

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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Sharps Waste

Community pharmacies should only accept pharmaceutical waste that directly relates to **medicines prescribed by NHS Grampian**. We appreciate that it is not always possible to identify the source of the returned waste. However, we have received reports of some local businesses advising their colleagues to return waste to their local pharmacy and some NHS sharps bins being provided for private services such as Weight Loss injections. **This is not allowed.**

One report referred to sharps waste from a local beauty/aesthetics clinic. **We ask community pharmacies to query the source of any sharps before accepting them.**

If you are aware of similar practices or attempts in your local area, please report them to gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot.

Emergency Supply at the Request of a Patient

With the new Unscheduled Care PGD being published a couple of weeks ago, we thought it was good timing to remind the network of alternative options for patients when the Unscheduled Care PGD is not applicable i.e. patient does not fall into the inclusion criteria set out in the PGD.

Legislation does not prevent a pharmacist from making an emergency supply when a doctor's surgery is open. By sending a patient to the doctor, this may cause undue delay in them obtaining the medication and the pharmacist must use their professional judgement in each scenario to decide what is best for the patient. The guidance in Medicines, Ethics and Practice says that if the pharmacist refuses to supply, a record could be made of why the request was refused for audit purposes.

We have attached a section of the Medicines, Ethics and Practice latest guidance, to remind the community pharmacy teams the do's and don'ts of an emergency supply at the request of a patient. We hope you find this helpful.

Smoking Cessation Update CO MONITORS

Thank you to everyone who has engaged to receive a CO monitor. Resources are in the process of getting them all distributed. If you have not been in touch with them to discuss receiving it, please see all the details in last week's newsletter. If you requested delivery to an NHS premise, please be patient as it may take a few weeks to arrive.

We are aware that you will not have used this tool for 5 years and it may take some getting used to but please remember that it's a fantastic motivational tool for many patients. There's lots of information on

usage available at Bedfont's smokerlyzer webpage here: [Smokerlyzer Resources - Bedfont Scientific Ltd. Resources](#)

Public Health Update

Public Health September Campaigns

As always, we are delighted when we see pharmacies engage in campaigns and September has some very important topics:

- Gynae Cancer Awareness Month
- World Alzheimer's Month
- National Blood Cancer Awareness Month
- Urology Awareness Month
- Sepsis Awareness Month
- Suicide Prevention Day 10th Sept
- Organ Donation week 22nd-29th Sept

We will be sharing lots of information on our [Facebook](#) page and kindly ask you to re-share on your own platforms please.

Resources available if you register with HPAC here: [HPAC](#).

Naloxone Update

Thanks to everyone who attended the Naloxone training evening on 13th August. Please be reminded if you didn't manage to attend, the recording is available if you scroll down on the page here: [Substance Use Service \(SUS\) Addiction Support – NHS Grampian](#).

Please find attached the Naloxone flowchart for use in your pharmacies.

Save the Date: Introduction to Sexual Health Course

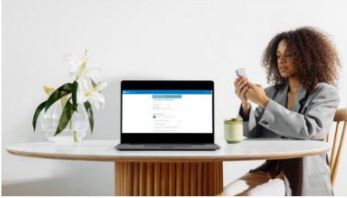
Please find attached a flyer with information to register for our upcoming Introduction to Sexual Health course, which will be held on Friday 7th November 2025, between 9am and 12pm and is being held online via Microsoft Teams, for your attention.

Please share this information with interested colleagues and submit any enquiries via gram.srhtraining@nhs.scot.

NES September Pharmacy Newsletter

Please [click here](#) to view the NES September pharmacy newsletter. This edition includes: experiential learning stakeholder engagement series – shaping the future of experiential learning in Scotland, community pharmacy workforce survey, updated NHS pharmacy first Scotland e-learning modules – Impetigo and Urinary Tract Infections (UTIs), resources, events and NES programmes.

Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



08/09/2025 • 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.



04/09/2025 • Robbie Collins

Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey - Sunday 7th September

This Sunday (07/09/25), **NES Pharmacy**, in partnership with **Community Pharmacy Scotland (CPS)**, will be coordinating the next **national community pharmacy workforce survey**. This is the week to capture your staffing data for the Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey 2025.



04/09/2025 • Gill Paterson

Scottish Drugs Forum #STOP THE DEATHS CONFERENCE 2025

Late August saw Gill and Gordon from our Policy Team attend the **Scottish Drugs Forum** in Glasgow. The two-day conference highlighted the importance of lived-in experience influencing future strategy, with updates on recent developments across Scotland as well as other parts of the UK.



04/09/2025 • Gordon Winter

An Introduction to the CPS Manifesto 2026

Around the globe, decades of social and healthcare sector progress have driven life expectancy higher than ever, but not all of these years gained are lived in **good health**, particularly in areas of higher **deprivation**.

The Happy Place 😊

This week we are delighted to share the below shout out, happy travelling Jodie!

All of us at JMF Healthcare (Newtonhill, Garthdee, Edzell and Balmedie Pharmacy) would love to wish Jodie, our relief pharmacist, a fabulous time as she heads off to travel the South East of Asia for the next three months. Whilst everyone over all four shops is devastated to not work with Jodie for the next few months, we could not be more excited for her to have an amazing experience and capture so many memories. We are even more excited that she will be back just in time for the Christmas rush 😊! Have an amazing time away Jodie, no one deserves it more!



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](#)