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## Guideline for Supervision of Disulfiram in Community Pharmacies

GGC Addiction Services recently published guidance on the supervision of disulfiram in community pharmacies. This comprehensive document contains detailed guidance on all aspects of the service centred around four key points –

- Patients to be breathalysed before every supervised dose (0mcg/100ml result required to give the dose)
- Any positive breathalyser reading to be communicated to the prescriber
- Any missed dose to be communicated to the prescriber Jennifer Torrens, Alcohol Pharmacist, Addictions Services to be contacted on 0141 800 00667 or 07557012870 or [jenifer.torrens@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:jenifer.torrens@ggc.scot.nhs.uk) regarding any queries

Community pharmacists are asked to note the content of the document and amend any local SOPs accordingly to reflect the principles of this guidance. The document can be downloaded from the Community Pharmacy Team Website at <http://www.staffnet.ggc.scot.nhs.uk/Acute/Division%20Wide%20Services/Pharmacy%20and%20Prescribing%20Support%20Unit/Community%20Pharmacy/Documents/Guideline%20for%20Supervision%20of%20Disulfiram%20in%20Community%20Pharmacy%20sent%20dm%2026.pdf>

## Private Prescription Requirements

Opportune to reiterate the requirements that need to be observed following a recent patient complaint regarding difficulty in having a non CD private prescription dispensed. The following pieces of information must be present for a prescription to be legal (Regulation 217 and 218 Human Medicines Regulations 2012) –

- **Signature** – prescriptions need to be signed in ink by an appropriate practitioner in his or her own name
- **Prescriber's address** – prescriptions must include the address of the appropriate practitioner
- **Date** – prescriptions need to include the date the script was signed
- **Particulars of prescriber** – require particulars indicating the type of appropriate prescriber
- **Name of the patient**

- **Address of the patient** – although not required for scripts written by EEA or Swiss prescribers
- **Age of the patient** – if under 12 years old

## 'Specials' Supplier - Oxford Pharmacy Store – change in contact details

Community pharmacists are asked to note the following new contact details for Oxford Pharmacy Store (OPS) from the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015:

**Customer Services:** 01865 904 141

**Fax:** 01865 337 550

**Medicines Information:** 01865 904 161

**Finance:** 01865 904 194

**Marketing:** 01865 904 184

OPS is an NHS short-line store hosted by Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust and is one of our frequently used 'Specials' Suppliers. Please amend the contact list in the Specials A-Z guidance to reflect these changes which will be incorporated into the next issue of the publication

## Community Pharmacy Gluten Free Food Service Formulary

The Gluten Free Food Service formulary is due for review in March 2015 on the anniversary of the service launch and again in September 2015 as part of the local evaluation of the pilot service. We appreciate that several versions of the formulary have had to be issued during the pilot phase in order to accommodate products changing classification etc.

Going forward, is anticipated that the formulary will be reviewed on a regular basis, likely to be annually, in line with the national outcomes from the evaluation.

A full review will consider formulary inclusion of any new GF product but this may not apply to outcomes from any interim reviews. Pharmacy staff should be aware that new products may not necessarily be included in the GFF formulary, and therefore, approved for use within NHS GGC. Pharmacy staff are recommended to always check the latest version of the GFF formulary if they are unsure on whether they will be reimbursed for NHS supply of a certain product to a patient.

The latest version of the formulary can be found on the GGC Prescribing website at:

[http://www.ggcprescribing.org.uk/media/uploads/other\\_formularies/gluten\\_free\\_food\\_formulary\\_august14.pdf](http://www.ggcprescribing.org.uk/media/uploads/other_formularies/gluten_free_food_formulary_august14.pdf)

## Dessicant sachets

Pharmacy staff are asked to carefully counsel patients receiving blister packs containing a dessicant on its purpose and that it is not to be taken. This follows two recent incidents when the sachet containing the dessicant had been swallowed.

## Asthma LES

As you will be aware from previous correspondence, the third reporting tool for the above LES was due for submission by the 5th working day from the end of December .

Reported activity levels remain disappointingly below expectation. An additional copy of the pro-forma has been sent to those participating pharmacies still to complete and submit their returns.

