

## Community Pharmacy NHS Lanarkshire 25<sup>th</sup> August Update

### **Do you know where to send your MCA/MAR/Palliative/Care Home claims to?**

Please note [claim forms](#) should be sent to [Ewa.Kargul@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:Ewa.Kargul@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk) & [Dominic.Hughes@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:Dominic.Hughes@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk)

**Have you booked to attend the drop in OOH session this week?** OOHs would love the opportunity to speak with you and show you around the OOHs service while in operation. We would also like to improve our Professional to Professional Pharmacy line use and would really appreciate your help with this. We therefore invite you to join us for drinks and nibbles on 28th August any time between 6pm-7.30pm at Douglas Street Community Clinic, Hamilton. We would like to show you round, discuss cases / issues and get your feedback. Learnings from the session will be collated and shared with the wider network. Thank you to everyone who has booked onto this session so far...if you haven't booked but would like to attend bookings can be made via <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/d437fdbd-a44e-4771-93ed-2634c200eccd@10efe0bd-a030-4bca-809c-b5e6745e499a>

**Have you seen the latest Nitazene alert?** Our colleagues at Public Health Scotland have asked us to flag to community pharmacy teams their latest alert concerning Nitazenes, synthetic opioids that are now being widely detected across Scotland. These can be hundreds of times stronger than heroin and are contributing to an increase in overdoses and drug deaths. A poster that briefly summarises the issue can be [found here](#), and a short video that can be used for team training is [available here](#).

**Have you seen the updated NEO guidance?** From **Monday the 1st of September 2025**, there will be a third option added to the NEO360 ORT module message function, allowing Pharmacy Teams to communicate with the locality addiction teams. Urgent concerns should still be raised directly with the team via telephone. Please see attached letter and guidance for more information.

**Don't forget, Pharmacy in Practice are running a Collaborative Care in Substance Use webinar tomorrow!** [Pharmacy in Practice](#) has a range of upcoming webinars designed to support Community Pharmacy teams. These webinars are free to book onto with a membership. Membership is free.



### **Are you an Independent Prescriber or looking to undertake an IP course?**

Please see attached the *Pharmacy First Plus - August Newsletter* which provides an overview of our CPIPs prescribing activity in March. If you would like to attend a Community Pharmacy **online** IP Peer Review for Q4 and Q1 prescribing, **hosted by the Lead Pharmacist for Community Pharmacy services**, please book via [Microsoft Teams](#) (October 8<sup>th</sup> 7-8pm)

**Have you seen Augusts prescribing notes?** Please see attached prescribing notes for august which includes; Leuprorelin preparations and prescribing errors, Medicine Shortages, Paediatric Iron Dosing, NHSL Formulary update and MHRAs Safety Alerts

**Do you provide Private Health Care Services?** Last year, the Scottish Government commenced the regulation of independent medical agencies (IMA) to bring into regulation a range of private healthcare services that are not provided from a permanent address. This is a major step forward for Scotland, which significantly enhances the patient and public safety agenda for the nation. Further information and frequently asked questions about the regulation of independent medical agencies can be found on [Information for service providers: Independent medical agency – Healthcare Improvement Scotland](#)

**Have you seen the NHS 24 Student Health packs?** As students across Scotland begin their college and university journeys, NHS 24 is promoting a student health campaign via NHS inform to help young people navigate key aspects of their healthcare. The campaign offers practical guidance on registering with GP practices, accessing vaccinations, locating local NHS services, and supporting mental wellbeing. For more info please see; [Supporting Student Health: NHS 24 Campaign Resources for Pharmacy Teams | Community Pharmacy Scotland](#)

**Have you seen the new Clozapine e-learning module?** NHS Education for Scotland, in collaboration with Learn It Online and the Scottish Mental Health

Pharmacist Specialist Interest Group, has launched new e-learning modules on clozapine management. These modules cover a range of topics such as blood monitoring, side effect management, and service delivery. The modules are designed to meet the needs of the mental health workforce and wider healthcare professional network, and are suitable for staff across the multidisciplinary team including doctors, nurses, pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and support workers. The following suite of resources are available:

**Now Available:**

- **Clozapine - A Comprehensive Clinical Programme.** This is a programme which consists of 10 standalone modules covering a wide range of topics, in particular blood monitoring and managing side effects.

