

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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Private Bariatric Surgery – Management of Patients in Primary Care

Please find attached two patient information leaflets which are intended to support Primary Care in conversations with patients who have undergone private bariatric surgery, or who are considering private bariatric surgery. These PILs have been shared with all GP practices in NHS Grampian.

These documents will shortly be available via Grampian Guidance.

Rapid Action Drug Alerts and Response (RADAR) Quarterly Report

Please see the attached latest RADAR report, note that opioids still feature heavily in toxicology data in those individuals that have sadly died from a drug related death.

[Rapid Action Drug Alerts and Response \(RADAR\) quarterly report - January 2025 - Rapid Action Drug Alerts and Response \(RADAR\) quarterly report - Publications - Public Health Scotland](#)

Community Pharmacy staff have an important role to play when it comes to supplying take home naloxone. Very important that Naloxone supply and training on its use is regularly offered to people at risk of an accidental opioid overdose, or those that may witness be around someone who overdoses. This includes but is not limited to, patients receiving opioid replacement therapies, clients who are accessing needle exchange, those prescribed high dose opioids. For a more detailed list of those at risk see: [Guidance For Drug Treatment Services In Grampian Undertaking Supply Of Naloxone To People At Risk Of Opioid Overdose, Significant Others And Services In Contact With Those At Risk](#)

For information or support in relation to supplying Naloxone, please contact the Substance Use Pharmacy Team: gram.smspharmacists@nhs.scot.

Clinical Drop-In Series – Introduction to Blood Sessions

An NES postgraduate tutor, Rona Honnet, is presenting three introduction to bloods sessions (U&Es, FBC and LFTs) on behalf of the CPD Connect General Practice Nursing team as part of their Clinical drop-in series running until March 2025.

They have kindly opened up these sessions to pharmacy colleagues, so please share this within your networks as appropriate.

Sessions can be booked via Turas Learn here: [clinical drop-in series December 2024 – March 2025](#), and recordings of each session (minus the Q&A) will be shared afterwards

University of Aberdeen Research Project

A team of researchers from the University of Aberdeen have recently launched a project that involves trying a new approach in which patients are empowered to question the prescriber and be more involved in the decision-making around their care.

This may lead to an increase in questions/queries from patients to you, following an article in STV News.

Patients aged 65 year and older who use one or more anticholinergic medicines have been invited to take part in the research. More information can be found here:

<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/iahs/research/specialist-collaborations/actra/acer/inform-study/>

If you would like any further information about the project, please contact Dr. Carrie Stewart – carrie.stewart@abdn.ac.uk.

Save the Date: Training Events

Navigating Migraine Webinar	Wednesday 29 th January 2025, 7pm – 8.30pm.	This session aims to provide knowledge on migraine understanding, treatment and support. Click here to register, leaflet also attached.
MAT Standards Webinar	Tuesday 4 th February 2025, 7pm – 8.30pm.	This webinar will explore how optimising Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) can ensure individuals have immediate access to a variety of treatment options while supporting them to make informed choices and access the support they feel they need for their recovery journey. Click here to register.
NES Webinar: Substance Use Disorder	Tuesday 4 th February 2025, 7 – 8.30pm.	This session focuses on the critical role that pharmacy teams can play in supporting people who use substances in Scotland and achieving the national mission to prevent drug deaths. The event will also examine the impact of trauma and stigma on the outcomes of people who use our services. Click here to register.
Improving Migraine Management Workshop	Wednesday 5 th February 2025, 7pm – 8.30pm.	Aims to fill knowledge gaps staff have around migraine management. Click here to register, leaflet also attached.
Pharmacist Independent Prescribing – Getting Started in Community Pharmacy	Wednesday 5 th 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. Book your IP webinar place.

Pharmacy in Practice 2025 Conference	Wednesday 12 th March 2025, Novotel Edinburgh Park	Click here for more details and registration.
Physical Assessment Skills Training Opportunity	Friday 28 th March 2025. Forrest Grove House, Aberdeen	Click here for more details and registration.

