

# Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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## Agency Referrals

We have received reports that agency referral prescriptions received via email at community pharmacies from GMEDs, are not always arriving at community pharmacies via post. Although this is not common, we have discussed the process that should be followed, should this happen.

If you receive a prescription from GMEDs via the agency referral process, and have not received the original prescription within **one week**, you should send an email to [gram.gmedurgent@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.gmedurgent@nhs.scot), along with a scanned copy of the agency referral you received. A member of the GMEDs team will chase this prescription, and ensure you receive it.

## Save the Date: Training Events

<b>GPhC Virtual Listening Event:</b>	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2025, 7pm – 8pm.	<a href="#">Click here</a> to register.
<b>Introduction to Suicide Prevention Training</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 10am – 11.30am.</li><li>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2pm – 3.30pm.</li></ul>	Free introduction to Suicide Prevention training, delivered by SAMH. Please <a href="#">click here</a> to book a session, or find the attached flyer for more information.
<b>NES Annual Virtual Conference</b>	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2025.	Building on the growing success of previous events, this year's theme is Learning for Change: Tackling Health Inequity through Education and Workplace Learning. For more information visit the <a href="#">NES Annual Conference 2025 website</a> .
<b>Introduction to Sexual Health Course</b>	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025, 9 am – 12pm.	Please <a href="#">click here</a> to register, and view the attached flyer for more information.

## Smoking Cessation Update

### Opening New PCR Files

You may remember that there were some updates to the PCR system last year. One of these changes was that you could open multiple files for the same patient to allow easy transfer between pharmacies.

Unfortunately the National ISD system is not compatible with these changes and therefore we ask you all to defer back to the previous system. Therefore **PLEASE DO NOT OPEN A NEW PCR FILE FOR YOUR PATIENT UNTIL THE FOLLOWING WEEK** (a Thursday must pass for National upload). Opening 2 files may result in missed payment.

Many thanks for your cooperation on this, we appreciate it is frustrating!

## Missed Submission Payments for Smoking Cessation Services

From this month no payments will be made for submissions that are out with the scheduled PCR window. We will honour those already in the system who have alerted us to missed 4 week submissions and are looking to update the 12 week information.

Please ensure your PCR housekeeping is infallible and your “reports” function is checked at least once a week for pending submissions.

## Public Health Update

### Bowel Cancer Awareness Month

April is Bowel Cancer Awareness Month and together we can heighten promotion. Public Health Scotland (PHS) have fantastic resources that are available for promoting Bowel screening ([Campaign assets | Public Health Scotland News](#)). If you have a special interest why not utilise the bowel screening TURAS modules ([NHS Scotland National Screening Programmes : bowel screening | Turas | Learn](#)) suitable for Pharmacy staff.

Also, there is a revamped cancer screening postcard available to order from Resources, please can we ask ALL our GOLD pharmacies to stock this resource and as many other pharmacies as possible! - [HPAC](#)

Finally, throughout Bowel Cancer Awareness Month, you can follow and share content from Bowel Cancer UK. There is more information including case studies available at [www.getcheckedearly.org/real-stories](http://www.getcheckedearly.org/real-stories). Look out for things to share on our own [Facebook](#) page.

## NES Pharmacy Update: April 2025

[Click here](#) to view the NES Pharmacy April update. This edition includes a social media update, NES annual conference, preparing for changes to the Foundation Training Year 2025/26, new resources: vaccination conversations and menopause e-learning module, NES programmes and events.

## Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



07/04/2025 • Graham Le Tissier

### Medicines Care and Review (MCR) Ready Reckoner: 7th April 2025

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



07/04/2025 • Graham Le Tissier

### Community Pharmacy Scotland Chair and Vice-Chair Announcement

We are pleased to announce that following the close of the nominations on Thursday 3rd of April 2025, Martin Green, who stood unopposed for the position of Chair of Community Pharmacy Scotland and James Semple, who also stood unopposed for the position of Vice Chair, have both accepted these appointments for the 2025-2028 term.



03/04/2025 • Robbie Collins

### Weekly Newsletter: 3rd April 2025

Here is a round-up of all the important news this week, including the latest updates on Independent Prescribing and Community Pharmacy vacancies within the network.



03/04/2025 • Community Pharmacy Scotland

### Community Pharmacy Independent Prescribers and Trainees - Please Keep Us Informed

It is important that we have an up to date record of our CPIPs and Trainees. If there are any changes to your circumstances, please let us know by completing the attached form and sending it to us on [enquiries@cps.scot](mailto:enquiries@cps.scot).

## The Happy Place 😊

### Scottish Pharmacist Awards 2025

Huge congratulations to Grampian's nominations at the Scottish Pharmacist Awards, which will take place on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025. The nominee's include Rowlands Pharmacy Ellon for Pharmacy of the Year, Holburn Pharmacy for their Commitment to Health and Wellbeing, and also Debbie Smith for Pharmacist of the Year. What a great achievement, we wish you all the best of luck!



***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](#)*