

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



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Gold Awards are now OPEN!

Currently there are 21 pharmacies in Grampian achieving the GOLD criteria. We are now recruiting 6 more pharmacies to be the Class of 2027.

There are some changes to the award this year for both new and revalidating pharmacies, the name is currently under review but will represent the advanced public health services provided and avoid confusion over varying standards of care provided. New pharmacies will receive 2 payments; the first £500 on commencement of the award and the second payment of £550 on completion.



The criteria for 2027, along with the training and associated pathways can be found in the attachment. If you think your pharmacy can achieve the criteria by March 2027, please send an email to: gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot, with the following information:

- Pharmacy Name and Contractor Code
- Lead Pharmacist/Prescriber
- Suggested Public Health Champion(s)
- A short blurb about why you'd like to achieve the award and how these more advanced public health services will benefit your patients.

The closing date is 13th July 2026. Successful pharmacies will be notified by 17th July, with first meetings with your Public Health Practitioner taking place week commencing 27th July.

Pharmaceutical Care Services Star Award Programme

Thank you to those who have already nominated a colleague for our new **Staff Recognition and Thanks (STAR) Award**. We are pleased to confirm that we will soon be announcing the first recipients of this award.

We are also delighted to share that we are now in a position to launch the initiative publicly, and this will shortly be promoted via our social media channels.

Please note that this platform is not intended to manage complaints. Any such submissions will be redirected to the appropriate channels or removed in line with governance processes.

If you would like to nominate a colleague for a STAR award please see our Microsoft Form submission form here: [Star Award Nominations for Community Pharmacy Staff – Fill in form](#)

Smoking Cessation Update

Feedback Form for STAFF Experiencing Smoking Cessation Service Issues

The Smoking Cessation Service is a National service and so change needs to be initiated by Community Pharmacy Scotland (CPS). This feedback form is to gather information from pharmacy STAFF in Grampian around any issues and difficulties with the current service in order to feedback to CPS.

If you'd like to highlight problems with the service, please use the following link to access the MS form which will take a few minutes to complete.

[Feedback Form for Pharmacies Experiencing Issues around Smoking Cessation Services – Fill in form](#)

IMPORTANT: Vaping Support in Pharmacies

We were recently alerted that a Pharmacist in Grampian was putting out the message that QYW services were working with pharmacies in Grampian to provide vapers with 4 weeks' worth of NRT products.

Please note that it is INCORRECT. There is no specification at this time for pharmacies in Grampian to provide NRT to vapers other than Quick Mist sold privately.

A reminder of the smoking and vaping pathway is attached.

June MedWatch Newsletter

Please find attached the latest MedWatch newsletter [MedWatch June 26](#). This edition includes:

- MHRA Drug Safety Update: ACE-inhibitors - distinction between bradykinin-and histamine-mediated angioedema.
- NHA Grampian Local HEPMA Alert: Date and Time when recording PRN medicines administration.
- Shared Learning: [Phenobarbital - Brand Prescribing](#).
- Polypharmacy Guidance.
- Medicines Management Policies and Guidance - where to find them?
- Scottish Patient Safety Programme (SPSP): Adults in Hospital – Medicines.
- HEPMA News.

PSD Scotland Launches New Monthly Newsletter: Pharmacy Matters

PSD Scotland have launched the attached new monthly newsletter, **Pharmacy Matters**, to support pharmacy teams to prepare their prescription submission as well as possible. This will in turn support the teams at the scanning centre to process payments accurately and on time.

We would encourage all contractors and their teams to take a few minutes to read the first issue and to look out for future editions.

Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



28/06/2020 • Emma Taylor

Business Support Assistant

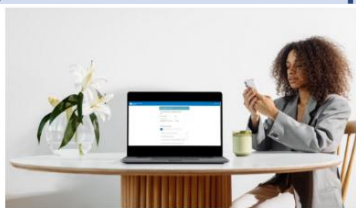
Community Pharmacy Scotland is recruiting a Business Support Assistant to provide administrative, financial and operational support.



28/06/2020 • Emma Taylor

Audit and Services Team Manager

Community Pharmacy Scotland is recruiting an Audit and Services Team Manager to lead service delivery, support contractors and drive improvement.



28/06/2020 • Graham Le Thaler

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.



29/06/2020 • Robbie Collins

PSD Scotland Launches New Monthly Newsletter: Pharmacy Matters

PSD Scotland has launched a new monthly newsletter, **Pharmacy Matters**, to help community pharmacy teams.

The Happy Place ☺

Free Summer Step Count Challenge 🚶

Starting Monday 6th July [Walking Scotland](#) are launching a free nationwide step count competition. Gather 4 like-minded family members, friends or colleagues and have a way to measure your steps. You can find more information and join here: [Step Count Challenge | Walking Scotland](#)

You can find ways of increasing your step count on NHS Grampian's website. If you currently don't do a lot of walking then we encourage you to consider joining a local Health Walk, of which there are many in the North East: [Walking](#).

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](#)*