Smoking Cessation Update

Common PCR Error

Please note that some pharmacies are still incorrectly putting the pharmacy telephone number as a contact instead of the patient's telephone number. This is highlighted to us as an error and may affect your payment.

Please **DO NOT PUT THE PHARMACY NUMBER AS THE CONTACT NUMBER**. If the patient does not have a telephone number, please put **“UNKNOWN”**.

No Smoking Day 12th March 2025

We encourage you all to promote your smoking cessation services in the lead up to No Smoking Day on 12th March 2025.

If you have space, why not create a window or table campaign? You can order tobacco Resources free of charge here: [Browse By Subject](#).

ASH Scotland have a great campaign with useful resources here: [No Smoking Day - ASH Scotland](#).

Women's Health

You may have seen that it was cervical cancer awareness week last week. Please remember that there is a great section on NHS Inform around women's health and the part pharmacy can play in their care: [Women's health: How your pharmacist can help | NHS inform](#)

In addition, please be reminded that all women aged 25-64 are eligible for cervical smears: [Cervical screening \(smear test\) in Scotland | NHS inform](#). Please promote it on your own socials.

Public Health Update

Gold Awards

4 more pharmacies have successfully achieved their GOLD standard awards! Congratulations to:

Baird's Pharmacy, Fraserburgh: Kimberley (Pharmacist) Irene (ACT/Public Health Champion), Jade (Dispenser), Chloe (Trainee ACT) and Carmen (Dispenser). Great work!

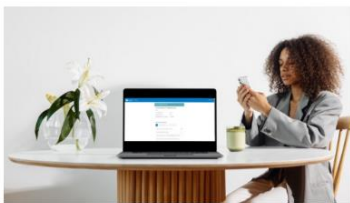
Buchanhaven Pharmacy: Lindsey (Technician), Matthew (Dispenser/Public Health Champion), Carole (Dispenser), Susanne (IP Pharmacist), Tanya (Dispenser) and not forgetting Mary (Pharmacy Manager) who was called away to support a customer! Well done!

Crimond Pharmacy: Michelle (Pharmacist) Emily (Technician/Public Health Champion), Victoria (Pharmacist), Lori (Pharmacy Manager &ACT), Lindsay (ACT), Sophie (Dispenser), Amy (Trainee Pharmacist) and Jacqui (Counter assistant). Great work!

Webster's Pharmacy, Peterhead: Shannon (Pharmacist), Angela (Public Health Champion/HCA), Pauline (HCA) and Stephanie (Dispensing assistant). Well done to the whole team!



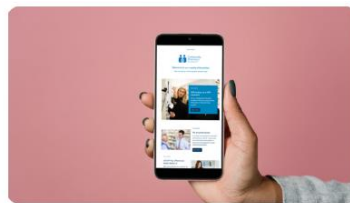
Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



27/01/2025 • Graham Le Tissier

Medicines Care and Review (MCR) Ready Reckoner: 27th January 2025

This week's MCR Ready Reckoner has been updated and is now available to download or you can view it via the App.



24/01/2025 • Robbie Collins

Weekly eNewsletter 23rd January 2025

To view our latest eNewsletter through your browser, please click on the link



23/01/2025 • Graham Le Tissier

The Scottish Pharmacy Awards are Back for 2025

The Scottish Pharmacy Awards will return for 2025 with a real opportunity for the amazing work that is undertaken in Pharmacy across Scotland to be celebrated once again. Pharmacy success should be shouted about far and wide so please get those nominations in for you and your team. Deadline for entries is the 17th February 2025 so don't delay enter today. The awards will take place at the EICC on Saturday 26th April 2025.



23/01/2025 • Adam Osprey

Physical Assessment Skills Training Opportunity

Over the last 12 months, NES have been supporting our 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. Due to the success of this training NES are running another series of events in the coming months.

The Happy Place 😊

A huge Happy 30th Birthday to our very own Marie Livingston (PCS Administrator)! We hope you had a fantastic time celebrating last week. Many of you will have spoken to Marie over the years, as she first joined our team at the age of 19!



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](#)