

# Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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## NHS Grampian Pilot Walk-In Service

The attached Communications Paper provides clear, high-level information for NHS Grampian and Aberdeen City HSCP staff about the first pilot walk-in centre for Grampian, to be based in Aberdeen Health Village.

Its aim is to ensure consistent understanding and messaging ahead of launch, reduce confusion across services, and support appropriate signposting. There is also an FAQ document attached.

Please find attached details of the Walk-In Service.

## Vulnerable Adult and Child Protection Letter

Please find attached the Vulnerable Adult and Child Protection letter which was also shared via email on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2026.

## Quantity of Medication Supplied on PPCD Forms

The Department of Health and the Scottish Government have issued strong recommendations that the maximum quantity of schedule 2, 3 or 4 controlled drugs prescribed should not exceed thirty days.

This is not a legal restriction, but prescribers should be able to justify the quantity prescribed on a clinical basis if more than thirty days' supply is prescribed.

A recent review of PPCD forms dispensed within NHS Grampian has highlighted that there have been a number of prescriptions dispensed for quantities in excess of the recommended thirty days. The majority of these prescriptions have been issued from prescribers out-with Grampian.

### **In order to complete due diligence, the following steps are recommended:**

- Contact the prescriber to ensure the prescription is genuine and to seek assurance that it is appropriate to dispense the quantity supplied.
- Record the outcome of the intervention.

## Co-Sleep Advice for Medicines That Cause Drowsiness

Patients who are parents or carers of babies aged up to 12 months should be counselled on the risks of co-sleeping (sleeping with a baby on a bed, sofa, chair, etc.); for further information on safer sleeping and co-sleeping, see the Lullaby Trust - [Co-sleeping | The Lullaby Trust](#). More information on the updated guidance can be found here - [British National Formulary updates medicine guidance](#).

## Updated Procedure – NHS Grampian Patient Group Direction (PGD) Submissions

This is a reminder that following the launch of NHS Grampian's Patient Group Direction (PGD) Submissions Microsoft Form on 21<sup>st</sup> April, paper/emailed copies are no longer accepted, and the form on the webpage linked below must be completed.

Find the form and 'How To' guide on the attached link: [Patient Group Directions \(PGDs\) – NHS Grampian](#).

The information gathered from this form will allow NHS Grampian to fulfil its responsibilities to keep a list of all pharmacists operating in its area who have signed the PGD's currently operating within the Board. We request all pharmacists and locums working within NHS Grampian to complete the form by **1<sup>st</sup> September 2026**.

## Smoking Cessation Update

### Poster Campaign Correction

It's Lyme Disease Awareness Month. We have been alerted by the Scottish Government that posters have **NOT** been distributed to Pharmacies yet and there is no confirmed date when and if they will be distributed. However, all information and resources are available online here: [Resources for pharmacy teams - Lyme Disease UK](#).

You can keep your Rethink Dementia posters up until further posters arrive.

Alternatively, if you have last year's Lyme Disease poster, feel free to put that up in your window. In addition, there are posters and flyers available to order free at Resources here: [Library List](#).

Apologies for the mixed messaging.

## Bursary for Pharmacy Workers and their Families

Please find the attached Vocational Bursary Scheme application guide.

If you know of any GPhC or PSNI registered pharmacist, pharmacy technician, or anyone employed within a community pharmacy who has a child at college, they may be eligible for £1,000 towards college costs, including travel, equipment, uniform and food. To be eligible, the parent or carer must have been working in the trade for at least two years, and the household income must be £30,000 or below.

### *Key Details:*

- £1,000 College Bursary - Non repayable
- Household income: £30,000 or below
- Deadline: 15 May 2026

Apply here: [Vocational Bursaries | The Leverhulme Trust](#)

## Invitation to Participate in MSc Dissertation Study

*My name is Erin Gilmour, and I am currently undertaking an MSc in Health Policy at Imperial College London. As part of my dissertation, I am conducting an evaluation study titled 'Managing medicines shortages in NHS Scotland's pharmacy services.'*

*I am writing to invite you to complete a short online survey (around 5 minutes) to inform this research.*

*The study explores the question: What are the barriers and enablers to implementing Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) medicines shortage policies within NHS Scotland pharmacy services?*

**I am seeking responses from GPhC registered pharmacists and pharmacy technicians across NHS Scotland managed services who have responsibilities in medicines governance, procurement, clinical service leadership, or operational shortage management.**

Your response will be handled confidentially and reported in aggregate/anonymised form in my dissertation, in line with Imperial College London's research governance requirements.

If you are willing to take part, please complete the survey [here](#). If possible, I would be grateful to receive your response by 5<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

Erin will also be undertaking interviews to further explore this topic. If you are willing to participate in a follow-up interview (approximately 30–45 minutes), please contact [erin.gilmour@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:erin.gilmour@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk) to arrange a convenient time. Interviews will be held via MS Teams late May - early June.

## Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



11/05/2026 • Emma Raniga

### Scottish Drug Tariff Re-Balancing 1st May 2026

Following prior agreement with the Scottish Government, May Part 7 prices have been redetermined to add a small value to the tariff from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026.



07/05/2026 • Robbie Collins

### Blood Bikes Scotland - Everest Challenge

This year, we are proud to support **Blood Bikes Scotland** as our **charity partner** and help raise awareness of the incredible work their volunteers do to support NHS Scotland and local communities across the country.



07/05/2026 • Robbie Collins

### PHS Poster Campaign Update

The next poster campaign will focus on Lyme disease. We **do not yet have a confirmed launch date** for this campaign. In the meantime, **please continue displaying your ReThink Dementia poster until further notice.**



07/05/2026 • Adam Olorey

### CPS Snapshot - 4th May 2026

This week's CPS Snapshot highlights the wide range of work taking place across Community Pharmacy Scotland, from shaping the future of digital prescribing and Pharmacy First, to supporting research, collaboration and service development across the sector.

## The Happy Place 😊

The Grampian Wellbeing Festival is taking place throughout May, which is packed with free and low-cost activities. From getting active and creative, to slowing down, learning something new, and connecting with others, there's something for everyone.

You can download free wellbeing resources, inspired by the Five Ways to Wellbeing, to help you make small, positive changes during the festival and beyond.

View the full programme and resources here: [Grampian Wellbeing Festival](#)



**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](#)