NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Community Pharmacy Communication Update

Tuesday 3rd November 2026



New items in this edition-

- **GGC Medicine Update**
- **World Diabetes day is 14th November**
- **Mental Health in the Community - Networking Session & More**
- **Mobile Van Locations Week Beginning 2nd November 2026**

ACTION	GGC Medicine 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. • Ironing Out Anaemia: Updated Guidance and Important Reminders for IDA Treatment in Adults • **Updated blogs** Click on the following links to access the recently updated Medicines Update blogs. • Ironing Out the Diagnosis: Making Sense of Iron Studies in IDA in Adults • **Updates** • Guideline News September 2026 • Formulary Update October 2026 • MHRA Safety Roundup October 2026 **Previously published blogs** Did you know that 2nd to 8th November 2026 is **#MedSafetyWeek**? • The theme this year is 'side effects: don't ignore them, report them!' with a specific focus on encouraging the reporting of side effects and adverse incidents from all healthcare products to the Yellow Card scheme.

	• You can report suspected adverse drug reactions to any medicine (including vaccines and herbal/homeopathic medicines), as well as from other healthcare products including defective and falsified (fake) products, and safety concerns with nicotine-containing e-cigarettes/vapes and their refills. • Why not have a read of our previous Medicines Update blog on Yellow Card Reporting.  **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.** 03/11/2026

ACTION	**World Diabetes day is 14th November**
Pharmacy Bulletin Draft_Nov26Final.dc Attached	World Diabetes day is 14th November and November is Diabetes awareness month. The attached article has details of "My Diabetes My Way" and "Control IT Plus" which may be useful to support diabetic patients and newly diagnosed Type 2 diabetes patients respectively. Hilary Millar Pharmacy Public Health 03/11/2026

ACTION	Mental Health in the Community - Networking Session & More
	Please join us for our next health and wellbeing networking session focusing on mental health and wellbeing in the community. Hear from SAMH, Marie Curie, Sharpen Her, Glasgow Museums, Alcohol and Drugs Health Improvement Team, Breathing Space, Hospital Support & Information Services and Murray's Initiative as they share information about their services, the support they offer and how to access it. The session is taking place on Wednesday 9th December from 9.45am-12.30pm in the Mitchell Library. Sign up today by emailing Librarieshealthandwellbeing@glasgowlife.org.uk **Community Wellbeing Event** Come along to Pollok Community Centre on Wednesday 25th November, 11am–3pm for our free wellbeing event. It's open to everyone and will bring together Glasgow Life and local partner organisations offering wellbeing information, advice and support. Get involved in a wide range of free activities such as Health Walks, Bookbug, a healthy cooking demonstration and gentle physical activity sessions. No booking required just come along on the day. Find out more at Community Wellbeing Event - Glasgow Life **Poetry, Memory & Loss** Join us at the Mitchell Library for a special evening of poetry, conversation, and reflection as part of To Absent Friends Week. Poet and writer Kathrine Sowerby will join the facilitator of the monthly Death Café to explore how poetry and stories can help us remember those we have lost, celebrate their lives and keep memories alive. Sign up for a free ticket at Poetry, Memory and Loss - Glasgow Life **Wintering Well** Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) can bring low mood and anxiety during the darker months, but support is available. As part of Wintering Well, you can borrow a portable, plug-in SAD lamp, designed to mimic natural daylight and bring a little extra brightness to the darker winter months. SAD lamps are available to borrow from all Glasgow Libraries completely free of charge. Read more at Wintering Well at Glasgow Life Libraries - Glasgow Life **Dementia Hour in Libraries** Want to talk about dementia? If you or someone you care for has had a dementia diagnosis, Dementia Heroes is here to help. Drop in for free information, support or for a cuppa and a chat. Find the days and times at Dementia Hour in Libraries - Glasgow Life

	RNID Hearing Support RNID are hosting monthly Near You drop in support sessions in libraries. They can help with a free hearing check, hearing aid servicing, maintenance, and repair (replacement batteries, cleaning and re-tubing) and information and support for people who are deaf, have hearing loss or tinnitus. Find out more at RNID Support Session - Glasgow Life Hope to see you at the networking session! Pip Lawrenson 03/11/2026