**Coming Soon:**

- **Clozapine - A Concise Clinical Overview.** This is a condensed version of the 10-module clozapine comprehensive programme. The 3 modules cover key topics, in particular blood monitoring and managing side effects. This course will be particularly useful for those working in non-specialist settings, such as primary or acute care.
- **Clozapine-Induced Gastrointestinal Hypomotility.** This module will explore some of the most common and potentially serious clozapine side effects, namely clozapine-induced gastrointestinal hypomotility and constipation.

This new CPD resource should support staff to enhance their clozapine knowledge base and improve patient care with this expert-reviewed content. Access the modules through Turas Learn - [Clozapine | Turas | Learn](#)

**Have you seen the comms about the new Unscheduled Care PGD?** The PGD for Unscheduled Care has been updated. Please see attached V32 of the PGD which has been revised by various stakeholders. Within the 'Whats New v32' you will see the unscheduled care PGD will now be revised every 2 years. Registered Healthcare Professionals are covered under a PGD as soon as they accept the professional obligations when signing, while there is no regulatory or legal requirement for copies of the signed sheets to be submitted to the Board, it is recommended that Boards keep a list of the Registered Healthcare Professionals that are operating under a Patient Group Direction(s). In place of submitting signed sheets to the board, NHS Lanarkshire now has an e-form available for Community Pharmacy Registered Healthcare Professionals to notify boards of PGD sign up: [PGD Sign Up](#) (please note this is a live link and will be available to access ongoing from our [CP webpage](#)). This does not replace any local processes your employer may have in regard to signing PGDs/keeping signed copies on premises.

**Did you see the comms last week about 2026 NES Funded IP places?** A number of NES funded spaces are available for the following Independent Prescribing Courses (dates will be added to the [Turas Learn prescribing page](#) when available)

- University of Strathclyde- January , March and June 2026 start dates
- Robert Gordon University- January and September 2026 start dates

Information for potential applicants on navigating the application process, along with eligibility criteria, are available on the [Independent Prescribing | Turas | Learn](#) page

If you would like to express an interest in attending any of the above courses, please respond to [ellenjo.fowler@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:ellenjo.fowler@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk) by the 5<sup>th</sup> of September with the following details\*. Please ensure you have spoken to your employer before expressing interest. Please note, expressing interest does not guarantee you a place on the course. **Please note boards cannot allocate course preferences. Funding is currently not available to locums. Please note, the board cannot accept applications from Post-Registration Foundation Trainee (PRFT) as IP funding has already been allocated as part of their course.**

Please note for post-graduate IP courses, DPP applications remain through the universities.

[DPP criteria guiding principles](#) are agreed for both universities and included in the attached document. Resources to support individuals on their journey to becoming a DPP are available at [Section 4: Designated Prescribing Practitioner | Turas | Learn](#). University of Strathclyde continue to require a DPP CV. [DPP CV samples](#) are available. Robert Gordon University DPP application is now by MS Forms.

\*

Name:

GPhC Number:

Contact E-mail:

Contractor Code:

Designated Supervisor Experiences: Yes/No

Confirmed DPP to support 2026 cohorts that meets DPP criteria : Yes/No

DPP Name & Location:

Are you a PRFT:

Have you previously started an IP course:

Do you consent to the above information being shared with NES, CPS, Clinical Skills Training Providers and RGU/Strathclyde University: Yes/No

## Community Pharmacy NHS Lanarkshire 11<sup>th</sup> August Update

**Do you know what support is available to Community Pharmacies/patients during the OOHs period? Do you want to enhance your clinical decision making skills?** Join the Community Pharmacy OOHs **in person event**, at the Douglas Street Community Health Clinic in Hamilton, **hosted by the Out of Hours Teams**. The session aims to support Community Pharmacists navigating the challenges of the out of hours period & improve collaboration with OOH peers. [Click here](#) to book onto the in person event, August 28<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm.

**Thinking of undertaking an IP course? Recently qualified or currently undertaking an IP course?** Come along to our Introduction to Pharmacy First Plus **online webinar, hosted by the Lead Pharmacist for Community Pharmacy services**. The session will outline the service specification, training, indemnity insurance and how to order pads when you run out. We will also have a look at some of the conditions and resources available to help with your clinical decision making and there will be an opportunity to have a look at some of our prescribers current prescribing. This will be an informal session, stay for the full session or just drop in for a question! [Click here](#) to book onto the session (August 20<sup>th</sup> 1-2pm).

