</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	MCR Registration Process
 MCR_Registration_T raining_Guid.docx Attached	<p>I wanted to take a moment to thank everyone for your ongoing dedication and for reaching out with questions regarding the stage 1 medication reviews. Your commitment to delivering excellent service is greatly appreciated, and together we can ensure a smooth and consistent MCR registration process for our patients.</p> <p>To clarify the procedure and support you further, here are the essential steps for registering a patient for MCR and ensuring the review counts towards your payment from the MCR dispensing pool:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Any patient is eligible for a stage 1 medication review, but to be included in the MCR dispensing pool, the patient must be registered for MCR. - Before registration, please always seek the patient's consent to participate in the service. - Where possible, obtain the patient's signature on the registration form, as this helps prevent any anomalies being flagged at NSS. - Register the patient in the PMR system following the attached guide, which outlines each step in detail.

For your reference, I have attached a guide that explains the MCR registration process, including helpful definitions for technical terms such as MCR (Medicines: Care and Review), SRx (Serial Prescription), and PMR (Patient Medication Record), which may be useful for newer team members.

If you require a password reset to associate on to the Pharmacy Care Record, please call 0131 275 6600. If you require support using the reports or creating a patient record in PCR, please log a call in service now and we are happy to help.

Catherine Scouler
27/01/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

GGC Medicines Update

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.

New blogs

Click on the following links to access the recently published Medicines Update blogs.

- [Safe prescribing and supply of medicines in patients with a peanut or soya allergy](#)

Updates

- [MHRA Safety Roundup December 2025](#)
- [Guideline News December 2025](#)

Information for NHSGGC Staff - Subscribing to GGC Medicines Update

Due to the NHSGGC transition from @ggc.scot.nhs.uk to @nhs.scot email addresses, some people who were previously subscribed to these updates may have stopped receiving them. If this has happened to you and you would still like to receive updates directly, please get in touch with us at ggc.medicines.update@nhs.scot.

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 gqc.medicines.update@nhs.scot

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

27/01/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Public Holidays 2026/2027		
	Please find below a list of the public holidays which have been agreed between NHS GGC Pharmacy Services and CP GGC which will be observed by the community pharmacy network during 2026/2027.		
2026	GREATER GLASGOW & CLYDE	INVERCLYDE	RENFREWSHIRE
Easter Monday	6th April	6th April	6th April
May Day Monday	4th May	4th May	4th May
May Monday	25th May	25th May	25th May
Fair Monday	20th July	6th July	3rd August
Autumn Monday	28th September	28th September	28th September
Christmas Day	25th December	25th December	25th December
Boxing Day	28th December	28th December	28th December
2027			
New Year	1st January	1st January	1st January
New Year	4th January	4th January	4th January
<p>We are aware that First Minister John Swinney has proposed Monday 15th June as an additional public holiday for Scotland in 2026. As this has not yet been confirmed, any updates will be communicated in due course.</p> <p>As in previous years, the Community Pharmacy Development Team will undertake a scoping exercise to gauge likely coverage across the community pharmacy network. This exercise will commence at the end of January 2026. Your co-operation will be appreciated.</p>			

	Lianne Hatch 27/01/2026
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION**Lets Chat Vac- Vaccines for Young People in 2026**


Vaccination
Communication Res
Attached

On behalf of the GGC Vaccination Communication Group

LET'S CHAT VAC

Hi all, please find enclosed

- PHS Vaccines for Young People 2026 update.
- Updated Vaccination communication document.

What can you do to support?

- If you could share these resources with your networks, HSCP/Council communication colleagues and workforce this would be appreciated.

Nicola Coe
27/01/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION**FSS-PRIN-003-2026 Danone Recalls Aptamil First Infant Formula because Cereulide (Toxin) has Been Found in this Batch**


FSS-PRIN-003-2026
Danone recalls Aptam
Attached

Please see attached copy of a consumer product recall for Danone Aptamil First Infant Formula because cereulide (toxin) has been found in this batch.

Note this is a new alert concerning a Danone product and not an update on the previous Nestle infant formula recalls.

All sites should check stockholding and action in accordance with the instructions within the alert.

Public Health
27/01/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION**Pre-Reg Pharmacy Technician**

Due to the increasing workforce pressures, particularly the impact of the emerging GP Practice Pharmacotherapy Services, NHS GGC has plans to increase the number of pharmacy technicians working in GP practices and in order to do this we plan to recruit and train pre-

registration pharmacy technicians that will be employed on a two year fixed contract by the HSCPs.

Community pharmacy has a very key role to play in the delivery of pharmacotherapy services and we would like to strengthen the already established links between community pharmacies and their local GP practices.

Within GGC we will be recruiting **three** pre-registration pharmacy technician who we expect, following a 2 year pre-registration training course, to be GPhC registered by 2028.

We are keen that these pre-registration pharmacy technicians have experiential learning delivered in more than one sector of pharmacy, in-fact it is not possible to obtain the required competencies for GPhC registration wholly in primary care. Our model is that the pre-registration pharmacy technician works 2 days per week in a local community pharmacy and 2 days per week in a local GP practice/Hub setting. Day 5 is spent on undertaking college learning/assessments.

