

# Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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## GP Vision Computer System – INPS

You may be aware that INPS, providers of the GP IT system Vision have gone into voluntary administration. This is being discussed at local and national levels. NHS Grampian have a Local Incident Management Team (LIMT) activated in relation to this issue. At this time it is hoped a suitable buyer will be identified and this system will continue to operate as currently. Further information is anticipated around 23rd January.

We are aware that there are several community pharmacies that use Pharmacy Manager RX, this is a Cegidem product. National Services Scotland (NSS) have advised the following:

*Pharmacy Manager is not part of INPS so therefore is not affected by the Administration. It can still be used by dispensing GP's and community Pharmacists and continues to be supported. We believe there is some cross over of staff but that will be sorted once it's known what's happening with INPS*

GP Practices in Grampian have been asked to consider their business continuity and preparedness. In order to support this Community Pharmacies are requested to ensure they have submitted any outstanding 'End of Treatment Summaries' for Serial/CMS patients/prescriptions. This will allow practices to review and reissue serial prescription to aid with continuity of supply of medicines for this cohort of patients.

Further information will be communicated as available and if there are any other specific actions required of Community Pharmacy due to this situation.

## Selected List Scheme (SLS) Medicines

Further to our communications to you on 6th January 2025; containing a circular detailing changes in prescribing directions for SLS drugs e.g. now required for Gonadotrophin-releasing Hormone (GnRH) injections and no longer required for sildenafil. Please be assured that payments to community pharmacies will still be processed whether or not SLS is included on the prescription for these items.

This is an interim arrangement by PHS as GP practice computer systems have been updated and this may take some months. Pharmacies should dispense these items and are asked not to contact practices to add/remove SLS as there is nothing they can do to adjust this.

## Coming Soon – Green Bag Relaunch

NHS Grampian's Realistic Medicine team are supporting the relaunch of the Green Bag scheme. The expected launch date is 12 February. This is to encourage patients to bring their own medication into hospital which has multiple benefits including:

- Improving medication reconciliation
- Reduction of waste from re-dispensing medicines unnecessarily
- Reduction of prescribing errors and missed doses
- Speedier admissions and discharge process
- Improving communication between the different professionals involved in one person's care

Community pharmacies will receive some promotional materials and a small stock of green bags to issue to patients, we expect this to be sent out at the end of January. If you have some already - please keep these and further information and materials will come soon. This will come with ordering instructions to allow further bags to be ordered (via the resources database). We're also hoping that community pharmacy teams can help promote this by joining in our #GreenBagReady social media campaign. When you receive your Green Bag launch pack, we are encouraging teams to send a selfie holding a Green Bag to [gram.realisticmedicine@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.realisticmedicine@nhs.scot) (in doing so providing consent for this to be shared via NHS Grampian social media channels). Information will be included in packs also.

## Raising Awareness of Respiratory Health and Increased Risk of Drug Overdose

Please find the attached supporting document on raising awareness of respiratory health and increased risk of drug overdose.

### Save the Date: Training Events

Medication Assisted Treatment Standards Webinar Session 10: Data Sharing to Prevent Harm	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2025, 10am – 11.30am.	This session is open to all professionals and those with an interest in the field. <a href="#">Click here</a> to register.
Navigating Migraine Webinar	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2025, 7pm – 8.30pm.	This session aims to provide knowledge on migraine understanding, treatment and support. <a href="#">Click here</a> to register, leaflet also attached.
MAT Standards Webinar	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2025, 7pm – 8.30pm.	Booking link: <a href="https://learn.nes.nhs.scot/79418/pharmacy-courses-and-events/medication-assisted-treatment-mat-standards-in-community-pharmacy">https://learn.nes.nhs.scot/79418/pharmacy-courses-and-events/medication-assisted-treatment-mat-standards-in-community-pharmacy</a>
Improving Migraine Management Workshop	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2025, 7pm – 8.30pm.	Aims to fill knowledge gaps staff have around migraine management. <a href="#">Click here</a> to register, leaflet also attached.
Pharmacist Independent Prescribing – Getting Started in Community Pharmacy	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2025, 7pm - 8.30pm.	This webinar is designed to support community pharmacist independent prescribers in the early stages of their prescribing journey, from service set up to expanding scope of practice and ongoing peer support. It will provide practical information to attendees on the process for registering with the GPhC as an IP and setting

