

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate Weekly Update



Contents

01: Reminder: Newly Qualified Prescriber Guidance

04: Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up

02: Public Health Update: Sexual Health Update for Pharmacy Staff
24th September, Stoptober, SHAPE Network – Important!!

05: The Happy Place ☺

03: Save the Date: Training Sessions

Reminder: 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](#)

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.

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.

Save the Date: Training Sessions

Sexual Health Update for Pharmacy Staff	Thursday 24th 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	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

Couper (Falkirk Health and Social Care Partnership)		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.

Community Pharmacy Scotland Round-Up



16/09/2026 • Matt Barclay

CEO Insights: Public Service Reform - Patient First Approach

The opportunities and risks for community pharmacy as Scotland considers major NHS structural reform.



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.

The Happy Place ☺

Congratulations to the team at Aberlour Pharmacy, who received a Pharmaceutical Care Services Staff Recognition and Thanks (STAR) Award in recognition of their outstanding support to the local community.

Patients praised the team for being consistently helpful, knowledgeable, and reassuring, as well as for their strong partnership with the local GP practice. The award highlights the vital role the pharmacy plays within the community and the high regard in which the team is held by those they serve. Well done! ★



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](#)