

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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Discontinuation of Supply of Suboxone and Subutex Sublingual Tablets

The attached information has been produced in collaboration with the Specialist Pharmacy team in the Drug and Alcohol service. They can be contacted if necessary for further advice via email: gram.smspharmacists@nhs.scot.

Public Health Scotland Childhood Vaccination Incident Professional Briefing

Please find attached an information sheet which aims to provide a summary of the ongoing enhanced incident in relation to the childhood vaccination programme and a summary of what communications activity will be taking place from this week (w/c 12 January 2026).

If there are any NHS Grampian operational queries, please contact: gram.vaccineenquiries@nhs.scot

Public Health Scotland Guidance User Survey: Measuring the Impact of PHS Health Protection Guidance

Public Health Scotland (PHS) is undertaking work to develop a national framework for measuring the implementation and impact of health protection guidance in practice across Scotland.

PHS has a lead role in the development and maintenance of national health protection guidance. While guidance is central to supporting consistent, evidence-informed practice, there is currently no standardised, system-wide approach to understanding how guidance is implemented or the impact it has on professional practice, service delivery, and wider health outcomes.

As part of this work, we are seeking input from stakeholders across the health protection system through a short survey. Please complete all sections if you wish to address all questions in this survey. *If you only have 5 minutes, please complete at least sections 1, 4 and 5.*

Survey link: [PHS health protection guidance user survey – Fill in form](#)

Please submit your response by Tuesday 27th January 2026.

Overview of Hospital at Home Service

The Aberdeen City Hospital at Home team have commenced a small trial / Test of Change (TOC), expanding the service slightly into Aberdeenshire (Skene & Portlethen practices).

Please find attached the brief overview of the Hospital at Home service.

Pharmacy specific queries should be directed to: gram.hospitalathomepharmacy@nhs.scot.

All **clinical / medical** queries should still be directed to: gram.hospitalathomeclinical@nhs.scot.

Smoking Cessation Update

A new year is often a great time to engage smokers who are keen to stop!

We encourage you all to advertise your smoking cessation services all month. GOLD pharmacies, heightened promotion is mandatory and please do think about using the Very Brief Advice (VBA) model to capture patients who smoke.

The VBA algorithm and Smoking and Vaping pathway are both attached, printing them out to have nearby can be very useful.

There is good VBA training at the link here - [NCSCT e-learning](#) - you need to create an account, and it takes around 20 minutes to complete.

Save the Date: Training Sessions

National Launch Event: Sexual Wellbeing Image Resource Library (SWIRL)	Wednesday 14 th January 2026, 11:30am – 12:30pm.	Please find the link to the Sexual Wellbeing Image Resource Library (SWIRL) webinar on the attached flyer to celebrate the launch of Scotland's new free image library designed to support professionals in creating accessible and inclusive sexual health and wellbeing information.
FAST Education Dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Thursday 22nd January 2026, 2pm.Thursday 5th February 2026, 11am.Wednesday 18th February 2026, 3pm.Friday 6th March, 10am.Wednesday 18th March 2026, 1pm.	Please find the attached flyer to register for Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland's FAST Education 30-minute online sessions, which aim to improve stroke recognition.
National Webinar: The Chat – Parent Information Resource	Wednesday 4 th February 2026, 12:30pm – 1:30pm.	Please find the attached flyer to register for a webinar session introducing theChat, a parent information resource, created in response to feedback from patients and carers to support them to have meaningful conversations with children and young people about relationships and sexual health.

NES Pharmacy Update: January 2026

Please [click here](#) to view the January NES Pharmacy update. This issue includes:

- First Community Pharmacy Technician completes Vocational Training Foundation Programme for Pharmacy Technicians
- Have Your Say: Consultation on Scotland's New IPC Specialist Career Framework
- Launch of the Code of Practice for Support Workers
- National Pharmacy Workforce Forum page on Turas Learn
- Resources, webinar recordings and programmes.

Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



12/01/2026 • 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.



12/01/2026 • Graham Le Tissier

NHS Pharmacy First Approved List Updated January 2026

The NHS Pharmacy First Scotland approved product list has been updated for January 2026. Key changes include eczema treatments and cough remedies.



08/01/2026 • Adam Osprey

CPS Manifesto 2026: Infrastructure and Integration

Our 2026 Manifesto calls for investment in infrastructure and integration to enable community pharmacies to deliver life-changing services.



08/01/2026 • Adam Osprey

Bagged and Checked Supervision Changes Now Live!

UK pharmacy legislation update: pharmacists can now authorise handing out checked and bagged prescriptions when absent.

The Happy Place ☺

The NES Pharmacy podcast has been launched to provide updates on pharmacy education and share insights from pharmacy team members involved in training.

Previous episodes have explored the reforms to the initial education and training of pharmacists, the role of the Designated Prescribing Practitioner, the RPS Core Advanced Pharmacist Curriculum Credential, and the changes to the pharmacist Foundation Training Year (FTY) in Scotland. The current series explores Pharmacy Simulation and episode 1-3 are available now.



If you've already tuned in, please share your thoughts via the [feedback form](#).

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](#)