

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



Contents

01: Management of Scabies

02: Newly Qualified Prescriber Guidance

03: Medicine Supply Alert-Ramipril Capsules

04: Public Health Updates

05: Non-Medical Prescribing Conference 2026

06 Save the Date: Training Sessions

07: MedWatch September 2026

08: Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up

09: The Happy Place ☺

Management of Scabies

Scabies is a skin infestation caused by the mite *Sarcoptes scabiei* var. *Hominis*. Scabies is of public health importance because one person with scabies can pass scabies to others, primarily through skin-to-skin contact.

Some groups have higher public health importance, such as those who work or live in closed settings such as care homes. See the [section on higher-risk cases and contacts](#) for more details on who might have a higher risk of getting or passing on scabies.

Some of the wording and advice in this guidance is more relevant to specific settings. However, the principles in this guidance are applicable to scabies cases and outbreaks in all settings.

Due to their public health importance, there is additional information in this guidance on the role of health protection professionals in:

- prompt and accurate identification of cases who work or live in [higher-risk settings](#)
- the public health management of outbreaks in these settings

Please visit the Public Health Scotland page to ensure each presentation of scabies is dealt with as per this public health guidance:

[Treatment - Public health management of scabies - version 1 - Public health management of scabies - Publications - Public Health Scotland](#)

Newly Qualified Prescriber Guidance

For information and sharing please find attached guidance document for new prescribers. This document sets out the principles to follow when beginning and developing prescribing practice.

Please also note this document and other supporting documentation is available on the Pharmacy First section of our website here- [Pharmacy First Plus \(Common Clinical Conditions\) – NHS Grampian](#)

Medicine Supply Alert- Ramipril Capsules

A national supply shortage continues to affect ramipril 1.25mg, 2.5mg, 5mg and 10mg capsules, with limited availability expected until the end of October 2026. Pharmacy teams are encouraged to manage stock conservatively, limit supplies to one month's treatment where appropriate, and avoid routine switching to alternative ACE inhibitors or ARBs unless clinically necessary. Please see the attached letter for full details and actions for community pharmacy teams and prescribers.

Public Health Update

Sexual Health Update for Pharmacy Staff

All pharmacy staff are invited to attend a 1-hour online webinar on Thursday 24th September, from 7.00pm to 8.00pm. This session will provide the latest updates and practical guidance on many aspects of sexual health within the pharmacy setting.

Pharmacies that are part of the SHAPE Network, as well as those working towards or awaiting a GOLD Award, are strongly encouraged to attend. Please see the attached poster for details and meeting link.

Government Campaigns

The last Government campaign focused on Lyme disease and was delivered as a digital-only campaign, so no posters were issued. We have not yet received any update on when poster campaigns will recommence.

We are aware that the last poster campaign was the Dementia campaign in February. Following visits to local pharmacies, it has become apparent that some of these posters are now showing signs of wear and fading due to prolonged exposure to sunlight in windows.

Please feel free to replace these with a smoking cessation poster. These can be ordered through Resources - [HPAC](#). Please note that the largest size currently available is A3. If you still have a copy of the previous QYW Smoking poster, we would encourage you to use this instead.

Stoptober

We trust you are already planning your campaigns to increase awareness of smoking cessation services throughout October. Posters, leaflets and pop up banners (for hire) are available to order from Resources here - [HPAC](#). **Please use your Facebook pages to share our posts throughout October.** [Facebook link here](#).

SHAPE Network and pending GOLD pharmacies: **Participation is mandatory as part of the GOLD criteria**, specifically under Sections 5, 6 and 7. Compliance with these requirements will be reviewed and discussed during your revalidation visit.

SHAPE Network – Important!!

All GOLD award holders looking to revalidate before the end of March 2027 must return an acknowledgement of their 6 month self-assessment, using the 2027 criteria, before the end of the month. All details have been in the SHAPE Network monthly newsletters.

Non-Medical Prescribing Conference 2026

Please find attached agenda and information on the Non-Medical Prescribing conference 2026. This will be held on Thursday 17th September at 12.

Save the Date: Training Sessions

Non-Medical Prescribing Conference	Various bookable sessions on Tuesday 22 nd and Wednesday 23 rd September 2026.	Please find the attached programme. Booking for all sessions close at noon on Thursday 17 th September 2026. Non-Medical Prescribing '26 Conference Programme Final
HIS Alcohol & Drugs Programme Launch Webinar	Tuesday 22 nd September 2026, 11:00 - 12:00.	Building on Healthcare Improvement Scotland's prior work within alcohol and drugs, this webinar will set out detail of HIS' programme of work for 2026-27 onwards. Register here.
Sexual Health Update for Pharmacy Staff	Thursday 24 th September 2026, 19:00 – 20:00.	This session will provide the latest updates and practical guidance on many aspects of sexual health within the pharmacy setting. Please see the attached poster for details and meeting link.
Injecting Equipment Provision and BBV Prevention facilitated by Lynn Couper (Falkirk Health and Social Care Partnership)	Tuesday 29 th September 2026, 12:00 – 13:00.	This online session will examine the role of Injecting Equipment Provision (IEP) as a key harm reduction intervention for preventing blood borne viruses (BBVs). Register here.
Introduction to Sexual Health Course	Friday 30 th October 2026, 9:00 – 12:00 on MS Teams.	Please find the attached flyer for more information and to book your place.

MedWatch Newsletter-September 2026

Please find attached MedWatch Newsletter for September 2026. Recent updates include shared learning from HIS inspections, revised medicines procedures and guidelines, HEPMA safety improvements, and progress in the management of time-critical medicines, including Parkinson's disease treatments. Please see the attached documents for further information.

Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



14/09/2026 • Scottish Government

PCA(P)(2026)14-15 - SSP: Lansoprazole 15mg and 30mg Orodispersible Tablets

Please find below the NHS Circulars PCA(P)(2026)14 and PCA(P)(2026)15, advising that Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) are in place to help mitigate supply issues affecting lansoprazole 15mg and 30mg orodispersible tablets.



14/09/2026 • Adam Osprey

AWAKE Check Tool

Our colleagues at the British Society of Pharmacy Sleep Services have spent some time with us to highlight and explain their participation in AWAKE Check study and tool.



14/09/2026 • Robbie Collins

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.



11/09/2026 • Sarah Scott

Health and Care Improving Flow Plan 2026 - 2031

The Community Pharmacy Network included in the Scottish Government Health and Care Improving Flow Plan.

The Happy Place 😊



Huge Congratulations to **Dickies Kingswells** on their **Star Award** in the category of "Excellence in Patient Care"

They were nominated by several patients who wanted to recognise the "exceptional care and support provided by the Kingswells Pharmacy team. From helping patients manage complex medicines to resolving queries and offering expert advice, your kindness, professionalism and commitment to patient care have made a significant and lasting impact"

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.

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

*All weekly updates are uploaded to the [CP Grampian website](#).
Remember to like our Facebook page for regular updates: [Community Pharmacy Grampian – NHSG](#)*