At this stage we are aiming to establish any interest from community pharmacies who would be able to provide up to 24 months of experiential learning for a pre-registration pharmacy technician.

In this April 2026 cohort we have a post within each of these HSCPs **Glasgow North West HSCP, Glasgow North East HSCP and Renfrewshire HSCPs**

If you feel that you would be able to support a pre-registration pharmacy student in this way could you please contact myself on 01389 828293 or by email to **Lynne.meldrum2@nhs.scot** by Friday 27th of February 2026. We anticipate the placement to commence in May 2026.

Lynne Meldrum
27/01/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	PCA(P) 2026 – 02 Withdrawal of The Serious Shortage Protocols for Adipine® XI Modified-Release Tablets And Fixapost® Eye Drops
	<p>Please see link below PCA(P) 2026 – 02 Withdrawal of The Serious Shortage Protocols for Adipine® XI Modified-Release Tablets And Fixapost® Eye Drops</p> <p>www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca-p-2026-02.pdf</p> <p>27/01/2026</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Waste Materials Impact Review and Design Hopes Visit
	<p>This anonymous survey seeks to identify how your pharmacy used the NHSGGC medicines waste resources recently distributed. We also welcome your ideas on how else you think community pharmacy can help us reduce medicines waste.</p> <p>https://forms.office.com/e/ictC4yXqx4</p> <p>Anne Thomson 16/12/2025</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Invite to Participate in a Training Pilot for DPPs
	<p>DPP Development Programme 2026:</p> <p>In 2025 NHS GGC developed an exciting pilot to help support potential CPIPs undertake the DPP role. It consisted of one online session and one face to face session that had a focus on giving feedback and navigating the types of SLE available to use. Following positive feedback, we are looking to offer this to potential DPPs in 2026.</p> <p>If you are interested in being a DPP but are cautious or have been asked to undertake the DPP role in the next 12 months but would like to prepare? Why not participate in the second phase of our pilot. (you can also write them up as CPD for GPhC revalidation)</p> <p>Please complete the questionnaire below. We are looking to recruit approximately 10 participants from NHS GGC:</p> <p>https://forms.office.com/Pages/DesignPageV2.aspx?subpage=design&FormId=veDvEDCgykuAnLXmdF5JmlyF8x3kEpEqwXaUODbCVVUREk3Tk1GMzFQVFg0SUIBMkRGWjVOWIA3WS4</p> <p>If you are unable to open/complete the online form, please contact Lorna.Brown8@nhs.scot.</p> <p>If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Rachel Bruce.</p> <p>Lorna Brown 20/01/2026</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	<p>Research Participation Opportunity: "You Can Prescribe — Now What?"</p>
	<p>As you are a newly qualified pharmacist independent prescriber (PIP)? We want to hear about your journey.</p> <p>This short questionnaire invites you to share your experiences, challenges, and ideas for future support and development in your prescribing role. Your insights will help shape how new PIPs can be supported. Please review the participant information sheet (attached). The questionnaire can be found here</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⌚ Time commitment: ~10 minutes ❖ Purpose: Influence future support pathways and contribute to service development. ✓ Bonus: Participation can be used as evidence in your professional portfolio, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RPS Post-Registration Foundation Curriculum – Outcome 5.1 RPS Core Advanced Curriculum – Outcome 5.4 <p>Your voice matters — help shape the future of prescribing practice.</p> <p>If you need any more information please contact either me (Josh Miller (Josh.Miller@nhs.scot) or my MPhil supervisor Prof Anne Boyter (anne.boyter@stath.ac.uk). Thank You</p> <p>Joshua Miller 20/01/2026</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	<p>PCA (P) 2026 – 01 Extension to Serious Shortage Protocols for Creon® Gastro-Resistant Capsules</p>
	<p>Please find attached NHS circular “PCA(P)(2026) 01 - Extension to Serious Shortage Protocols for Creon® gastro-resistant capsules” advising that the two UK-wide Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) for Creon® gastro-resistant capsules both due to expire on 16 January 2026 have been extended.</p> <p>20/01/2026</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	<p>Smoking Cessation Training – Change of Date</p>
	<p><u>Smoking Cessation Training</u> <u>New Date - Wednesday 11th February 2026</u> <u>Clydebank Health Centre</u></p>

Queens Quay, Main Avenue, Clydebank. G81

Unfortunately, we have **cancelled** Quit your Way training due to be held **Wednesday 14th January**.

The **next** training date will be **Wednesday 11th February**. We presently have some places available for this.

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 – 9am - 4:00pm (approx).

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.

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

Places will be allocated on a first-come basis and will be confirmed in writing. Lunch will be provided.

Please inform us if you do not require lunch. Parking is available on a first come basis.

Annette Robb
06/01/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	FAST Education – Further Dates
 FAST Education Poster.pdf Attached	<p>Please see attached offer of further training dates 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</p>

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 5th February 11:00

Wednesday 18th February 15:00

Friday 6th March 10:00

Wednesday 18th March 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

06/01/2026

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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