		up the Pharmacy First Plus service in practice. <a href="#">Book your IP webinar place.</a>
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## Migraine Project: Health Care Staff Survey

Calling all Health care staff! We would greatly appreciate your participation in this survey to help us evaluate the effectiveness of the eLearning and workshops provided over the past year as part of the Partnering with pharmacy teams to improve migraine management project.

Your feedback is crucial in understanding how these training sessions have impacted your skills and practice. By sharing your experiences, you will help us identify areas for improvement and ensure that future training programs are even more beneficial for staff and the patients they serve.

[Click here](#) to complete the survey by Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025, or scan the QR code in the image. Thank you for your time.

## Public Health Update

### Gold Awards

Huge congratulations to two Charles Michie pharmacies who have worked hard to achieve their GOLD Awards. Well done everyone, fantastic work!

Pictured below are Superintendent Pharmacist, Matthew and Public Health Champions, Vicky and Aimee from the Laurencekirk branch.



From the Stonehaven branch are Pharmacist Paul, ACT Stuart and Public Health Champions Kelly, Emma and Mahri with the vital front of house staff.



Congratulations to Bairds Great Northern Road Pharmacy who have succeeded in reaching their GOLD standard award!

Pictured here are Kashia (dispenser), Louise (dispenser and manager), Mash (trainee dispenser and Public Health Champion) and Fiona (pharmacist). Well done everyone!



Also huge congratulations to the Holburn Pharmacy Team who have worked hard to achieve their GOLD standard award! Pictured here are Trainee Pharmacist, Molly, Public Health Champion, Eloise, Lead Pharmacist, Morag, Amanda (dispenser) and Grainne (counter assistant). Well done to the whole team!

## Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



16/01/2025 • NES

### Pharmacist Foundation Training Year Reforms 2025-26

Our colleague at NES have asked us to promote the Foundation Training Year Reforms 2025-26 webinar:

**Date:** Tuesday 21st January 2025  
**Time:** 7:00 - 8:30pm



16/01/2025 • Sarah Scott

### RPS Pharmacy 2030 Vision

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) are calling for pharmacists to have access to a shared patient record as part of their vision for pharmacy.



16/01/2025 • Community Pharmacy Scotland

### Post-Registration Foundation Programme Listening event

Share your views on the future of the Post-Registration Foundation Programme Listening event on 30th January 2025.



16/01/2025 • Adam Osprey

### Clinical Skills and Teach & Treat

All NHS Education for Scotland (NES) / Community Pharmacy Scotland (CPS) Funded Employee Community Pharmacist Independent Prescribers (CPIPs) need to undertake four NES Clinical Skills Training Days, and also one Teach & Treat Session after qualification.

## The Happy Place ☺

### Have a Break! (Have a Kit Kat?)

The festive period is an incredibly busy time for community pharmacy, and we want to thank you once again for your hard work during this time. We'd like to take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of taking regular breaks whenever possible. It's easy to find yourself working for hours on end without stopping, but be mindful that this can lead to burnout. Incorporating regular breaks into your working day is essential, giving your mind the chance to rest and recharge.

Research shows that taking regular breaks boosts productivity, reduces stress levels, enhances creativity, and improves physical health. A short pause allows you to rest and return to your tasks with renewed energy.

So why not challenge yourself to take micro-breaks throughout the day? Put the kettle on and enjoy a brew!

\*Other chocolate snacks or alternative healthy alternatives are available!



***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](mailto: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](#)*