

****NEW** Online Reporting Dashboard**

Practitioner Services have implemented a dashboard to help you get the maximum benefit when using online reporting. This enhancement will introduce a quicker way for you to determine and locate which report to use in order to find the information you're looking for.

The dashboard will be introduced in two phases. The initial phase, implemented at the end of January 2014, gives access to the online reporting Standard Report users. This will mostly be independent pharmacy users or corporate users that have online reporting access for one pharmacy and not access to the whole corporate group. The final phase (Spring 2014) will be to deliver a dashboard suitable for the corporate and pharmacy group online reporting users.

To use the dashboard, login to Business Objects and access your online reporting account in the usual way and follow the instructions on the following link -

http://www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk/online_reporting/dashboard/OLR_Guidance_Start_up_for_Dashboard.pdf

Gluten Free Food Community Pharmacy Service

Following early testing of the methodology in three CHCP areas and an expansion of the initiative to include the remainder, the new GFF service is now available from all community pharmacies within NHS GGC.

Patients who register for the service could be given a GP10 for the first month's supply at the point of registration to give both the patient and pharmacy staff sufficient time to complete their respective parts of the process before the next order is due. GPs should then remove GF foods from the patient's list of repeated items. However, if a subsequent GP10 appears after the first month, the CP must not dispense the prescription but contact the practice as the GFF service cannot be provided via two routes to the same patient.

When writing CPUS forms for the pharmacy service, **pharmacists must remember to add the patient CHI number and the GP practice or reference code** at the bottom right – **You won't be paid without this!**

As there has been a delay in updating the formulary information on NHS Inform, members of the public can access the GFF formulary from the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde internet site:

<http://www.ggcprescribing.org.uk/gluten-free-patients/>;

independent pharmacy staff can access direct from the CPDT intranet site or all pharmacies can access :

<http://www.ggcprescribing.org.uk/gluten-free-formulary/>

Some pharmacies may find it difficult to print individual copies of the formulary for patients who do not or cannot access these internet sites. A solution may be to print a single copy, add to poly-pockets to leave in the consultation room or elsewhere in the pharmacy, for

patients to make their selection prior to placing their order.

Supply of Sweet Biscuits

In recent weeks we have had a few queries about the supply of gluten free sweets biscuit via the community pharmacy gluten free food service. In line with Coeliac UK guidance from 2011, within Greater Glasgow & Clyde Health Board sweet biscuits should only be prescribed in exceptional circumstances on clinical advice. For patients accessing the community pharmacy gluten free food service if they have historically received biscuits on prescription from their GP and are to continue, they will have been given a 'Patient form for additional gluten free units and sweets biscuits' which has been authorised by the GP. This will allow patients to have a maximum of 2 units of sweet biscuits within their overall gluten free food allocation; unless an alternative quantity has been recommended by a dietitian. If a patient has not historically received gluten free sweet biscuits on prescription or the GP has decided that sweet biscuits are no longer being provided in line with Coeliac UK guidance they will need to purchase sweet biscuits from a retail outlet.

Formulary changes affecting Community Pharmacy

Primary care prescribers are being made aware of recent changes to NHS GGC contraceptive choices via ScriptSwitch® software and may switch to prescribing more cost-effective preparations.

Upostelle® is now named in the NHSGGC Formulary as the first-choice oral emergency contraceptive preparation for women presenting within 72 hours after unprotected intercourse. Under the current PGD arrangements, community pharmacists should continue to supply Levonelle 1500® to patients. Existing PGD arrangements will remain in place until the PGD is reviewed in August, so stock can be managed by the pharmacy service supply. Please be aware that the PGD **will alter to Upostelle® in August**, as it is a more cost-effective preparation.

Although non formulary, Lunette® is considered a more cost effective product than Yasmin®. Pharmacies should be aware of a potential reduction in prescribing of Yasmin® and monitor demand and stock levels of both products accordingly.

Douglas Miller- Pharmacy Champion

Thanks to Douglas Miller for his sterling efforts as Pharmacy Champion for the North East Sector of Glasgow City CHP. Douglas recently decided to relinquish the role because of increasing work commitments. The name of a worthy successor will be announced shortly following conclusion of the recruitment process, currently underway.

Guidance for submitting a review form for a serial prescription

The following best practice guidance has been extracted from the Chronic Medication Service Toolkit to help you decide which patients can be reviewed for a serial prescription.