In the meantime please contact Janine Glen on 0141-201-5298 should you have any queries regarding any aspect of the above process

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## Formulary changes affecting Community Pharmacy

Further to a recent review of insulin pen needles and lancets, the following brands are now preferred choices.

### Preferred choices of insulin pen needles:

- Omnican Fine pen needles(4mm, 6mm)
- GlucoRx Finepoint pen needles (4mm, 5mm, 6mm)

(Other needle lengths are available but best practice is to use shorter needles).

### Preferred choices of lancets

- Apollo Twist Lancets
- Omnican Lance Soft Lancets

All products will be available to order via the usual wholesalers.

Where Diabetes Specialist Nurses see patients at clinic appointments, they will ensure patients are aware of preferred choices. Prescribers may also make changes to patients' sundries and will be made aware of these changes via ScriptSwitch<sup>®</sup> software and internal communications. Switches to these cost effective choices of needles and lancets will take effect from end of March 2015.

Pharmacies should be aware of a potential reduction in prescribing of other brands of needles and lancets, and to monitor demand and stock levels of products accordingly.

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## Colobreathe<sup>®</sup> Inhalers

The MHRA has issued revised guidance to healthcare professionals on the advice to patients on how best to use a Colobreathe<sup>®</sup> Inhaler. Healthcare professionals are asked to demonstrate the new inhaler instructions to patients. The key points are –

- Insert the capsule widest end first into the inhaler chamber
- Pierce the capsule gradually using a two-step process
- Only pierce each capsule once
- Supervise the patient taking their first dose
- Ask patients and carers to refer to the instructions in the patient information leaflet contained in the pack

## Training for Social Services workers on medication administration- courses and complimentary App for smart phones

Pharmacists who are involved in providing training on medication administration to care home personnel or Social Services staff who provide care at home may be interested in a new App which has been devised in collaboration with the Care Commission and is now available for download onto a smart phone.

The Safemed App does not provide or replace stand alone training but may be a useful resource for staff providing care to use as a resource or reference point to complement formal training. The App is not designed to replace [Medication administration training](#) courses or deter those seeking advice from their community pharmacist. The Safemed app is designed as a quick reference tool and is a space limited resource. For that reason it focuses on raising awareness of important key principles for care staff - e.g. when a prescription is needed and cannot be obtained via normal routes for key reasons/ conditions, that an emergency route is available and when at the pharmacy, the pharmacy staff can advise or direct on the mechanism of supply.

The App can be downloaded free of charge from:

iTunes app store:

<https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/safemed/id791103985?mt=8>

GooglePlay: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.cactusid.p4469ce>

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## 'Special's – additions to the Part 7Sm Scottish Drug Tariff

The following items have been added to Part 7S of the Scottish Drug Tariff from 1 February 2015. As a consequence, contractors can now order these products directly without seeking prior authorisation as long as the script requirements match these specifications

Alfentanil Nasal Solution	Spray	5mg/5ml	1
Co-Careldopa	Suspension	6.25 + 25/5ml	200ml
Co-Careldopa	Suspension	25 + 100/5ml	200ml
Diazepam	Suspension	2.5mg/5ml	500ml
Diazepam	Suspension	10mg/5ml	200ml
Emulsifying Wax	Solution	3%	200ml
Glyceryl Trinitrate	Ointment	0.20%	30g
Hydrocortisone	Suspension	10mg/5ml	150ml
Mercaptamine Eye	Drops	0.55%	10ml
Midazolam Buccal prefilled syringe	Solution	2.5mg/0.25ml	4
Midazolam Buccal prefilled syringe	Solution	5mg/0.5ml	4
Midazolam Buccal prefilled syringe	Solution	7.5mg/0.75ml	4
Midazolam Buccal prefilled syringe	Solution	10mg/1ml	4
Spirolactone Oral	Suspension	25mg/5ml	125ml
Tacrolimus Oral	Suspension	5mg/5ml	100ml
Tizanidine Oral	Suspension	2mg/5ml	300ml
Tranexamic Oral	Solution	500mg/5ml	100ml
Venlafaxine Oral	Suspension	75mg/5ml	150ml
Venlafaxine Oral	Suspension	37.5mg/5ml	150ml