

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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Glucagon-like Peptide-1 Receptor Agonists (GLP-1 RAs) and GLP-1 RA/Glucose-Dependent Insulintropic Polypeptide Receptor Agonists (GIP RAs) for Weight Management, Version 1

Please find the attached update on Glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1 RAs) and GLP-1 RA/glucose-dependent insulintropic polypeptide receptor agonists (GIP RAs) for Weight Management.

Seasonal Influenza: Use of Antivirals 2024-25

Find attached the CMO letter SGHD (2024) 20 from Professor Sir Gregor Smith, Chief Medical Officer for Scotland and Professor Alison Strath, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer regarding Seasonal Influenza: Use of Antivirals 2024-25.

PCA(P)(2024) 34 Circular: Pharmacy Champion Future Funding 2024-25

Please find the attached PCA(P)(2024) 34 circular, which informs NHS Boards and community pharmacy contractors of the intention to continue funding for Community Pharmacist Practitioner Champions in 2024-25.

Support for Community Pharmacy Needle Stick Injuries

For support with needle stick injuries within community pharmacy, find attached the NHS Grampian Blood Borne Virus Community Exposure Guidance.

NES Pharmacy: Action Required – Physical Assessment Skills Training

Over the last 12 months, NES have been supporting a network of Designated Supervisor's (DS) to increase their confidence in the use of physical assessment skills and their ability to assess trainee pharmacists utilising these skills in practice.

NES have a further 5 Physical Assessment Skills training sessions running between January – March 2025, with many current community pharmacist DS's registered to attend. NES are able to extend an invite to these sessions to any community pharmacists who are looking to take on the role of a Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP) and feel this training would support them to do so.

If you are interested, please [click here](#) to complete the short form. Spaces will be allocated on a first come first served basis. To support the planning process, we require a response no later than **Wednesday 18th December 2024**. NES will aim to confirm places by Friday 20th December 2024.

Smoking Cessation Update

Varenicline

Please be reminded that Varenicline has been reintroduced but is not yet available to use as part of the smoking cessation programme in Scotland. Realistically it will be into next year that we receive the updated PGD, which is currently being updated at a national level and staff will require some training on it once finalised. We may also need to wait until enough stocks become available.

In the meantime, we advise that you continue to use the NRT products available as part of the 12 week programme. We'll keep you posted as things evolve.

Public Health Update

Support at Christmas

Christmas can be a difficult time for many. Please see the attached poster with some useful support links. We will also share this on our [Facebook](#) page for sharing within your communities.

TURAS eLearning Module on Menstrual Health

For anyone with an interest in women's health, please be advised of a new TURAS course. The recently published menstrual health module is open to all practitioners and will help you support your patients with symptom management, diagnosis and when referral to specialist services may be required.

MedWatch December Newsletter

Please find attached the December 2024 MedWatch newsletter. This edition includes shared learning: community pharmacy dispensing medication to a hospital in-patient (also attached), risk associated with co-prescribing warfarin and tramadol, alerts within prescribing systems and access to gentamicin and vancomycin calculators.

NES Pharmacy December Newsletter

Please [click here](#) to view the NES Pharmacy December newsletter. This edition includes preparing for the changes to foundation training year 2025-26, chronic pain Turas learning toolkit launch, upcoming webinars, events and resources.

Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



December 2024 Update - NHS Pharmacy First Scotland **Approved List of Products**

There has been an update to the NHS Pharmacy First Scotland Approved List from the 1st December 2024. There are a number of changes made in this edition, you can find these on our website...



Prevention and Management of Occupational Exposure

NES Infection Prevention and Control Education Team have an in-depth module aimed to equip those working in health and social care with the knowledge and skills needed to prevent and minimise the risk of acquiring an infection from blood or body fluid...

The Happy Place 😊

Christmas Jumper Day 2024

Thursday 12th December 2024 is Christmas Jumper Day which provides an opportunity for people to showcase their festive spirit and contribute to charitable causes during the holiday season. If your pharmacy are taking part this year, we'd be delighted to receive your pictures!



Please remember 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](#)