

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



Contents

01: Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) for Venlafaxine 37.5mg Modified Release Tablet

02: Patient Group Direction for the Supply of Medicines Included in the Malaria Prophylaxis PGD Formulary V2:

03: Reminder-Use of NHS Scotland and NHSG Logos

04: Public Health Update: Alcohol Awareness Week, Stocking Free Condoms

05: Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up

06: The Happy Place 😊

Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) for Venlafaxine 37.5mg Modified Release Tablet

Please find the attached circular to advise of a Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) in place for venlafaxine 37.5mg modified release tablet, from 23 June 2025 to 1 August 2025.

Patient Group Direction for the Supply of Medicines Included in the Malaria Prophylaxis PGD Formulary V2

Please find attached the recently approved and authorised North of Scotland PGD, which supersedes all previous versions.

Reminder- Use of NHS Scotland and NHS Grampian Logos

Please [see attached link](#) to circular reminding community pharmacy contractors about the key service requirements of the NHS Pharmacy First Scotland service. Please be reminded about the use of the NHS Scotland and NHS Grampian logos. As a reminder an NHS PFS provider may only issue or display the publicity material and patient information leaflet made available by Scottish Ministers. Also be reminded if listing the NHS PFS service on a service offered panel, pharmacy leaflet or website then the NHS PFS provider must not suggest that the service is exclusive to that pharmacy.

It is important that pharmacy contractors clearly differentiate at all times between private and NHS Scotland-funded services and consider how these should be respectively promoted. Community pharmacies can only promote NHS Pharmacy First Scotland and other NHS pharmacy services with NHS Scotland or NHS Board-supplied resources.

Most community pharmacies have the NHS Scotland logo on signage, permitted as part of the NHS Scotland services they offer. In such instances, the NHS Scotland logo can only be used for promotion of NHS Scotland-funded services that sit within the national framework and locally arranged services with NHS Boards.

Public Health Update

Alcohol Awareness Week: 7th – 13th July 2025

Just a heads up, especially for our GOLD pharmacies, that this will take place 7th-13th July 2025. This year's theme is around alcohol and work so perfect for staff as well as patients.

Alcohol Awareness Week is coordinated by Alcohol Change UK. Each year, over 6,000 public health teams, workplaces, GP surgeries, pharmacies, hospitals, charities and other community groups across the country sign up to take part using resources provided. If you'd like to take part, visit the link here: [About Alcohol Awareness Week | Alcohol Change UK](#).

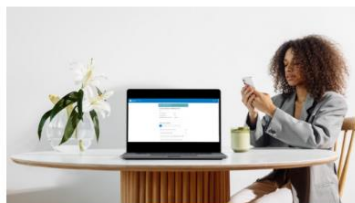
Also, as always, posters and props can be ordered free here: [HPAC](#). We'd love to see any displays!

Stocking Free Condoms

Can we remind you that your pharmacy can register with NHS Grampian Resources to stock free condoms. We urge as many as possible to register and remind our GOLD pharmacies that this is a mandatory requirement.

The service aims to provide free condoms across Grampian to reduce sexual health inequalities in populations most vulnerable to poor sexual health outcomes so we mostly urge those pharmacies who sit in a lower SIMD area. If you are interested, please email: GRAM.freecondoms@nhs.scot or call 01224 558504.

Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



30/06/2025 • Graham Le Tissier

Medicines Care and Review (MCR) Ready Reckoner

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



30/06/2025 • Emma Ramage

July 2025 Part 7 Publishing

Please note, due to ongoing discussions with PHS the final round of Adjusted Prices for June are likely to be agreed and published on Tuesday 1st July 2025.



30/06/2025 • Graham Le Tissier

Prescription Collection Courier Service: 3rd July 2025

Your next courier collection is scheduled for Thursday, July 3rd, 2025. We have produced the following guidelines for your prescription bag submissions.



26/06/2025 • Graham Le Tissier

My Quit Journey: Week Four with the Varenicline Service

Follow Graham Le Tissier's week three experience using the Varenicline Service to quit smoking, insights, challenges, and support from community pharmacy.

The Happy Place 😊

Did you know tomorrow; 2nd July we will have officially reached the halfway mark of the year! Now sorry to make you feel old but at this point we will be closer to the year 2050 than to the year 2000!



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](#)