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Electronic Endorsement Guide

Practitioner Services Division and Community Pharmacy Scotland have recently launched an electronic endorsement guide for community pharmacies to use. The guide is available to download from Community Pharmacy Scotland website and also from the community pharmacy website on SHOW (see web details below).

The guide covers various types of endorsements that can be added electronically as well as what is required to be written on the paper. This complements the increasing numbers of drugs which is added to the automation list for payment each month.

As you are aware, serial prescriptions for CMS rely on electronic messaging so all pharmacy contractors are encouraged to access and read the guide and begin to incorporate electronic claiming into their normal dispensing work flow before serial prescriptions become more wide spread.

The guides can be accessed via:
http://www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk/documents/PSD_V1.1_Final_Endorsing_Guidance_for_Electronic_and_Paper_Prescriptions_2011.pdf
Or
http://www.communitypharmacyscotland.org.uk/resources/files/Contractor%20Services/EndorsingGuidance_ElectronicPaperPrescriptions_2011.pdf

Nurse Prescriptions in NHSGG&C

As levels of non-medical prescribing for nurses continue to increase, there has been some recent confusion regarding the qualification requirements that should be printed on the GP10N forms.

All nurse prescribers are allocated a five letter cipher code which should appear on each prescription that they generate (please look out for this especially if the wrong form type is used in error!!). In addition, the nurse prescriber's name and practice details are also added.

There is no requirement for the qualification status to be present, though this is often the case. The cipher links the prescriber type in the system at Practitioner Services in Edinburgh, so please ensure the cipher (five letter code) is printed on the prescriptions. The NMC PIN should also be on the prescription to enable the pharmacist to check the NMC register for the type of prescriber if there are any questions.

Please note that doctors using nurse forms (and vice versa) is a large contributor to the numbers of disallowed items rejected each month. Community pharmacy staff are asked to be vigilant and ensure that the prescriber type (i.e. doctor or nurse) matches the form type (GP10 or GP10N) and the prescriber reference (five digits for doctors; five letters for nurses e.g. 12345 for GP; ABCDE for nurse)

Anti-Embolism Stockings

Due to a recent incident in one of the hospitals, NHS GG&C has issued a Risk Awareness Notice for hospital nursing staff. However, one of the key points contained with the RAN is the need to ensure that measurements are taken correctly for Anti-embolism stockings.

All community pharmacists are reminded of the need for correct and accurate measurement for any prescriptions dispensed for these products which will help reduce the risk of wounds developing due to ill-fitting stockings.

Protecting Scotland's Travellers Abroad (Second section)

A previous article described the work of the HPS Travel Health team. This article talks about the two websites they operate in more detail.

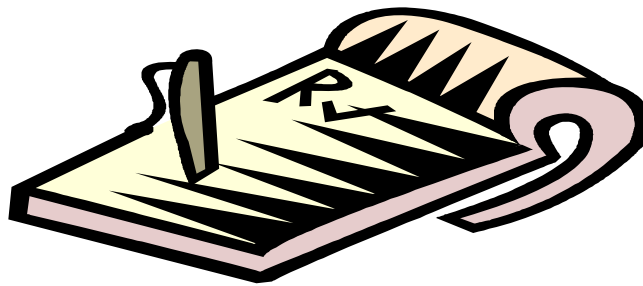
TRAVAX website at www.travax.nhs.uk

TRAVAX® provides health professionals with detailed information for every country in the world, with each country record providing general health advice, information on immunisation requirements, malaria prevention, other infection risks specific to the destination, medical services and other current information. Written with the professional in mind, TRAVAX gives detail that helps prescribers such as interrupted vaccine schedules, antimalarial chemoprophylaxis during pregnancy, advice for those with underlying medical conditions etc. Originally developed in 1994 for Scotland, it is now used extensively throughout the UK and internationally, with many million page views each year. TRAVAX is free to all Scottish NHS health providers including NHS pharmacists. There is a fee for those providing *private* travel health services (e.g. those who give and charge for vaccines) - for community pharmacists providing such a service this is £100 per annum. To register for TRAVAX simply complete the registration request form online at: <http://www.travax.nhs.uk>

fitfortravel website at www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk

fitfortravel® provides members of the public with access to the latest travel health advice, with the key message being that travellers should seek health advice from a travel health provider 6-8 weeks in advance of their trip. Information on fitfortravel is presented country by country and includes specific information for different groups of travellers, such as backpackers, young children, pregnant women and the elderly, as well as those with medical conditions such as diabetes and asthma. Fitfortravel® receives more than 30 million accesses per year, and is regularly highlighted in press and media as one of the leading websites for travellers. Ideally, TRAVAX® and fitfortravel® are used in conjunction by the health provider and the traveller respectively so that advice given is consistent. Visual aids such as the malaria risk maps can be accessed on both sites and may be referred to during a travel health consultation.