Drugs/situations to avoid are:

- Patients with unstable conditions.
- Drugs which require ongoing monitoring resulting in regular dose changes.
- Schedule 2, 3 and 4 controlled drugs (as these scripts are only valid for 28 days and are also strongly recommended to be prescribed in quantities to cover a max of 30 days). Schedule 3 and 4 controlled drugs include all benzodiazepines.
- Cytotoxic drugs
- Drugs requiring titration
- Contraceptives
- Nutritional products
- Anti-coagulants may be considered for serial prescription if the GP is of the opinion that a longer term prescription is suitable for the patient.
- Drugs such as DMARDs which require regular monitoring.

Bearing these points in mind, when you are submitting a review form for a serial prescription to your GP practice, all the patient's medication should be eligible for inclusion. If not, a serial prescription is not appropriate.

Area Pharmaceutical Committee

The Area Pharmaceutical Committee has a remit to advise the Health Board on pharmacy matters and meets on the third Wednesday of every second month. At their last meeting on 19 February the Committee agreed on the following action points -

- To meet as a small subgroup to consider and draft responses to 'Prescription for Excellence'
- To support the General Pharmaceutical Council's draft guidance for 'Registered pharmacies preparing unlicensed medicines'
- To nominate a member to collate responses to the NICE Public Consultation on 'A Vision for an enhanced BNF' and prepare a reply on behalf of the APC
- To welcome the opportunity offered by the Optometry Prescribing and Supply Group to contribute to their work when appropriate.
- Pleased to note Alex Neil, Cabinet Secretary for Health's undertaking to consider detailed questions from the APC on Prescription for Excellence.
- Noted the retirement of Professor Kate McKean. The committee reflected on the success of her long career, her outstanding contribution to the pharmacy profession particularly in Scotland and the constructive support she has given to her pharmacy team's work and development. All join in wishing her a long and happy retirement.

Update on Disulfiram Supply Situation

Pharmacists will be aware of the ongoing issues affecting supply of Antabuse® (disulfiram). Manufacturers Actavis report that the latest batch of Antabuse® has failed dissolution tests and cannot give a date for when this will be resolved. Currently all wholesalers and the Pharmacy Distribution Centre (PDC) have stock to supply. Actavis also has retained a small reserve for supply in an emergency. The PDC also has stock of the unlicensed Esperal 500mg tablets to hand as further contingency.

Pharmacies participating in the Supervised Disulfiram service are asked to note the current situation and contact Jennifer Torrens, Alcohol Pharmacist, in the first instance should they have a supply issue. Jennifer can be contacted on 0141 800 0667, 0755 701 2870 and Jennifer.torrens@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

The Pharmaceutical Care of People with Dementia

NES Pharmacy recently launched a new distance learning pack on '*The Pharmaceutical Care of People with Dementia*' designed to equip pharmacists and their technicians with the necessary skills and expertise to support the implementation of Scottish Government's most recent dementia strategy – *Scotland's National Dementia Strategy: 2013-16*. The distance learning pack can be downloaded from the NES Pharmacy website and provides a very useful opportunity to gain a better insight into an increasingly prevalent series of conditions. Completed multiple choice questionnaires can be submitted via your Portal account and represents a significant contribution towards your CPD requirements.

http://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/media/2565054/05-03-2014_dementia_web_version.pdf
www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health/Services/Mental-health/Dementia/DementiaStrategy1316

Jim Bannerman OBE

Sad to report the passing of Jim Bannerman OBE who died peacefully in his sleep on the 28th of March. Jim made an enormous and significant contribution to the profession over many years at every level of engagement. Active in the local Branch and within Scotland, his election to the RPSGB Council culminated in his tenure as President in 1975-77. Further recognition came in 1978 when awarded a Fellowship in recognition of these outstanding achievements. Jim was a true gentleman, highly respected both within and out with the world of pharmacy.

Transfer to NHS Lanarkshire

The previously announced realignment of NHS Board boundaries, as part of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) Scotland Bill legislation, becomes effective on 1 April when 21 community pharmacy contracts transfer from NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde to NHS Lanarkshire. Certainly appropriate and fitting that we acknowledge the substantial contribution each pharmacy has made to the development and delivery of patient care and pharmacy practice within Glasgow. Colleagues join in wishing everyone continuing success as they join NHS Lanarkshire.