

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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Prostate Cancer Update

As you will now be aware the Prostate Cancer Service Level Agreement has now ceased following Contractor Committee withdrawal. NHS Grampian has now moved to an alternative model of supply to collection hubs located across Grampian.

As medication aligned to this service is considered high cost we are asking contactors who have any remaining stock to contact the PCS team who may seek arrangements to collect and use at one of our collection hubs.

We can only accept unopened Xtandi stock which has been ordered by a UK Supplier Astellas. If you have opened stock or unused stock ordered through another supplier please dispose per waste procedures.

SUS Guidance Update

The supporting guidance for the Substance Use Service SLA has been updated and is attached, a copy can also be found on the community pharmacy website. It is important that both pharmacists and their teams involved in delivering the service read the document as there have been some important changes – such as an amended missed doses section, updates on new treatments (buvidal), as well as changes to the forms used to deliver the service. It also notes training to be completed by teams.

We do not expect teams to replace existing patient documents with the new forms but would ask that you use the new templates going forward. This guidance not only supports the contractual obligations for delivering the service, but has a host of useful information for both teams and patients.

Any questions or feedback can be directed to gram.smspharmacists@nhs.scot. We hope you find this a useful tool for supporting patients.

Mpox Update

The UK does not currently recommend pre-travel vaccination for mpox. The JCVI continues to review latest data on the current Clade 1 mpox outbreak and will continue to update vaccination recommendations accordingly.

Consequently, the mpox related content on the PHS travel websites (TRAVAX and fitfortravel), and NHS Inform have been updated to align with related guidance from UKHSA and NaTHNaC ([Travel Health Pro website](#)).

Valproate Use in Men

A retrospective observational study has indicated a possible association between valproate use by men around the time of conception and an increased risk of neurodevelopmental disorders in their children. Inform male patients who may father children of this possible increased risk and the recommendation to use effective contraception during valproate treatment and for at least 3 months after stopping valproate.

Please [click here](#) for more information.

Diabetes Psychology Service

The diabetes supported self-management psychology service offers support for people with a new diagnosis of Type 2 Diabetes (<6 years), Prediabetes and Gestational Diabetes, who are struggling with their efforts to self-manage their condition. We know that managing diabetes is challenging for many people and so we provide support for people who would like to make lifestyle changes (e.g. increase physical activity levels, improve eating patterns and habits) and improve their wellbeing. To find out more about what we offer, please see our promotional YouTube video and QR code to the website below: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pL_RuF1g4rg.

People can access the service through self-referral using our email address (gram.actnow@nhs.scot) or calling us on **01224 655755**. Health care practitioners can also refer to us in the same way, or by using the SCI Gateway referral form. Please see the guidance we have created for this form attached, or on the Diabetes Page on Grampian Guidance.



NHS Pharmacy First Scotland Service: Communications Toolkit

Our colleagues at Scottish Government have produced an NHS Pharmacy First Scotland Service [Communications Toolkit](#) to help promote Pharmacy First services in Scotland. There are two kits available: one specifically for women's health services and one for general services.

NHS Grampian Non-Medical Prescribing Conference

Please find the attached programme for the upcoming Non-medical prescribing virtual conference, which will take place over two days on Tuesday 1st October and Wednesday 2nd October 2024.

The conference is open to all staff and we encourage attendance at some of the sessions as the program is very relevant to pharmacy. Please click on the session name in the programme below to book your place or search NMP Conference 2024 via TURAS. If you have any difficulties, please contact gram.acateam@nhs.scot.

Booking for ALL sessions closes on Friday 27th September at 12 noon.

Public Health Update

Re-Think Dementia Mandatory Campaign

The Scottish Government and COSLA announced the new mandatory campaign "Rethink Dementia" which commenced on 4th September 2024 and you should now have received posters. Please find the attached the full campaign toolkit.



The aim is to raise awareness of what you can do when someone known to you has been diagnosed with dementia. The campaign will run across multiple channels: TV, cinema, radio, press, digital and out of home advertising. Please try to share as much as possible on your own social media platforms, we will be sharing all the posters on [Facebook](#).

More information is available to view [here](#), and please remember that World Alzheimer Day will be held on Saturday 21st September 2024.

MedWatch Newsletter: September 2024

Please find attached the September Medwatch newsletter. This edition includes removal of epimax original cream, epimax paraffin free ointment and epimax ointment from the grampian area formulary, hepam user alert: incorrect selection of penicillamine allergen and look alike sound alike medicines.

Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey 2024

The Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey is being undertaken again this year. Members are being asked to collate the data during the week commencing Sunday 8th to Saturday 14th September 2024...



NHS Pharmacy First Scotland (PFS): UTI PGD Clarification

We have been made aware of confusion around some of the NHS Pharmacy First Scotland service (PFS) Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) Patient Group Direction (PGD) details. We thought it would be useful to clarify these points...

The Happy Place ☺

Secondhand Book Recycling Platform Launch

Literature lovers in the UK are benefitting from a new buy-back scheme for used books, billed as a 'sustainable alternative to Amazon'. Bookloop allows readers to trade unwanted copies for other pre-loved novels or online credit, which they can use to buy new titles. Customers upload their books to an online valuation system, then drop them off at a designated collection point or have them picked up from their home. Read the full story [here](#).

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](#)*