

COMMUNITY PHARMACY LANARKSHIRE

PHARMACY FIRST PLUS NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2026

Pharmacy First Plus checklist

Setting up for Pharmacy First Plus

- ✓ Notify the GPhC to update annotation on register
- ✓ Update your indemnity insurance to cover prescribing
- ✓ Apply for your Prescriber Number & IP Pad by emailing [Pharmacy Admin](#)
- ✓ Complete [Annex A](#) to commence service delivery (please note, associated service fees will start when Rx pads are collected)

Training

Within the Pharmacy First Plus service specification [PCA \(P\)\(2020\) 16](#) there are a number of training requirements for service delivery. Recent data indicates **15% of NHS Lanarkshire's CPIPs have not completed this training.**

- ✓ Day 1 – Foundations of Clinical Communication
- ✓ Day 2 – Basic Examination Skills (Part 1)
- ✓ Day 3 – Basic Examination Skills (Part 2)
- ✓ Day 4 – Application of Clinical Skills OR Teach and Treat

From 2021, as part of your funded Community Pharmacy Independent Prescribing course, a Teach and Treat session is included. [Bookings](#) can be made directly with a hub of your preference (this can be with another board if more convenient).

Security of Forms

Prescribers are responsible for their prescription pads once issued and should ensure they are securely locked away when not in use. Please refer to NSS Guidance; [Security of Prescription Forms](#). Local processes should be established if transferring pads between branches (pads cannot be transferred across healthboards). If you leave the healthboard, you must notify [Pharmacy Admin](#)

Running low on Prescription Pads?

If you are running low on GP10s and require further supplies, please notify [Pharmacy Admin](#) and an order will be processed on your behalf. We recommend requesting further supplies when you start your final prescription pad as orders can take up to 8 weeks.

Prescribing Data – October 2025

CPIP Sites

The number of **Pharmacy First Plus** sites has remained the same over the last month, with **61%** of the Community Pharmacy network offering a Pharmacy First Plus service.

Locality	No. IPs	No. IP Sites	% IP Site
Airdrie	12	9	69%
Bellshill	10	7	78%
Camglen	18	12	65%
Clydesdale	12	10	63%
Coatbridge	10	6	55%
East Kilbride	10	7	50%
Hamilton	14	10	42%
Motherwell	8	8	67%
North Locality	10	9	56%
Wishaw	13	10	77%
Total	117	88	61%

Prescribing Summary

There were 1643 items prescribed by the NHS Lanarkshire CPIP network in October 25, an decrease of 116 from the previous month. Approx. £3.80 was spent per patient this month in comparison to £3.88 last month.

BNF Chapter Description	Number of Paid Items	Total Cost
GASTRO-INTESTINAL SYSTEM	18	£57.31
CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM	5	£11.73
RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	46	£152.31
CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM	37	£158.71
INFECTIONS	967	£2,840.75
ENDOCRINE SYSTEM	64	£199.02
OBSTETRICS, GYNAECOLOGY AND URINARY-TRACT DISORDERS	3	£8.89
NUTRITION AND BLOOD	2	£7.35
MUSCULOSKELETAL AND JOINT DISEASES	20	£67.15
EYE	17	£132.58
EAR, NOSE AND OROPHARYNX	227	£998.67
SKIN	186	£1,075.28
ANAESTHESIA	3	£82.28
DRESSINGS	7	£66.15
APPLIANCES	38	£332.80
STOMA APPLIANCES	2	£11.62
Total:	1643	£6,205.43

October Prescribing Decisions

Item	Consideration
AVEENO CREAM	Non-Formulary
CO-CODAMOL 15MG/500MG TABLETS	CDs don't typically fall under Common Clinical Conditions
CO-CODAMOL 30MG/500MG TABLETS	CDs don't typically fall under Common Clinical Conditions
DERMOL 500 LOTION	Restricted use
DERMOL CREAM	Non-Formulary
DERMOL 200 SHOWER	Restricted use
FERROUS FUMARATE 210MG TABLETS	Unscheduled care should be captured via CPUS
FOLIC ACID	Unscheduled care should be captured via CPUS
FOSFOMYCIN 3G GRANULES	Urine culture required
GLYCERYL TRINITRATE 400MICROGRAMS/DOSE AEROSOL SUBLINGUAL SPRAY	Unscheduled care should be captured via CPUS
LIDOCAINE 700MG MEDICATED PLASTERS	Items of which should not be prescribed in NHS Lanarkshire
MEDIKINET XL 30MG CAPSULES	CDs don't typically fall under Common Clinical Conditions
METHYLPHENIDATE 5MG TABLETS	CDs don't typically fall under Common Clinical Conditions
MST CONTINUS 5MG TABLETS	CDs don't typically fall under Common Clinical Conditions
NOVOPEN 6 HYPODERMIC INSULIN INJECTION PEN REUSABLE FOR 3ML CARTRIDGE 1 UNIT DIAL UP / RANGE 1-60 UNITS	Unscheduled care should be captured via CPUS
NOVORAPID 100UNITS/ML SOLUTION FOR INJECTION 10ML VIALS	Unscheduled care should be captured via CPUS
PREGABALIN 100MG CAPSULES	CDs don't typically fall under Common Clinical Conditions
RELETRANS 20MICROGRAMS/HOUR TRANSDERMAL PATCHES	Unscheduled care should be captured via CPUS

Skin

Skin conditions accounts for approx. 17-20% of the prescribing within the Pharmacy First Plus service. Do you know what quantities should be supplied for emollients and/or steroids?

Suitable quantities of emollients

Body site	One week supply	One month supply
Face	15-30g	60-120g
Both hands	25-50g	100-200g
Scalp	50-100g	200-400g
Both arms or legs	100-200g	400-800g
Trunk	400g	1600g
Groins and genitalia	15-25g	60-100g

Please note Aveeno is not listed within NHS Lanarkshire formulary, and Dermol 500 Lotion is restricted for use when an antimicrobial is required. The following emollients are recommended for use within NHS Lanarkshire.

	Product Name
Preferred (P)	Exocream
Preferred (P)	Epimax Isomol Gel
Total List (T)	Cetrabem Cream
Total List (T)	Oilatum Cream

Suitable quantities of creams/ointments (twice daily application for 1 week for adults)

Body site	Non-corticosteroid cream/ointment	Corticosteroid cream/ointment
Face	15 to 30g	
Face and neck		15 to 30g
Both hands	25 to 50g	15 to 30g
Scalp	50 to 100g	15 to 30g
Both arms	100 to 200g	30 to 60g
Both legs	100 to 200g	100g
Trunk	400g	100g
Groins and genitalia	15 to 25g	15 to 30g

Below are the preferred topical corticosteroid options within NHS Lanarkshire.

	Product Name	Formulation(s)	Potency
Preferred	Hydrocortisone 1%	Cream/Ointment	Mild
	Betamethasone 0.025%	Cream/Ointment	Moderate

	Betamethasone 0.1%	Cream/Ointment	Potent
	Mometasone furoate 0.1%	Cream	Potent
	Betamehtasone valerate 0.122%	Scalp Application	Potent
	Clobetasol Propionate 0.05%	Cream/Ointment	Very Potent

- NHS Lanarkshire's formulary provides guidance and formulary choices for prescribing emollients and steroids. View it [here](#), alongside other valuable resources such as the 'Dermatology Patient Pathways'.
- The Primary Care Dermatology Society (PCDS) has developed 'The General Dermatology Diagnostic Tool' - a visual resource to support diagnosis of a wide range of skin conditions. Access the tool [here](#).