



## Community Pharmacy Communication Update


**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

### New Items in this edition –

- **NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 07 - Pharmaceutical Services: Amendments to The Drug Tariff In Respect of Reimbursement Arrangements From 1 April 2025**
- **NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 08 - Paxlovid Endorsing Guidance**
- **Early Warning System (EWS) Cascade**
- **Topical**

| ACTION | <b>NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 07 - Pharmaceutical Services: Amendments to The Drug Tariff In Respect of Reimbursement Arrangements From 1 April 2025</b>                                                            |
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|        | <p>Please find link below for NHS Circular PCA(P)(2025) 07</p> <p><a href="http://www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2025-p-07.pdf">www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2025-p-07.pdf</a></p> <p>06/05/2025</p> |

| ACTION | <b>NHS Circular PCA (P) (2025) 08 - Paxlovid Endorsing Guidance</b>                                                                                                                                                  |
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|        | <p>Please find link below for NHS Circular PCA(P)(2025) 08</p> <p><a href="http://www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2025-p-08.pdf">www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2025-p-08.pdf</a></p> <p>06/05/2025</p> |

| ACTION                                                                                                                    | <b>Early Warning System (EWS) Cascade</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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|  <p>EWS - All HSCPS - May 2025.pdf</p> | <p>The Board initiated a test of the Early Warning System (EWS) on the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025.</p> <p>Of the 28 cascade systems, 17 were successful. This represents a 61% success rate. Please note, this is a 14% decrease in the EWS which took place in May 2024. I would like to thank those contractors who contributed to successfully completing the 17 cascades.</p> <p>On further scrutiny, we identified the following reasons for failure:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff members were unaware of the cascade process;</li> <li>• The last pharmacy in cascade failed to pass the message to the Master Station;</li> </ul> |




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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The message not being passed on to the next pharmacy; and</li> <li>• The pharmacy advising they did not receive the message.</li> </ul> <p>We appreciate that there are often competing priorities within the Pharmacy and that time is precious; however, the Early Warning System is specifically used in emergent situations and the transfer of information is imperative.</p> <p>I have attached a further copy of each of the Board's HSCP's systems. Please identify your pharmacy within that document and print off the relevant cascade. I would like to reiterate the importance of all pharmacy staff, including locums, knowing and understanding the cascade process and what they will need to do in response to a message. It might therefore be helpful to site this document close to your main telephone.</p> <p>If there is anything in this cascade process which is unclear, or you would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0141 201 6041.</p> <p>Michelle Cooper<br/>06/05/2025</p> |
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| ACTION | Topical                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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|        | <p>May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month.</p> <p>Are you looking for a refresher?</p> <p>Our <b>Skin Cancer Awareness and the role of the community pharmacist webinar</b> with local dermatology consultant Dr Donna Torely, as well as our <b>Summer Sufferings webinar</b> with Dr Craig Masson, GP Clarkston, are great resources you can access on our <a href="#">webpage</a>.</p> <p>Lorna Brown<br/>06/05/2025</p> |

### Items from previous editions -

| IMPORTANT INFORMATION | Error in Launch Date in Varenicline Briefing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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|                       | <p><b>New Varenicline PGD – Error with proposed date for signing.</b></p> <p>Correction - In the launch information for the new PGD for varenicline, in this newsletter last week, the date for signing the PGD and the electronic submission was incorrect. It should have been the <b>7<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b> (not 7<sup>th</sup> July). Apologies!</p> |

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|  | <p>Please aim to have the new PGD signed and submitted to enable prescribing of varenicline within the PHS Pharmacy smoking cessation service by <b>7<sup>th</sup> May</b>.</p> <p>The new national varenicline PGD, client assessment form and NHS circular are in the article below (15/4/25) and on the GGC pages on the community pharmacy website <a href="http://www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk/nhs-ggc">www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk/nhs-ggc</a> under Patient Group Directions.</p> <p>If you have any queries please contact the Pharmacy Health Improvement Team at <a href="mailto:ggc.pharmacyhit@nhs.scot">ggc.pharmacyhit@nhs.scot</a> or telephone 0141 201 4945</p> <p>Hilary Millar<br/>24/04/2025</p> |
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| IMPORTANT INFORMATION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | NHS Circular: PCA(P)(2025) 06 - Additional Pharmaceutical Services Public Health Service Smoking Cessation – Updated                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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|  <p>PGD Varenidine tablets Version 1.0 /</p>  <p>NHS Circular<br/>PCA(P)(2025) 06 - 10</p>  <p>Assessment Form -<br/>Version 1.0 April 2025</p> <p>Attached</p> | <p>The new national PGD for Varenicline is now available &lt;attached&gt;.</p> <p>Please read the PGD, complete the NES Pharmacy e-learning module in TURAS Learn (NHS Scotland Smoking Cessation) and sign the PGD.</p> <p>Once the PGD is signed please complete the electronic submission form: <a href="#">PGDs - Greater Glasgow and Clyde</a>.</p> <p>Once the PGD submission is complete it can be used to provide Varenicline to clients as part of the PHS Pharmacy Smoking Cessation Service. Please sign the PGD and complete the electronic submission by <b><u>7<sup>th</sup> May 2025</u></b>.</p> <p>A CP PHS smoking cessation Varenicline assessment form should be completed by the pharmacist with all clients &lt;attached&gt;. A copy should be sent to the client's GP as detailed and a copy retained in the pharmacy.</p> <p>Please put all quit attempts on PCR and record weekly to ensure payment for the service is received.</p> <p>Also attached is the NHS Chief Pharmaceutical officer's circular detailing the use of the new PGD in the pharmacy smoking cessation service.</p> <p>If you have any queries please contact the Pharmacy Health Improvement Team at <a href="mailto:ggc.pharmacyhit@nhs.scot">ggc.pharmacyhit@nhs.scot</a> or telephone 0141 201 4945</p> |

