

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



Contents

01: Controlled Drug Prescription Duration of Opioid Replacement Therapies (ORT) Treatment Over 30 Days

02: Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey

03: Women's Health Pharmacy First Toolkit

04: Save the Date: Training Events

05: Smoking Cessation Update: Smoking and Vaping Pathways

06: Public Health Update:

- September 2024 Campaign Calendar
- HealthPoint Temporary Building Closure

07: Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up

08: The Happy Place ☺

Controlled Drug Prescription Duration of Opioid Replacement Therapies (ORT) Treatment Over 30 Days

Please find the attached letter for all Substance Use Service staff.

In some areas of NHS Grampian, Opioid Replacement Therapy (ORT) prescriptions are still being issued for much longer than 30 days. While this practice was accepted during COVID when additional restrictions were in place, this is no longer the case and we should be following best practice unless there is a justifiable clinical need for a longer prescription. Although this is good practice, it is not a legal requirement.

If you are presented with a prescription for longer than 30 days and you have any concerns, please discuss with the prescriber in the first instance to ensure patient treatment is not interrupted if they have a valid legal prescription.

Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey

Keep a look out for the Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey 2024. The survey has been designed to capture a snapshot of the community pharmacy workforce including pharmacists, locum pharmacists, pre-registration trainee pharmacists, pharmacy technicians including trainees, and pharmacy support staff during the week commencing **Sunday 8th September - Saturday 14th September 2024**.

The information captured in this survey will be essential to evidence the workforce required to deliver community pharmacy services and will support NHS workforce planning.

For more information visit our [Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey 2024 website](#).

Women's Health Pharmacy First Toolkit

This is a collation of existing digital resources including the leaflet and poster but also some of the images NHS24 have been using on social media. There are some key messages which are intended to provide consistency when sharing info about Pharmacy First. As you'll see it also refers to a pharmacy/women's health communications which has been developed in conjunction with NHS Inform as a mini campaign with a web page: [Women's health: How your pharmacist can help | NHS inform](#).

Save the Date: Training Events

NES Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP) Webinar	Wednesday 28 th August 2024, 19:00 - 20:15.	If you want to find out more on the expectations, experiences and support available to take on the role of supporting trainee pharmacist independent prescribers as a DPP, click the attached link to book a place: Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP) webinar
NES Supporting Student Pharmacist Experiential Learning in 2024-25 Webinar	Tuesday 3 rd September 2024, 19:00 – 20:30.	Are you passionate about empowering student pharmacists and setting them up for success during their EL placements? Find the attached flyer for more details. Register now: Register here for the 2024-25 EL Webinar
Migraine Management Workshop	Wednesday 11 th September or Wednesday 18 th September 2024, 19:00-21:00	Find the attached flyer for NHS Grampian's virtual workshop on improving migraine recognition, diagnosis and treatment.
Grampian Diabetes Managed Clinical Network (MCN) Conference 2024	Wednesday 18 th September 2024, Aberdeen Altens Hotel	Find the attached programme for more details, including the registration link via Eventbrite.
NES Community Pharmacy Learning Together Webinar: Migraine Management	Tuesday 24 th September 2024, 19:00 - 20:00.	This webinar will introduce the “partnering with pharmacy teams to improve migraine management” project and provide guidance to pharmacy staff as to the assessment, support and management of people living with migraine in line with the Scottish National Headache Pathway. To book onto the workshop visit the Community Pharmacy Learning Together: Migraine Management on Turas Learn.

Smoking Cessation Update

[Smoking and Vaping Pathways](#)

Please be reminded of the attached PDF to print for easy reference.

Public Health Update

[September 2024 Campaign Calendar](#)

September is a busy month on the NHS campaign calendar. We will be promoting each of the below topics on our Facebook page for you to share on your own platforms. If you'd like to get more involved with any

of the campaigns, you may find useful posters and leaflets at NHS Grampian Resources here: [HPAC \(durham.gov.uk\)](http://HPAC.durham.gov.uk).

- National Blood Cancer Awareness Month: <https://bloodcancer.org.uk/>
- Urology Awareness Month: [Home - The Urology Foundation](#)
- Sepsis Awareness Month: [Home - Sepsis Research FEAT - Sepsis Research](#)
- Love to Ride Cycling
- Know Your Numbers Week, 4th – 10th September: [Blood Pressure UK](#)
- World Suicide Prevention Day, 10th September: <https://www.samaritans.org/>
- National Eye Health Week, 18th – 24th September: [Vision Matters - National Eye Health Week](#)
- World Alzheimer Day, 21st September
- Organ Donation Week, 23rd – 29th September: [Home | Organ Donation Scotland](#)

HealthPoint Temporary Building Closure

The Healthpoint located at the ARI concourse will be closed from Tuesday 27th August for the next 6 - 10 weeks. This is due to an unexpected issue with the building.

Anyone can call free on 08085 20 20 30, email gram.healthpoint@nhs.scot or text the word INFO to 82727 and a Healthpoint Advisor will be on hand to provide advice and support.

Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up

Emergency Supply Legislation

NHS 24 have recently reported an increase in the number of patients contacting them, who are visiting Scotland from other parts of the UK, who have been unable to access repeat prescription only medicines (POM) in an emergency...



Scotland's 5 Year Vaccination and Immunisation Strategy and Delivery Plan

Public Health Scotland and the Scottish Government have released Scotland's 5-year Vaccination and Immunisation Strategy and Delivery Plan...



The Happy Place ☺

NHS Grampian were pleased to welcome Minister for Public Health and Women's Health, Jenni Minto, to Aberdeen last week. She was meeting with people who experience migraines, along with doctors, pharmacists, and artists who all play a part in our Migraine project.

We are working with The Migraine Trust to increase awareness and understanding. [Migraine \(nhsgrampian.org\)](http://Migraine(nhsgrampian.org))

We also spoke to Jenni about the Public Health GOLD pharmacies we have across NHS Grampian. She was keen to hear about the success of this project, and the aim of the GOLD award title to continue to promote public health messages via community pharmacies.



We would like to continue this section as an opportunity for reward, recognition and good news stories of the teams who read this! Please submit any items for inclusion to:
gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot

All weekly updates are uploaded to the [CP Grampian website](#).

Remember to like our Facebook page for regular updates: [Community Pharmacy Grampian – NHSG](#)