**Are you aware of the changes to ophthalmic prescribing for Stage 2 treatment prescriptions?** In a joint letter (attached), the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer and Chief Optometric Advisor outline that independent prescribing optometrists will now be able to issue Stage 2 treatment prescriptions, which can be dispensed in community pharmacies. This change is expected to result in an increase in such prescriptions being presented for dispensing.

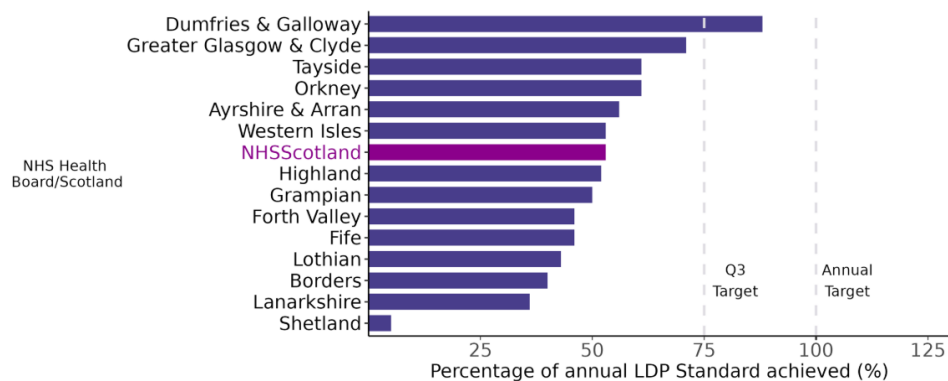
**Are you aware of the changes to the asthma guidelines?** NES will be hosting a webinar designed to raise awareness of the key changes to asthma management described in the BTS/NICE/SIGN guidelines (2025). Aimed at Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians, it will improve confidence in deciding on appropriate treatment, patient education and referral. [Book via NES](#). 10<sup>th</sup> September.

**Are you a prescriber?** Please see attached correspondence regarding the launch of Version 2 of the Guideline on [Items which should not be prescribed in NHS Lanarkshire](#) (MOLCV V2) All prescribers (and those who make recommendations about prescribing) are asked to review and support the recommendations in the guideline. Prescribing will continue to be monitored. Further communications will be released across Social Media. Attached is also the July CPIP PF+ newsletter in case you missed it!

**Have you submitted your PCR data?** Please ensure any NRT records are up to date, PCR data pending from Q4 needs to be submitted by the 27<sup>th</sup> of August 2026. Please remember PCR data triggers your service fees and counts towards the Scottish Government LDP target. At the end of Q3 24/25 Lanarkshire sat significantly

below the Scottish target and was one of the lowest performing health boards. A survey will be coming out shortly to all pharmacy teams across Lanarkshire to better understand the driving factors behind high & low performance. These findings will feed into the national service specification review currently underway with Scottish Government.

Scotland and NHS Board performance against the LDP Standard at end of Quarter 3 (Q3)



**Have you seen the updated Yellow Card e-learning modules?** Please be advised that the Yellow Card Centre Scotland and [NHS Education for Scotland e-learning modules](#) for adverse drug reactions have been updated. Please consider undertaking these modules as part of your CPD.

**Have you heard of the Healthy Working Lives team? Or Working Health Services Scotland?** [Working Health Services Scotland](#) (WHSS) is a free NHS Scotland service for employers and employees. WHSS offers referral, rapid access to services and advice for those struggling to attend work due to a health condition and/or supports workers to safely return to work. [The Healthy Working Lives team](#) has a range of resources, training and webinars available for free to Community Pharmacy employees and employers, including;

- Free stress control class
- Free Public Health Scotland Training for Workplaces (e.g. stress & workplace, sensible risk assessment, violence and aggression at the workplace)
- Mentally healthy work base training
- Consultancy support - HWL team can also offer links into Business Gateway support which can provide employers support on business modelling

**Are you familiar with medicines shortages?** A medicine shortage is defined as when the total supply of a medication is inadequate to meet the current or projected demand at patient level. Medicine shortages present ongoing challenges across NHS Scotland, and some have the potential to impact significantly on patient care. Medicines shortage information is now available on the Right Decisions site, which can be accessed [here](#). The Medicines Shortages Process for NHS Lanarkshire is available [here](#). Don't forget to complete the [Community Pharmacy Scotland Shortage Reporter](#) – this alerts the Scottish Government to the shortage and influences any drug reimbursement increases required to the Scottish Drug Tariff to cope with the impact.



