

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

A Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) is a nationally recognised process to identify how professionals can help victim-survivors at high risk of serious harm or death from domestic abuse.

Professionals hold regular local MARAC meetings to discuss cases. They discuss current concerns about a case and share information they have about a victim, any connected children and the perpetrator of the abuse.

The meeting formulates an action plan, which helps to reduce risks to the victim and their family.

For more information on making a MARAC referral, consent, and MARAC governance please visit: [Multi-Agency Risk Assessment conference \(MARAC\) - West Sussex County Council](#).

Smoking Cessation Update

Stoptober Campaign

We encourage you all to push your smoking cessation services during Stoptober which runs throughout the whole month of October. Please ensure that you are advertising smoking services at all times.

All resources for the UK Government campaign are here: [Stoptober 2025 | Campaigns | Campaign Resource Centre](#).

Lots of smoking materials available here: [HPAC](#).

GOLD pharmacies, you were all emailed last week asking you to please utilise MEOC techniques to opportunistically identify smokers keen to stop and step up your smoking promotion. You will be required to demonstrate MEOC initiatives at revalidation. We'd love to see your displays, only 2 GOLD pharmacies out of 24 have responded so far.

Save the Date: Training Sessions

FAST Education, Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland

- Thursday 23rd October 2025, 12pm
- Tuesday 18th November 2025, 2.30pm
- Wednesday 3rd December 2025, 10am
- Friday 9th January 2026, 11am

This 30-minute online training, run by Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland, is aiming to improve stroke recognition through improving understanding of the FAST tool.

Please find the attached flyer which contains a QR code to

	Thursday 22nd January 2026, 2pm	register. Or alternatively, click here .
NES Cancer Care for Pharmacy Teams	Tuesday 28 th October, 7.30 pm - 9pm.	This webinar will be led by Jennifer Laskey, Consultant Pharmacist at the West of Scotland Cancer Network, and will explore the pharmacy team's vital role in cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment support. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your knowledge and confidence in delivering impactful cancer care. Book via Turas Learn here: Cancer Care for Pharmacy Teams webinar registration.
NES Bereavement Education Conference	Tuesday 11 th November 2025	Further information about the event and how to register can be found on the Bereavement Education Conference 2025 - Bereavement as a Kaleidoscope website.
Grampian Palliative and End of Life Care Network Professional Conference	Wednesday 19 th November 2025, Aberdeen Altens Hotel	Registration is now open for the 2025 Grampian Palliative and End of Life Care Network Professional Conference. Please see the attached programme and workshop brochure for further details, including the link to register via Eventbrite.

NES Pharmacy Update – October 2025

Please [click here](#) to view the October NES pharmacy update. This edition includes: research fellowship opportunities for pharmacy teams, prescriber database update, resources, events and NES programmes.

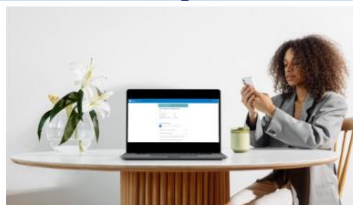
Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



06/10/2025 • Scottish Government

PCA(P)(2025)22 - Serious Shortage Protocol Extension: Estradot® Patches

SSPs for Estradot HRT patches extended to 5 Dec 2025. Pharmacists may substitute with Evorel or Estraderm MX. Review updated guidance.



06/10/2025 • 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.



02/10/2025 • Emma Ramage

Adjusted Prices Review: October 2025 Update

Review updated adjusted prices for October 2025. Several lines stabilised. Continue reporting shortages via Shortages Reporter. Contact CPS for queries.



02/10/2025 • Scottish Government

PCA(P)(2025)21 - Serious Shortage Protocol Extension: Cefalexin Oral Suspension

Serious Shortage Protocols for cefalexin oral suspension sugar free products extended to 24 Oct 2025. Applies to SSP077 and SSP078. Review updated guidance.

The Happy Place ☺

World Mental Health Day takes place every year on 10th October. It's a reminder of the importance of good mental health and the need to prioritise and invest in good mental health.

This year's theme is 'access to services - mental health in catastrophes and emergencies'. The theme highlights the importance of people being able to protect their mental health in times of global instability.



[World Mental Health Day 2025 | Mental Health Foundation](#)

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](#)