For any further information please telephone: 0141 300 1164.



Unsigned Prescriptions

It has been brought to the attention of the Board that the numbers of unsigned prescription forms that are submitted to PSD for payment is increasing again. During 2010-11, over 32,000 forms have been paid but were identified as not having a signature. In addition, a further 10,000 CP2 forms used by pharmacists prescribing under the Minor Ailment Service have been submitted apparently unsigned.

The dispensing of unsigned prescriptions breaches the statutory provisions and would expose the Pharmacist to challenge. All prescriptions must have a signature to authorise the supply of the medication. Pharmacists and dispensary staff must be vigilant and check that every script is signed.

Unsigned prescriptions should be discussed with the prescriber and arrangements made to correct the omission before submission for payment.

Smoking Cessation and Effects on Drug Metabolism

The metabolism of some drugs can be affected by smoking. The polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons found in tobacco smoke induce the cytochrome P450 system in the liver. This can increase the metabolism of certain drugs so that a higher dose is required to achieve the same clinical effect. When a patient stops smoking, the dose may need to be reduced to prevent side effects and / or toxicity. A resource of interactions between medicines and smoking is available on our website. Drugs with established evidence of interaction with smoking include:

Cardiovascular:	beta blockers, flecainide, warfarin
Respiratory:	theophylline
Mental Health:	clozapine, olanzapine, rivastigmine
Pain:	duloxetine
Gastro-intestinal:	cimetidine, ranitidine

Specialist services should be involved in quit attempts for patients on drugs not initiated by GPs, eg clozapine. SmokeFree Services will provide advice and support to professional involved in smoking cessation and will provide behavioural support to patients who do not want to take medication.

For further advice, please contact SmokeFree Services on 0800 389 3210 or 0141 211 6564 for mental health practitioner.

Community Pharmacy Champions

As a result of some vacancies and the reorganisation of Glasgow City CHP, the opportunity has been taken to review the Pharmacy Champions within NHSGG&C in collaboration with the APCC. Due to the increased size of the three Glasgow City CHP sectors, it has been agreed to appoint an additional champion for each sector to help manage the workload.

We are delighted to welcome three new Champions into the role, as well as a new CP Lead for East Dunbartonshire CHP. Details for each CH(C)P are provided below:

CHP	Lead Community Pharmacist	Pharmacy Champion
East Dunbartonshire including N Lanarkshire	Iain MacDonald	Ross Ferguson
East Renfrewshire	Elizabeth Roddick	Elizabeth Roddick
North East Sector	David Henry	Joan Miller Douglas Miller
South Sector	Tom Cunningham	Sandra Watson Alexandra McMillan
North West Sector	Garry Scott	Garry Scott Niral Nathwani
Inverclyde	Nisith Nathwani	Sandra Reynolds
Renfrewshire	Dorothy Gillespie	Dorothy Gillespie
South Lanarkshire	Alasdair Macintyre	Alasdair Macintyre
West Dunbartonshire	Mark Dickinson	Mark Dickinson

NHS GG&C Area Pharmaceutical Committee

The Area Pharmaceutical Committee is an advisory group which is responsible for giving advice and comment to the health board through the Area Clinical Forum or directly. Its members are elected from the full range of pharmacy disciplines to ensure that all pharmacists working in GG&C are represented

Attached is a list of the current APC members and a brief description of their area of practice. We would encourage you to contact your representative on APC if you have any questions or issues you would like to raise that might be relevant to the committee or even if you just want to know more about the committee and its work.

The APC meets bi monthly and as it's a statutory committee the minutes are available to the public on the health board's website at <http://www.nhsggc.org.uk> but it plans to keep pharmacists up to date with a summary of APC work in this newsletter after each meeting.

One piece of work it is particularly focussed on is the preparation of a report on Pharmaceutical Care of the Elderly and the APC wants to encourage all pharmacists to submit their stories to Val Reilly, APC Chair. Details were published in last edition of PostRx Community Pharmacy bulletin.

Four members from PPSU senior management team are also in attendance at the meetings to support and provide advice where necessary. These are Dr Kate McKean, Head of PPSU, Norman Lannigan, Lead Pharmacist for Acute Pharmacy Care, Robert Gillespie, Lead Pharmacist, Community Care and Scott Bryson, Lead Specialist in Pharmaceutical Public Health.

