

## Community Pharmacy NHS Lanarkshire 19<sup>th</sup> May Update

### Do you know which Public Health campaign poster should be on display?

Lyme disease posters will replace the Covid Spring Booster campaign. Posters should now have arrived in community pharmacies. I've attached a copy of the covering letter and you can find PDFs and digital assets here on the resource platform - [Campaign Assets | Scottish Government Marketing News](#)

Many people are unaware of the symptoms they should look out for following a tick bite. Common signs and symptoms include:

- A red circular rash (the rash usually appears 3-30 days after being bitten)
- Flu-like symptoms such as tiredness, muscle pain, joint pain, chills, a stiff neck

If left untreated or not treated early more serious symptoms can occur, these can include:

- Nerve problems
- Pain and swelling in the joints
- Memory problems
- Heart problems

**Are you a Pharmacy Technician?** Don't forget you will require a PVG from April 2025. Please see here for more information; [Pharmacy Technicians Will Require PVG Membership from April 2025 | Community Pharmacy Scotland](#)

**Are you aware of the HCPC guidance on prescribing practices?** As healthcare professionals, it is crucial that you operate within the scope of your practice to ensure the safety and well-being of our patients. Are you aware of which disciplines can / can't prescribe CDs?

The HCPC has established clear guidelines regarding prescribing practices. These include:

- **Independent Prescribing:** Only those with the appropriate annotation on the HCPC register are authorized to prescribe independently. This includes the responsibility for assessing patients and making clinical management decisions within the scope of practice and relevant legislation.
- **Supplementary Prescribing:** This involves a voluntary partnership with a doctor or dentist, following a patient-specific clinical management plan (CMP). Supplementary prescribers must adhere strictly to the CMP, including any limits on the types and doses of medicines prescribed.
- **Unlicensed Medicines:** Independent prescribers are not permitted to prescribe unlicensed medicines. Supplementary prescribers may only do so in accordance with the CMP.
- **Controlled Drugs:** Independent prescribers cannot prescribe controlled drugs unless extra laws have been passed which allow their profession to do so. Supplementary prescribers can prescribe controlled drugs, but only in

accordance with a service user's clinical management plan.  
Chiropodist/podiatrist, paramedic, physiotherapist and therapeutic radiographer independent prescribers may prescribe from a limited list of controlled drugs.

To ensure that your prescribing practices align with these standards as per your specific profession please click on this link <https://www.hcpc-uk.org/standards/meeting-our-standards/scope-of-practice/medicines-and-prescribing-rights/controlled-drugs/>

**Are you supplying Varenicline?** Just a little reminder that the Varenicline PGD went live across Lanarkshire last week. All Pharmacies were emailed a copy of this PGD. Don't forget, under section 1.4 of the PGD (cautions/need for further advice/circumstances when advice should be sought from a prescriber) there is a link to the SPS website. The site lists drugs which are affected by stopping smoking and suggested actions - this will be a really useful resource for pharmacists as they assess people for suitability for varenicline. [Managing specific interactions with smoking – SPS - Specialist Pharmacy Service – The first stop for professional medicines advice](#) . If you missed the CPS Ask Me Anything webinar on Varenicline, a recording is [available here](#)

**Have you submitted all of your claims for 2024-25?** The NHS Lanarkshire finance team would like to remind all Community Pharmacies that any payments for local services should be claimed by the end of June. This may include Palliative Care, Care Homes etc.

**Do you have a digital poster screen?** Please see attached McMillan Cancer Support poster (ICJ Lanarkshire Poster) you may wish to consider displaying. Patients can access a cancer journey support line as well as specialists and/or nurses with their questions, queries and concerns.

**Have you seen the shortages bulletin?** Please see attached weekly shortages bulletin outlining changes in availability over the last week.

## Community Pharmacy NHS Lanarkshire 5<sup>th</sup> May Update

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

Please see attached the *Pharmacy First Plus - May Newsletter* which provides an overview of our CPIPs prescribing activity in December, off formulary prescribing & prescribing decisions to consider further. Peer session invite to follow shortly!

### **Do you know how many Pharmacy First interactions there were last year?**

Please see attached *Pharmacy First Newsletter – 2024*, which provides an overall picture of service delivery in 2024 across Lanarkshire.

**Do you know which Public Health campaign poster should be on display?** All community pharmacies should now have received the Covid spring booster campaign poster. A digital version is available at [COVID-19 spring vaccine poster for people with a weakened immune system - Publications - Public Health Scotland](#) .

This will be followed by Lyme disease from 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

**New Smoking Cessation PGD training** – Please note when you click onto TURAS for the smoking cessation training, the publish date still states 2022. However when you click into the module, there is a revised 2025 version.

**Don't forget!** There is a Creon® customer service line which can be reached via 0800 8086410. The service is active from Monday to Friday from 9:00 to 17:00.