ACTION	**Mobile Van Locations Week Beginning 2nd November 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 this week. We have 3 vans, meaning we can provide WAND interventions at several places at once, and respond more quickly to requests over the phone. **Wednesday 4th November 2026** **Van 1** 09:45 - 16:00 - Trongate Pharmacy (City Centre) **Van 2** 09.45 – 12.30 Tartan Lodge/Wallace of Campsie 13:00 - 16:00 – Drygate/Cranhill **Van 3** 9.45-12.30 – Outreach/Results **Thursday 5th November 2026** **Van 1** 09:45 - 16:00 - Trongate Pharmacy (City Centre) **Van 2** 09:45 - 12:30 – Chara/Possilpark 13:00 - 16:00 – Milton/Summerston **Van 3** 09.45 - 12.30 Queenspark Hotel 13.00 – 16.00 Copland Hotel

	Friday 6th November 2026 **Van 1** 10:30 - 15:45 - 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 3/11/2026

Items from previous editions –

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	**Advance Awareness – Change in Preferred Brand of Budesonide/Formoterol (Symbicort Turbohaler & DuoResp Spiromax to Fobumix Easyhaler)**
	This communication is to provide advance notice that **Fobumix Easyhaler is the new preferred brand of Budesonide/Formoterol** in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde primary care. The choice of brand prescribed for new and existing patients may change in future. However, no widespread prescribing changes are being implemented at this stage, and any implementation would take place no earlier than six weeks from the date of this communication. **The purpose of this message is for stock management only.** Lisanne McCormack Central Prescribing Team 27/10/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	**Training Opportunity for Community Pharmacy Staff**
	The Glasgow Alcohol and Drug Recovery Service is offering a training session designed to enhance knowledge, confidence and skills when supporting people who use drugs. This would be particularly useful for those who work in a pharmacy that provides injecting equipment provision. **Reducing Harm for People who use Cocaine** **Date:** Monday 16th November **Venue:** North East ADRS – Parkhead Hub