**Looking for some more learning resources and/or webinars?** [Pharmacy in Practice](#) has a range of upcoming webinars designing to support Community Pharmacy teams. These webinars are free to book onto with a membership. Membership is free.

- 26<sup>th</sup> August, 1930 – Collaborative Care in Substance Use
- 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 1930 – Sepsis, An essential guide for Pharmacy
- 30<sup>th</sup> September, 1930 – New Cancer Referral Guidelines
- 7<sup>th</sup> October, 1930 – Beyond the PGD, Impetigo, Shingles, UTIs
- 14<sup>th</sup> October, 1930 – Smoking Cessation Services in Community Pharmacy
- 28<sup>th</sup> October, 1930 – Pharmacy Prescribing, Managing Chest Infections
- 4<sup>th</sup> November, 1930 - Pharmacy Prescribing, Ears, Nose and Throat

**Please see below formulary / script switch updates. The July 2025 Formulary bulletin is also attached with a focus on topical steroids.**

| Original                     | Cost (DT July 25)        | Script Switch                        | Cost (DT July 25)        | Script Switch Rational   |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Trimovate Cream              | £14.99 30g               | Timodine Cream                       | £3.37 30g                | Lower potency steroid (if clinically appropriate, as per BNF), cost-effectiveness.         |
| Mometasone 0.1% ointment     | £4.32 30g<br>£13.00 100g | Betamethasone valerate 0.1% ointment | £1.60 30g<br>£5.33 100g  | Preferred formulary choice, cost-effectiveness, both potent steroid category and ointment. |
| Mometasone 0.1% cream        | £4.49 30g<br>£13.00 100g | Betamethasone valerate 0.1% cream    | £3.39 30g<br>£8.29 100g  | Cost-effectiveness, both potent steroid category and cream.                                |
| Elocon® 0.1% ointment        | £4.32 30g<br>£12.44 100g | Betamethasone valerate 0.1% ointment | £1.60 30g<br>£5.33 100g  | Preferred formulary choice, cost-effectiveness, both potent steroid category and ointment  |
| Elocon® 0.1% cream           | £4.80 30g<br>£15.10 100g | Betamethasone valerate 0.1% cream    | £3.39 30g<br>£8.29 100g  | Cost-effectiveness, both potent steroid category and cream.                                |
| Elocon® 0.1% cream           | £4.80 30g<br>£15.10 100g | Mometasone 0.1% cream                | £4.49 30g<br>£13.00 100g | Brand to generic   |
| Hydrocortisone 0.5% ointment | £50.60 15g               | Hydrocortisone 1% ointment           | £2.86 15g<br>£5.74 30g   | Cost-effectiveness, both mild steroid category and ointment (Source BNF).                  |
| Hydrocortisone 2.5% cream    | £112.52 15g              | Hydrocortisone 1% cream              | £3.10 15g<br>£5.89 30g   | Cost-effectiveness, both mild steroid category and cream (Source BNF).                     |

## **Chapter 1: Gastro-Intestinal System > Laxatives > Stimulant Laxatives**

### **[Laxatives | Right Decisions](#)**

Hyperlink to [Clozapine-Induced Gastrointestinal Hypomotility \(CIGH\) Management](#) guideline updated to updated version of the guideline.

## **Chapter 3: Respiratory System**

### **[Chapter 3. Respiratory System | Right Decisions](#)**

Hyperlink to [NHSL Guidelines for the Pharmacological Management of COPD](#) updated to most up to date version of the guideline.

## **Chapter 4: Central Nervous System > Bipolar affective disorder AND Antiepileptic Drugs AND Anti-Migraine Drugs**

### **[Chapter 4. Central Nervous System | Right Decisions](#)**

Valproate formulary statement updated with latest links/resources as per MHRA [Drug Safety update June 2025](#).

## **Chapter 13: Skin > Acne and Rosacea > Acne > Oral Antibiotics**

### **[Acne and Rosacea | Right Decisions](#)**

Minocycline removed.

## **Chapter 13: Skin > Preparations for Warts and Calluses > Anogenital Warts**

### **[Preparations for Warts and Calluses | Right Decisions](#)**

Out of stock information updated.