

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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Shortage: Galantamine MR Capsules (All Strengths)

In response to the recent MSAN please find attached supporting information pertaining to the ongoing shortage of galantamine modified release capsules. Only one strength of these are out of stock, the other two strengths remain in limited supply. As such we are not recommending proactive identification and switching of patients. The attached information can be utilised in circumstances where timely supplies of capsules cannot be procured.

Patient Group Direction for the Supply of Naloxone (Prenoxad or Nasal Spray)

Please find attached the Patient Group Direction For The Supply Of Naloxone (Prenoxad® Or Nasal Spray) By Approved Healthcare Professionals Working Within NHS Grampian, Version 6.

GPhC Update: Target Setting and Incentivisation

Please [click here](#) to view the GPhC update which highlights the responsibilities of pharmacy teams and owners in ensuring that targets and incentives do not compromise the health, safety and well-being of the public or the professional judgement of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.

Smoking Cessation Update

Varenicline Update

A few have asked about Varenicline. The current situation is that the National PGD is awaiting final sign off and it should be available very soon. We will keep you posted! Training will be a requirement (many of you will not have used it before). Please note that CPS are having a learning evening to prepare you for roll out: **Wednesday 7th May at 7.30-9pm on Microsoft Teams.**

For more details and booking: [Ask Me Anything: Smoking Cessation Varenicline Service | Community Pharmacy Scotland](#)

Opening new PCR Files – IMPORTANT REMINDER!

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!

Smoking Cessation Data for Quarter 3 - Oct-Dec 2024

The table below shows the most recent data (in red) along with the previous for comparison.

	OCT - DEC 2023	JAN – MARCH 2024	APRIL – JUNE 2024	JULY- SEPT 2024	OCT-DEC 2024
TOTAL NUMBER OF SIGN UPS	776	1124	945	833	739
MISSED SUBMISSIONS AT 4 WEEKS AND FINANCIAL LOSS	254 (33%) £3810	246 (22%) £3690	175 (18%) £2625	191 (22.9%) £2865	176 (23.8%) £2640
TOTAL NUMBER OF SUCCESSFUL QUITS	42 (5.4% of all sign ups)	257 (23% of all sign ups)	190 (20% of all sign ups)	175 (21% of all sign ups)	157 (21% of all sign ups)

As you can see, unfortunately sign-ups in quarter 3 have fallen and missed 4-week submissions have risen. The percentage of 12-week quits remains at 21% which just falls short of Scotland's pharmacy national average of 22.9%.

Public Health Update World Hygiene Day 5th May 2025

The date, May 5th, was strategically chosen to represent the five fingers on each hand, symbolising the crucial role hand hygiene plays in healthcare and daily life. NHSG Infection Prevention and Control team (IPCT) will be joining in celebrating this day with a special interest in reducing glove use.

Hand hygiene performed at the right times and in the right way remains one of the most important measures to protect patients and healthcare workers and we urge you all to reflect on your own hand hygiene routine and the use of gloves. Poster attached.

Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



28/04/2025 • Graham Le Tissier

Medicines Care and Review (MCR) Ready Reckoner: 28th 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.



24/04/2025 • Sarah Scott

CPS Engages with Dame Jackie Baillie at Holyrood

Community Pharmacy Scotland was pleased to meet with Dame Jackie Baillie MSP on Tuesday at The Scottish Parliament to discuss the vital role of community pharmacy in Scotland's healthcare system.



24/04/2025 • Robbie Collins

PRS System Downtime - April 25th @ 18:00 until April 28th @ 08:00

Our colleagues at NSS have asked us to pass on the following message:

NHS National Services Scotland (NSS) are undertaking a tech refresh of the Patient Registration Service (PRS) to ensure continued support. **As part of this process, NSS will need to schedule a PRS system downtime.**



17/04/2025 • Community Pharmacy Scotland

COVID-19 Spring Vaccine Poster - Public Health Scotland

Our colleagues at Public Health Scotland (PHS) have asked us to share the following update regarding the COVID-19 spring vaccine poster for people with a weakened immune system.

The Happy Place 😊

Scottish Pharmacist Awards 2025

Huge congratulations to Debbie Smith, from Davidsons Chemist, Portsoy, who won the Pharmacist of the Year award for her unwavering support of her local GP practice and patients at the Scottish Pharmacist Awards! Our congratulations also go to Rowlands Pharmacy, Ellon, and Holburn Pharmacy, for being shortlisted. This is a fantastic achievement!



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](#)*