	Time: 09:30–16:30 **Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.** For further information, please contact Liz.Donaghy@nhs.scot To reserve a place, please contact Margaret.Bailey2@nhs.scot ADRS Pharmacy Team 27/10/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	**WAAW AMS Webinar 26 - Antimicrobial Stewardship In Practice: Making Safe And Effective Prescribing Decisions Webinar**
	 Join us on Monday 23 November 2026, 7pm to 8.30pm, for this national webinar exploring the current antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) landscape in Scotland. Through practical case-based examples, participants will develop their understanding of stewardship principles and how to apply them to support safe, effective, and person-centred prescribing decisions. The session is suitable for all primary care prescribers and other health and social care professionals with an interest in antimicrobial stewardship. • Register for Antimicrobial stewardship webinar • Access Antimicrobial Stewardship resources on Turas Learn Karen Downie 27/10/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Advance Awareness – Change in Preferred Brand of Methylphenidate XL Tablets (Concerta XL to Atenza XL)
	Advance Awareness – Change in Preferred Brand of Methylphenidate XL Tablets (Concerta XL to Atenza XL) This communication is to provide advance notice that **Atenza XL is the new preferred brand of methylphenidate XL tablets** in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde primary care. The choice of methylphenidate XL brand prescribed for new and existing patients may change in future. However, no widespread prescribing changes are being implemented at this stage, and any implementation would take place no earlier than six weeks from the date of this communication. **The purpose of this message is for stock management only.** Kathryn Chisholm Pharmacy Technician Team Lead 20/10/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Macmillan Cancer Information & Support at Glasgow Libraries
Macmillan at Glasgow Libs poster Attached	At drop in sessions across the city we provide free emotional, practical and financial support for anyone affected by cancer, including people living with cancer, carers, family members, friends and those who have been bereaved. In our libraries you can find free trusted information, friendly support and community connections. Please pop the poster up in your pharmacy for customers and get in touch if you have any questions. **Refer or signpost today:** Contact macmillan@glasgowlife.org.uk or call **0141 287 2903** with the person's name and contact details. Referrals are contacted within two working days. People are also welcome to drop in with no referral being made. Find out more at glasgowlife.org.uk/macmillan Pip Lawrenson Libraries and Communities Officer – Health & Wellbeing 20/10/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Updated Dental Guidance with Relevance for Pharmacists, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer Letter - 15 October 2026
 CPO letter - Updated dental gui Attached	Please find attached the CPO letter, "*Updated Dental Guidance with Relevance for Pharmacists*." Andreas Tzineris Pharmacy, Medicines and Therapeutics Division 20/10/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Managing Medicines Waste - Questionnaire
 SPT MMW Questionnaire v1.1.p Attached	Please find attached the CPO letter, "*Updated Dental Guidance with Relevance for Pharmacists*." Andreas Tzineris Pharmacy, Medicines and Therapeutics Division 20/10/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	Top Tips for CPNSS Service
	1. Claiming on ECW - Cannot claim for registration and monitoring both in the same month. For monitoring patients, you should claim: 1st month - Registration of New Patient 2nd month onwards - Monitoring 2. Double check when ordering & dispensing products with similar names; ALTRAPLEN COMPACT DAILY and ALTRAPLEN COMPACT 125ML - both different products, some have been mixed up which is hindering patients' progress. Please check these are the correct products and also if ordered on repeat* Leave note for all staff to check before ordering Product. 3. When calling patients to check their monthly order - If monitoring - take a note of their recent weight. 4. Reminder that when a patient has been under monitoring longer term - please re-refer to Dietitian once they meet the 12-month mark. Please note - between referring patient and them being seen by the dietitian, please continue to dispense ONS during this period as waiting times can be up to a few months. To the Pharmacies that are part of the CPNS service who would like further training or a refresher of the service - please reach out to

	Danni at ggc.presupdiet.generic@nhs.scot who can arrange a visit for further training or answer any queries you may have. Danni Rennie 20/10/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	**Electronic Claiming Workbook (ECW) - Version 4.2**
ECW V4.2.xlsx Attached	Please see attached the updated Electronic Claiming Workbook (ECW) **Version 4.2.** This version includes the recent changes of ownership, along with fixes for glitches in the drop-down menu and automatic sums in the MCA tab. Please ensure that you are using the most up-to-date version of the workbook before submission. Claims submitted using previous versions may be returned unpaid. Thank you for your co-operation. CPDT 20/10/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	**Electronic Claiming Workbook (ECW) – MCA Payment Claims**
	Please ensure that when completing MCA payment claims, the products being claimed are selected from the drop-down menu in the Electronic Claiming Workbook (ECW). NHSGGC can only reimburse products listed within the drop-down menu, at the rate automatically generated by the workbook. For audit purposes, the product selected in the ECW must also match the product shown on the supporting invoice, although the price on the invoice may differ from the agreed reimbursement. Please ensure that Microsoft Excel 2013 or later is used when completing the workbook, as this is required for the drop-down selection functions to operate correctly. If the drop-down menu does not appear or is not working correctly, please contact the Community Pharmacy Development Team for advice before submitting your claim. Thank you for your cooperation.

	CPDT 20/10/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	PCA(P)(2026)19: Serious Shortage Protocols for Creon® Gastro-Resistant Capsules
	Please see link below NHS Circular PCA(P)(2026)19 - Serious Shortage Protocols For Creon® Gastro-Resistant Capsules www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2026-p-19.pdf 20/10/2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION	PCA(P)(2026) 20: Pharmaceutical Services Amendments to the Drug Tariff Part 11 Discount Clawback Scale
	Please see link below NHS Circular PCA(P)(2026) 20 - Pharmaceutical Services Amendments to the Drug Tariff Part 11 Discount Clawback Scale www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2026-p-20.pdf 20/10/2026

INDEX - Community Pharmacy Communications Updates
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