Dispensing of dry powder inhalers

It has been brought to our attention that some of the descriptions used within the EMIS GP system, does not make it clear what sort of dry powder inhalers patients should receive. To avoid any unnecessary wastage and supply of the wrong inhaler type, pharmacy staff are asked to confirm with the patient and/or practice what sort of device should be supplied at the point of dispensing.

Committee Member	Sector	Contact details	
Val Reilly (Chair)	Managed Service (Public Health)	West House, Gartnavel Royal Hospital 0141 201 4502 Val.reilly@ggc.scot.nhs.uk	Specialises in pharmacy public health protection and community pharmacy clinical governance. Qualified as an IP conducting clinical work in a GP practice.
Carl Fenelon (Vice Chair)	Hospital (GRI)	Glasgow Royal Infirmary carl.fenelon@ggc.scot.nhs.uk	Clinical Pharmacist and involved in evaluation of MMyM project
Kenneth Irvine (Vice Chair)	Community (West and East Dunbartonshire)	Bonhill Pharmacy kennethirvine@nhs.net	Independent contractor with hands on experience of the up's and down's in community pharmacy
David Henry	Community (Glasgow City CHP)	Lloyds Pharmacy, Unit 2, Hallhill Rd, Barlanark	24 years in community pharmacy. Passionate about the role of pharmacy in the nation's health
Alasdair Macintyre	Community (Glasgow City CHP)	Burnside Pharmacy, 273 Stonelaw Road, Rutherglen amacintyre@nhs.net	I am a community pharmacist with two pharmacies based in the south of Glasgow. I represent community pharmacy in South Lanarkshire CHP, I am a pharmacy champion and an independent prescriber.
Paul Pollock	Community (Glasgow City CHP)	Lloydspharmacy, 263 Alderman Road, Knightswood Paul.pollock@nhs.net	I am a community pharmacist who works for Lloyds pharmacy at an extended hours branch in the west end of Glasgow. I am currently in my first term with the APC.
Joan Miller	Community (Glasgow City CHP)	Joanmiller@nhs.net	Locum pharmacist and Pharmacy Champion with a special interest in CMS/ PCR, Clinical Governance, compliance issues and the role of the community pharmacist.
Hilary Miller	Community (East Renfrewshire and S Lanarkshire)	Hilarymiller40@yahoo.co.uk	Half my week I work in a community pharmacy, the rest is split between my roles as a Health Improvement facilitator and a Clinical Governance audit facilitator for community pharmacy.
Nisith Nathwani	Community (Inverclyde and Renfrewshire)	nisith.nathwani@co-operative.coop	Regional Manager for Co-op Pharmacy and current member of APCC.
Nicola Burns	Community (S Lanarkshire)	Burns Pharmacy 0141-634-2750 n.clarke2@nhs.net	I have worked as a community pharmacist on relief and as a manager. I recently became a contractor in 2010.
Kimberley Neill	Hospital(GRI)	Kimberley.neill@ggc.scot.nhs.uk	Senior clinical pharmacist for medical receiving unit at Glasgow Royal Infirmary
Colette Byrne	Hospital(Western)	Tel 0141 211 2706, e-mail colette.byrne@ggc.scot.nhs.uk	Lead Pharmacist, Medicines Governance. Part of the PPSU Clinical Governance Team
Stephen Dewar	Hospital(SGH)	stephen.dewar@ggc.scot.nhs.uk Tel 0141 201 1100 page 7381 or 0141 201 1396	Clinical pharmacist working in acute medicine and gastroenterology with commitment to research of gentamicin and vancomycin at the University of Strathclyde.
Leanne McGill	Hospital(GRI)	Glasgow Royal Infirmary leanne.mcquill@ggc.scot.nhs.uk	Clinical Pharmacist
Colin Cuthbertson	Hospital (IRH)	colin.cuthbertson@ggc.scot.nhs.uk	Been on register for 30 years and always worked in hospital sector in various roles
Carole Hunter	Managed Service (Addiction)	Carole.Hunter@glasgow.gov.uk 0141 276 6600	Lead pharmacist for addiction services
Elaine Paton	Managed Service (CPDT)	Elaine.paton@ggc.scot.nhs.uk 0141 201 5427	Background in community pharmacy before joining the NHS to support community pharmacy contractors with the new contract
Rachel Bruce	Managed Service (Prescribing)	Rachel.bruce@nhs.net	Lead Clinical Pharmacist with development responsibility across interface
Gakram Aslam	School of Pharmacy, University of Strathclyde	Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy & Biomedical Sciences, University of Strathclyde, 161 Cathedral St, Glasgow G4 0RE 0141 548 4980	Lecturer in Pharmacy (specialising in Mental Health) and also (0.3wte) Specialist Pharmacist in Child Psychiatry (NHS GG & C)