

# Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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## NHS Pharmacy First Approved List Update – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026

This update sets out the changes made to the NHS Pharmacy First Scotland Approved List as of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026. It details new additions for oral thrush and allergy/itch and highlights earlier changes that still matter to pharmacy teams.

[NHS Pharmacy First Approved List update June 2026 | Community Pharmacy Scotland](#)

## Launch of Pharmaceutical Care Services Star Award Programme

NHS Grampian Pharmaceutical Care Services (PCS) is introducing a new **Star Award Programme** to recognise the outstanding contributions of community pharmacy teams across Grampian.

The programme is open to pharmacy staff, with nominations submitted via Microsoft Forms. Awards will celebrate excellence in areas such as patient care, teamwork, community outreach, and going above and beyond expected duties.

Successful nominees will be featured in the PCS Weekly Update and on social media, and will receive a certificate of recognition.

At this stage, **nominators can only be accepted by community pharmacy colleagues and NHS Grampian staff**. However following a short pilot period, consideration will be given to open this to allow nominations from members of the public. This will be supported by promotion through social media channels.



If you would like to nominate someone for an award, please complete the Microsoft Form via the link below:

[Star Award Nominations for Community Pharmacy Staff – Fill in form](#)

**Laura Karim, Pharmaceutical Care Services Improvement & Development Manager:**

*“Community pharmacy teams play a vital role in delivering high-quality care to the people of Grampian every day. The introduction of the PCS Star Award Programme provides an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the dedication, innovation, and compassion demonstrated across our entire pharmacy network. We want to ensure that the contributions of all teams—across NHS and community settings—are visible, valued, and appreciated.”*

## Craig Marr, Pharmaceutical Care Services Project Support Manager:

*“Through my role, I regularly visit community pharmacies across Grampian as part of Controlled Drug visits, and I consistently see first-hand the exceptional work being delivered by pharmacy teams. What stands out most is not only the high standard of care, but the time, compassion and commitment staff show to their patients every day.*

*The idea for the PCS Star Award Programme came directly from these experiences, as much of this excellent work is not always visible through NHS Grampian channels. This programme provides an important opportunity to recognise and celebrate the dedication of our pharmacy teams and to ensure their contributions are more widely shared and acknowledged.”*



## Public Health Scotland Injecting Equipment Provision (IEP) 2025-26 NEO Data Analysis

The Public Health Scotland Injecting Equipment Provision team are due to begin the 2025/2026 NEO data analysis.

Please ensure all outstanding injecting equipment provision (IEP) transactions are fully entered and up to date on the NEO system by **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2026**.

This is a key action - having complete and accurate data is essential to ensure PHS can reflect a true picture of IEP activity across Grampian and support future service planning. Your support in prioritising and completing any remaining data entry ahead of the deadline is greatly appreciated. Please share this information to those within your team who deliver IEP as part of their role.

## Medicine Efficiency Ideas

**Do YOU have a medicines efficiency idea?** We are looking for practical, evidence-informed ideas that promote the safe and effective use of medicines, reduce waste, and improve value for patients and the organisation.

Suggestions may include small, local improvements or larger-scale opportunities, provided they focus on delivering measurable financial benefits, focussing in the current financial year, while upholding high standards of patient care.

All ideas submitted will be considered through appropriate governance processes and may be taken forward for wider use across NHS Grampian.

**Links available on the Pharmacy & Medicines Management Grampian Guidance Page**, Medicines Efficiency/Unused Medicines section.

Link to submission form: [Prescribing/Medicines Efficiency Ideas – Fill in form](#)

## Smoking Cessation Update

### Test of Change around Missed Submissions

As stated in previous newsletters, missed submissions at 4-weeks are unusually high in Grampian, sitting at 27.4% in the most recent data. We are always looking at ways to improve data collection and make systems easier for you in such a busy working environment.

It has been suggested that receiving an email alerting you that submissions are due would be a useful addition as it is likely that email messages are checked within the pharmacy daily but PCR may not. We are looking to trial this over the summer and welcome any thoughts and ideas around this.

**Please share your views with your relevant PH Practitioner by the end of June 2026:**

[suzanne.cowie@nhs.scot](mailto:suzanne.cowie@nhs.scot) – Aberdeen City and South

[denise.stirling@nhs.scot](mailto:denise.stirling@nhs.scot) – Moray and North

## Research Participation Opportunity – University of Strathclyde

**For the attention of colleagues who have been successful in the University of Strathclyde January 2026 or RGU October 2025 examination boards - Strathclyde University wants to hear about your journey.**

The short questionnaire below invites you to share your experiences, challenges, and ideas for future support and development in your prescribing role. Your insights will help shape how new PIPs can be supported. The questionnaire can be [found here](#).

Time commitment: 10 minutes

Purpose: Influence future support pathways and contribute to service development.

Bonus: Participation can be used as evidence in your professional portfolio, including:

RPS Post-Registration Foundation Curriculum – Outcome 5.1

RPS Core Advanced Curriculum – Outcome 5.4

Your voice matters — help shape the future of prescribing practice.

If you need any more information please contact Josh Miller [josh.miller@nhs.scot](mailto:josh.miller@nhs.scot) or MPhil supervisor Prof Anne Boyter [anne.boyter@stath.ac.uk](mailto:anne.boyter@stath.ac.uk).

## June PSD Scotland Pharmacy Update

Please [click here](#) to view the June PSD Scotland Pharmacy update. This issue includes: digital transformation at the heart of health and care reform, journal club resources, events, resources and programmes.

## Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



05/06/2026 • Graham Le Tissier

### NHS Pharmacy First Approved List Update – 1st June 2026

Update to the NHS Pharmacy First Scotland Approved List from 1 June 2026, including changes for oral thrush and allergy treatments.



04/06/2026 • Scottish Government

### PCA(P)(2026)08 - Amendments to the Drug Tariff Part 11 Discount Clawback Scale

Update on Drug Tariff Part 11 clawback scale for community pharmacy contractors in Scotland from April 2026.



04/06/2026 • Robbie Collins

### Unscheduled Care Webinar - Recap

Watch this Community Pharmacy Scotland Ask Me Anything session on the Unscheduled Care Service, featuring CPS's Policy team Gordon Winter, Adam Osprey and NHS24's Martin Burnside.



04/06/2026 • Adam Osprey

### CPS Snapshot - 1st June 2026

A weekly snapshot of CPS activity including policy work, digital developments and stakeholder engagement across community pharmacy.

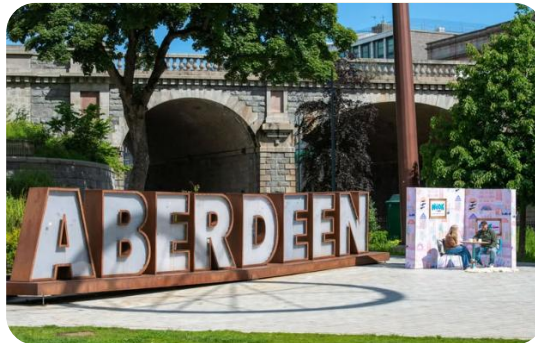
## The Happy Place 😊

The Nook will officially open in Aberdeen on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June! To celebrate, Scottish Action for Mental Health (SAMH) are touring the city with The Wee Nook: a custom-built model which gives a sneak preview of what to expect from the hub.

Pop along to visit at:

- 📍 Union Square (Tuesday 9 June, 3pm – 6pm)
- 📍 Bon Accord Centre (Friday 12 June, 12pm - 5pm)

The Nook itself is based in Marischal Square and will be open for visitors from 10am next Wednesday.



***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](#)*