

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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PCA(P)(2025)25 – Extension to Serious Shortage Protocols for Creon Gastro-Resistant Capsules

The attached Circular advises Health Boards and community pharmacy contractors that two UK-wide Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) for Creon® gastro-resistant capsules both due to expire on 21st November 2025 have been extended until Friday 16th January 2026.

Patient Group Direction for the Administration of Hepatitis B Vaccine for Travel Indications by Approved Healthcare Professionals

Please find attached the recently updated and authorised PHS PGD; this supersedes all previous versions.

North of Scotland Care Portal Update

We are pleased to announce that the North of Scotland Care Portal is now live!

The Care Portal is a digital platform that provides staff across NHS Grampian, NHS Orkney, and NHS Shetland with a single, unified view of patient information drawn from multiple health and care IT systems. This integration enhances both patient care and safety.

If you are an independent prescriber within NHS Grampian, you should have received an email containing detailed instructions on how to register for portal access. Please review this email carefully and ensure that all required documentation is completed and returned.

For further information and access to relevant documentation, please visit our website: [Care Portal – NHS Grampian](#)

NHS Grampian Language Line and TransMedD Resources

Please be reminded that community pharmacies have free access to the Language Line and translation tools for prescription instructions. Find the attached language line instructions and the link below to access the TransMedD resources:

- [Browse By Subject \(durham.gov.uk\)](#) select TransmedD in subject box, then download the file to see the 21 language translation options.
- To access the Customer ID Code for the NHS Grampian Language Line, please contact us at: gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot. Please note that the Customer ID Code should not be shared beyond your pharmacy team.

- Further information on TransMedD and the NHS Language Line is available on the Community Pharmacy website here: [Translation for Patients – NHS Grampian](#).

World Aids Day Briefing and Launch of HIV Informed for the Health and Social Care Workforce

Scotland could be the first country in the world to eliminate new transmissions of HIV. The number of newly diagnosed infections thought to have been acquired within Scotland was only 37 in 2023, falling further to just 25 in 2024. Our ambitious target of zero HIV transmission by 2030 remains within reach, but the challenges are significant. An effective whole-system approach to HIV transmission elimination requires the engagement of the wider workforce to support our multiple national actions and interventions.

[HIV Informed](#), a new online learning hub designed to help Scotland's health and social care workforce build knowledge, confidence and understanding around HIV helps to address issues of stigma, outdated knowledge and misconceptions, and is launched on World Aids Day 2025. It is important to ensure that everyone across the health and care workforce is able to access and utilise these resources.

HIV Informed - New online learning hub to tackle HIV stigma in health and social care

On World AIDS Day, Monday 1st December 2025, HIV charity, Waverley Care, launched [HIV Informed](#), a free online learning hub developed in partnership with NHS Scotland and people living with HIV and funded by the Scottish Government.

While huge progress has been made in HIV treatment and prevention, stigma and outdated attitudes still persist in some health and social care settings. Research shows that people living with HIV can still face discrimination or inappropriate treatment, experiences that can make them reluctant to access care or share important health information. This can have serious consequences for their health and wellbeing.

HIV Informed aims to change this by equipping Scotland's workforce with accurate, up-to-date knowledge about HIV today. The platform features short videos, real-life stories, engaging learning modules, and downloadable guides to help professionals deliver inclusive, stigma-free care.

Public Health Scotland are encouraging all health and social care partners, local authorities, and health boards to share HIV Informed with their workforce and help build a Scotland where everyone receives care with dignity and respect.

To support the launch of this online learning hub, Waverley Care have created a communications toolkit (PDF attached) to make it as easy as possible to share this new resource, with ready-to-use materials for websites, staff newsletters, and social media.

Explore and share: www.hiv-informed.scot.

NHS Grampian Sexual Health Festive Opening Hours

Please find the attached document which details Sexual Health festive opening hours in Grampian, and contact details for health professionals to direct sexual health advice queries.

Save the Date: Training Sessions

FAST Education, Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 3rd December 2025, 10am • Friday 9th January 2026, 11am • Thursday 22nd January 2026, 2pm 	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 register. Or alternatively, click here .
SRH Fitters (Coils/Implants) Forum Update	Monday 8 th December 2025, 6.30pm – 8pm.	Please find attached a flyer and programme with information on how to register for the upcoming Fitters Forum (Coils/Implants) Update, which will be held online via Microsoft Teams, for your attention.
Aberdeenshire ADP Drug Trends & Harm Reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 16th December 2025, 9:30am to 12:30pm - click here to register. • Tuesday 20th January 2025, 1pm – 4pm – click here to register. 	This session provides trainees with essential drug knowledge to enhance their understanding of harm reduction and will take place on MS Teams
Aberdeenshire ADP Emerging Trends Training	Tuesday 16 th December 2025, 6pm – 8pm.	This session will include similar content to what is covered in our Drug Trends & Harm Reduction session. If you have already participated in that course, there is no need to take this one. Click here to register.
BBV Education and Information Day	Tuesday 24 th February 2026 at The Golden Jubilee, Clydebank.	<p>This event will include topics across blood borne viruses (BBVs) including hepatitis C, hepatitis B and HIV. This is an opportunity to focus on the role of stakeholders in delivering the interventions required to achieve HIV transmission elimination and the elimination of hepatitis C and to address the risk of hepatitis B across Scotland.</p> <p>Registration will close at 5pm on 23rd December 2025. Click here to register.</p>

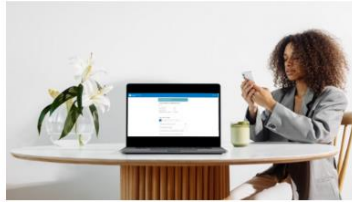
Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



01/12/2025 • Emma Ramage

Part 7 Drug Tariff Updates: December 2025

Four new items added to Part 7 of the drug tariff for December 2025. Check the latest updates and contact CPS for more information.



01/12/2025 • 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.



28/11/2025 • Milo Menzies

Prescription Collection Courier Service: 2nd December 2025

Your next courier collection is scheduled for Tuesday, December 2nd, 2025. We have produced the following guidelines for your prescription bag submissions.



27/11/2025 • Adam Osprey

Pharmacy First Changes: Webinar Output

Last Thursday the CPS team held a webinar which covered the recent changes to **NHS Pharmacy First Scotland remuneration**, and gave attendees the opportunity to ask questions of the team.

The Happy Place 😊

On Thursday 11th December, Save the Children's Christmas jumper day is back! It's your big chance to raise money, have fun, and create change for children for generations to come. If your pharmacy are taking part, please remember to send us your pictures!

[Christmas Jumper Day 2025 | Save the Children UK](#)



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 togram.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](#)