| IMPORTANT INFORMATION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Let's Chat Vac - GGC Mobile Vaccination Unit Dates (COVID-19) APRIL - JUNE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| <br>Mobile Service West Dunbartonshire.pdf<br><br>Mobile Service East Renfrewshire.pdf<br><br>Mobile Service Renfrewshire.pdf<br><br>Mobile Services Glasgow.pdf<br><br>Mobile Services Inverclyde.pdf<br><br>Mobile Service East Dunbartonshire.pdf | <p><b>On behalf of the GGC Vaccination Communication Group</b></p> <p>Our partners at the Scottish Ambulance Service are 'touring' Greater Glasgow and Clyde in the mobile vaccination units. This service increases the number of access points for patients in our communities to access their winter vaccinations.</p> <p>It is with thanks to our partners across Greater Glasgow and Clyde in securing suitable car parks across a wide range of locations.</p> <p>Sites in addition to NHS premises include Councils, Leisure Facilities, Third Sector Partners, Retail establishments and more! This vital partnership working, enables our continued delivery of the mobile vaccination service.</p> <p>The Mobile Units are offering – Covid -19</p> <p>Please find enclosed Mobile Vaccination Unit dates for April, May and June across GGC, please cascade/display posters relevant to your geographical area.</p> <p>Please also note that Translated resources can be accessed as follows <a href="#">Campaign assets</a>   <a href="#">Public Health Scotland News</a>.<br/>Translated videos are hosted on <a href="#">YouTube</a>.</p> <p>Pauline Atkinson<br/>29/04/2025</p> |

| IMPORTANT INFORMATION | Care Home eMARS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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|                       | <p>We have been made aware of a care home within NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde that has recently adopted an eMARS system. Prior to the system going live, they requested new prescriptions for all medicines out with the usual ordering cycle. They were under the impression they should return all residents' medication to the pharmacy and then reorder the same medication before moving to eMARS.</p> <p>The eMARS supplier confirmed that they do not advise to send any medications which are still in use by the resident back to the pharmacy, as the system has the capability to add stock.</p> <p>They advised that as part of the implementation process, they provide a list of tasks that the home can complete, and one task mentioned is</p> |

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|  | <p>to audit their medication not in use. The aim of this is to prompt a medication review on unnecessary medications and reduce the need to order medicines not being used, causing less waste in the long run.</p> <p>We would recommend that if any similar requests are made to order prescriptions or receive returns, care homes are directed to the eMARS provider for further support and guidance.</p> <p>Jennifer Allardyce<br/>29/04/2025</p> |
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| <b>IMPORTANT INFORMATION</b> | <b>Utilisation of GP10a</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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|                              | <p>We have been made aware of inappropriate use of Stock Order Forms (GP10a) within Community Pharmacies. We are currently unsure of how big the problem may be, however wanted to flag this to everyone as early as possible to ensure that Pharmacy teams were not inadvertently supplying in an inappropriate manner.</p> <p>Only items that are actually supplied to the GP Practice should be annotated on a GP10a form. If any non-listed items are supplied but recorded as an allowed product, to ensure that a payment is realised, then this would be considered fraudulent activity and, as such could be investigated by Counter Fraud Services (CFS). Items should only be added to a GP10a form by a member of the GP practice team.</p> <p>Pamela Macintyre<br/>29/04/2025</p> |

| IMPORTANT INFORMATION        | Smoking Cessation Training - Tuesday 20th May 2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                      |              |
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|                              | <p>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.</p>                                                                                                                                                      |                                                      |              |
|                              | <p>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. Fees will be paid to the pharmacy contractor to cover the costs of staff attending, (as pre-reg students are paid through NES, no need to claim).</p> |                                                      |              |
|                              | <p>We presently have some places available for the event on Tuesday 20th May 2025, places will be allocated on a first-come basis and will be confirmed in writing.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                      |              |
|                              | <u>Date</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <u>Duration</u>                                      | <u>Venue</u> |
| <u>Tuesday 20th May 2025</u> | <u>9:00 – 16:00</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <u>Beresford Suite</u><br><u>Leverndale Hospital</u> |              |

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

**Future Dates:**

| <u>Date</u>                                          | <u>Duration</u>            | <u>Venue</u>                            |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup><br/>June 2025</u></b> | <b><u>9:00 – 16:00</u></b> | <b><u>Easterhouse Health Centre</u></b> |

Places will be allocated on a first-come basis and will be confirmed in writing. Please contact us ASAP by phone on 0141 201 4945, or by e-mail [ggcpharmacyhit@nhs.scot](mailto:ggcpharmacyhit@nhs.scot) to confirm a place.

Anette Robb  
Public Health Pharmacy  
08/04/2025

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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](mailto:ggc.cpdevteam@nhs.scot)

We are keen for any feedback you have about this Update. Please submit your comments/suggestions to: [cpdt@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:cpdt@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)