

# Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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## Co-Codamol Shortage

Feedback from the national shortages meeting regarding co-codamol is awaited. In the interim the Pharmacy Shortages Group, and Medicines Management Team/Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate are considering a range of local actions and advice to help further manage this issue.

We will work alongside local stakeholders ie. GPSub and Pharmacy Contractors Committee to agree any local actions and will share further information as soon as possible.

## Rybelsus (Semaglutide Tablets): Transition to New Formulation and Risk of Medication Error

Please find information linked below and attached relating to company led changes in strength & bioavailability of Rybelsus (semaglutide) tablets.

- **Rybelsus (Semaglutide) New Formulation**  
Please find attached.
- **Rybelsus (Semaglutide) Healthcare Information Sheet - [Rybelsus 1.5 mg Tablet - Letters to HCPs - \(emc\) | 101229](#)**
- **Rybelsus (Semaglutide) Patient Information Sheet - <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/rmm/105214/Document>**

## Reminder: Prescription Stationery - CP4/3 Paper Type Change

Please be reminded of the 2024 circular advising community pharmacy contractors of changes to NHS prescription stationery for the CP4/3 prescription form. This circular advises on the introduction of the ePharmacy CP4/3 form which allows community pharmacies to manage and deliver pharmacy-led services from their Patient Medication Record (PMR) system. This replaces the hand-written CPUS form.

## Public Health Update

### Public Health Campaign Calendar for 2026

The NHS Grampian campaign calendar can be found here: [Hi-Net Grampian – Grampian's Health Improvement Network](#).

Please do think about promoting any relevant topic within your communities, free posters and leaflets available at Resources here: [HPAC](#)

## Smoking Cessation Update

### Smoking Cessation Services Data Successes

Last week we shared the data for Quarter 2 (July - Sept 2025) which unfortunately showed a decline in sign-ups and successful quits and a rise in missed 4 week submissions to an all-time high.

Today we highlight the pockets of great work by pharmacies who had a decent amount of sign ups, **zero missed submissions** (at 4 and 12 weeks) and a high percentage of successful quits. They are:

- Torry Pharmacy – 7 sign ups and 6 successful quits, 86% success, very well done Team Torry!
- Bairds, Fraserburgh – 7 sign ups with 4 successful quits, 57% success!
- Websters, New Pitsligo – 6 sign ups with 3 successful quits, 50% success!
- Buckpool Pharmacy – 10 sign ups with 4 successful quits, 40% success!

Also well done to Garthdee, Cults, Clear Aberdeen and Kemnay Pharmacies who only had 4 sign ups but an impressive 75% success rate with no missed submissions.

Well done everyone!

### Locum Responsibility to Complete PCR Entries

As mentioned in newsletter dated 20.01.2026, the most recent smoking cessation data showed missed 4-week submissions during July to September 2025 to be at an all-time high of 27%, a loss to you collectively of £3390.

It's been repeatedly mentioned that missed submissions can happen when pharmacies are short staffed and are using a lot of Locum pharmacists. Therefore, please can we remind all locums that you have a responsibility to ensure all your smoking consultations are entered onto PCR and to check for any submissions which are due whilst you are on shift.

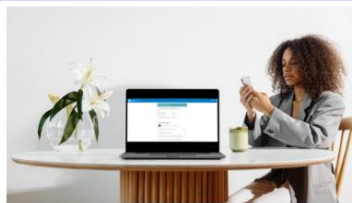
All the information is in the NHS Grampian [Locum pack](#), section 10.8.

PCR registration for locums can be accessed here - [PCR Application form](#).

## NES Pharmacy Update: February 2026

[Click here](#) to view the February 2026 NES Pharmacy update. This issue includes: Refresh of the Post Registration Foundation Programme for October 2026, Refreshed Pharmacy Simulation Turas Learn Page and an Opportunity for Pharmacy Professionals — ECAT-i Clinical PhD Fellowships (2026 Intake).

## Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



02/02/2026 • 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.



30/01/2026 • Scottish Government

### PCA(P)(2026)03 - Extension To SSPs for Estradot® Transdermal Patches

UK-wide Serious Shortage Protocols for Estradot patches and Creon 10000 capsules extended to 17 April 2026. Details for pharmacists included.



30/01/2026 • Emma Ramage

### February 2026 Part 7 Publishing

Update on February 2026 Part 7 Drug Tariff publication, adjusted January prices, and how to report tariff issues via the Shortage Reporter.



29/01/2026 • Scottish Government

### Detect Cancer Earlier: Help Us Share The 'Early Bird' Message

The 'Be the Early Bird' campaign is active again this month with PR, partnerships, digital media and the roadshows planned.

## The Happy Place ☺

### GOLD award success

We are delighted to congratulate the below pharmacies who have both revalidated for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year running!

- Dickies Pharmacy Summerhill, they are proactive and always show great team spirit!
- Garthdee Pharmacy, lead by pharmacist Craig, and Public Health Champions Lynne and Kelly.



***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](mailto: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](#)*