

Covid-19 Antibody Testing Service

You may have experienced requests or queries from patients regarding COVID-19 antibody testing.

The GPhC currently have a Coronavirus Q&A section on their website and we would like to draw your attention to the below question and GPhC response.

A pharmacy is offering an antibody rapid test service. Is this allowed?

*“Antibody tests are used to detect antibodies to the **COVID-19** virus to see if you have previously had the virus. Some pharmacies are offering a test within the pharmacy. Public Health England currently advises against the use of rapid point of care tests – where results can usually be obtained within 10 minutes – due to insufficient information about their accuracy and suitability for diagnosing **COVID-19**.*

We do not expect pharmacies to be providing tests which do not adhere to guidance from the public health agencies in Great Britain. Where we have been made aware that a pharmacy is offering these tests we’ve told them to stop doing so.

Please let us know about any pharmacies providing tests that do not adhere to guidance from the MHRA or public health agencies by raising a concern. We will then consider what action to take. Please also report this to the MHRA.

We will keep our position under review in light of any changes to the situation, including any changes in guidance from the MHRA or public health agencies.

We do not have the jurisdiction over and would not advise on the legality, safety or efficacy of particular types of tests or kit.”

RPS Webinar

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) is running a webinar on Thursday July 9th from 7pm – 8pm. The webinar is on the topic of: **Optimising management of anxiety and depression in care home residents during COVID-19** and is open to members and non-members.

To book on to this event please click the following link: [RPS Webinar Booking](#)

Drug & Alcohol Services Update

Supervision

Patients are being reviewed and risk assessed with regards to the ongoing supervision of OST- however, if you have any concerns please inform the prescribing service using the contact details below:

Services (Monday-Friday 0900-1700)

CADS South 01786 468282

email: fv-uhb.CADSPrescribing@nhs.net

CADS North 01324 673670

CGL 0808 1962188

email:fv-uhb.cglforthvalley@nhs.net

Do not reinstate supervision without discussion with the prescriber - there is a risk of overdose should the patient not be taking their dose either in full or at all.

Espranor® oral lyophilisate (2mg and 8mg)

We will be transferring our patients currently prescribed buprenorphine onto Espranor in the next few months. You may wish to consider reducing stock levels accordingly. Please click on the links below for more details around administration:

- EMC <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/2316/smpc>
- [CPDT Briefing 08/05/2020](#)

Buvidal

NHS Forth Valley and the Community Alcohol and Drugs Service have started a pilot with Buvidal . Please note this medication should not be dispensed to patients and it will be picked up by the nurse / keyworker for administration by the service. Further information on Buvidal can be found by clicking on the link below for the EMC:

- EMC <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/9705/smpc>

NEO/IEP sites

All needle exchange and naloxone transactions should be recorded through NEO. If you have any issues with NEO access or require any assistance please contact:

gillian.baillie-sharp@nhs.net

eHealth Updates

Emergency Care Summary (ECS)

- If you have applied for an ECS account and not yet received your username and password, please check your personal NHSmail account and reply to the first letter as requested. We cannot supply account information until applicants have indicated that they have read the User Guide and FAQs and agreed to the Acceptable Use Statement.
- If you have been using the ECS for some time, please consider completing the Community Pharmacy Scotland survey [here](#). This will help us ensure Community Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians retain access to ECS long term.

NHS Near Me

- If you would like to opt in to provide a video consultation service to your patients, you can register for a Near Me waiting area [here](#).
- More information on Near Me for Community Pharmacy can be found in the [Scottish Government NHS Circular](#).
- The Near Me guidance for Community Pharmacy has been published [here](#).

NHSmal/Office 365

- It is expected that the preparation for the migration of community pharmacy NHSmal accounts will take place over 12 weeks, beginning around the 20th August 2020 and completing in November.
- Global e-mail messages sent from the Office 365 project team are currently intended for staff **employed by** NHS Forth Valley. The majority of information contained within these e-mails is therefore not relevant to community pharmacy.
- The only recommended action at this stage for community pharmacy personal NHSmal accounts is to ensure your mailbox size is less than 1.7GB by clearing out old e-mails and emptying your deleted items folder regularly.

For more information on ECS, NHS Near Me or NHSmal/O365, please contact Suzanne MacCrimmon at suzanne.maccrimmon@nhs.net or on 07920 294443.