

# Pharmacy Newsletter

Issue 1, July 2024



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### **Naloxone Local Service**

The Take Home Naloxone Service can be provided by all community pharmacies across Forth Valley. This is to reduce the incidence of drug related deaths due to an opiate overdose, raise awareness of overdose prevention and providing education on the signs and symptoms of overdose. **Sign up to the refreshed local service has been low and contractors are urged to sign up by returning the contract to this vital service.**

### **Clozapine Audit**

Clozapine is an FDA-approved atypical antipsychotic medication for treatment-resistant schizophrenia. We are in the process of the Clozapine Audit, please ensure if you have been sent an Audit form to complete and return.

### **Palliative Care Review**

We will be reviewing our network of community pharmacists to ensure we have adequate cover over all areas in Forth Valley.

### **COPD Cards**

Communication has been sent to GP practices to encourage them to review patients with COPD and issue cards where appropriate.

### **Patient Group Directions (PGDs)**

The Local Negotiations Committee and CP FV both backed a proposal to rework this procedure and move towards a more automated process. The link is now live and all PGDs you are signing will be on this form.

<https://forms.office.com/e/XyzQfr8s3a>

### **Electronic Claim Form**

This form commenced on the 1st April 2024. All claims usually sent to Pam Calder will now go on this link. This will be for MAR Charts, Monitored Dosage System (MDS), Meetings you have attended, Local Pharmacy First payments and Naloxone payments. Please note, for MDS, the total of the invoice is entered on the form and a copy of the invoice sent to Pam.

<https://forms.office.com/e/c5UWUChaN>

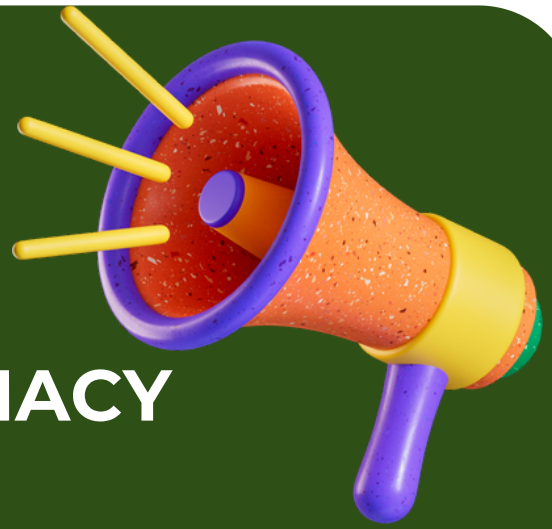
## What's Happening

## Community Updates

## Pharmacy Team

## Training Events

# COMMUNITY PHARMACY UPDATES



## Pharmacy Circulars

Clarithromycin 125mg/5ml and 250mg/5ml Oral Suspension shortage

<https://www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2024-p-11.pdf>

Creon® 25000 Gastro-resistant Capsules shortage

<https://www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2024-p-08.pdf>

NHS Pharmacy First Approved List of Products

<https://www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/nhs-pharmacy-first-scotland-approved-list-of-products-v30-01-june-2024.pdf>

Community Pharmacy Public Health Service Poster Campaigns 2024/2025

<https://www.publications.scot.nhs.uk/files/pca2024-p-10.pdf>

## Hep C Advance

If you wish to apply for advanced payment it must be in by the deadline, otherwise we will be unable to pay until the following month. This is due to a national cut off date for payments to be made.

## Pharmacy Mobile Phones

Can you please ensure the mobile phone provided is always charged and switched on during opening hours

# COMMUNITY PHARMACY ALERT - NITAZENE



As you may be aware there is concern currently relating to the prevalence of nitazenes in illicit substances within the Forth Valley area. Nitazenes are a powerful subgroup of synthetic opioid and in some cases they are reportedly 800 X stronger than morphine. We are hearing that the response to reverse opioid overdose is requiring multiple doses of naloxone and community pharmacies may be approached for multiple Prenoxad® supplies via the Take Home Naloxone framework.

We would be glad to hear from you should there be any intelligence from your service users and you can bring this directly to me: [gillian.baillie-sharp@nhs.scot](mailto:gillian.baillie-sharp@nhs.scot)

I would encourage you to sign up for RADAR alerts as below and I add some additional information relating to this substance of concern for your attention and for discussion with your service users.

The key advice is:

- **Test before use (we are currently exploring the option of nitazene test strips – more info to follow)**
- **Dose low. Take a test dose**
- **Go slow. Leave as long as possible between doses.**
- **Avoid mixing drugs including alcohol and medicines. This increases the risk of overdose.**
- **Use in company. Stay with people who can respond in an emergency with available naloxone**

There will be a NEO alert for IEP pharmacies shortly as well to help prompt these discussions with injecting drug users.

RADAR Alert form ([publichealthscotland.scot](https://publichealthscotland.scot))

Nitazene-Alert-Booklet-Dec-2023\_DIGITAL.pdf ([sdf.org.uk](https://sdf.org.uk))

What is RADAR? - Rapid Action Drug Alerts and Response (RADAR) -

Surveillance - Substance use - Health harming commodities - Our areas of work - Public Health Scotland

Thank you for your continued support with our service users.

Gillian Baillie-Sharp, Clinical Director, Substance Use service, NHS Forth Valley.

# Your Pharmacy Team

**Debbie Oakes, Project Manager, Community Pharmacy Development Team**

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**Clare Colligan, Associate Director of Pharmacy-Primary and Community Care**

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**Laura Byrne, Director of Pharmacy & Controlled Drugs Accountable Officer**

Email: [laura.byrne@nhs.scot](mailto:laura.byrne@nhs.scot)

# Training Videos

Jonathan Burton recently ran an online training session on Sore Throats and Skin Infections in Children to support the launch of the new local PGDs in Forth Valley, If you were unable to attend we encourage you to watch the videos from the event which can be found [here](#).



# Training Event

## COMMON CLINICAL CONDITIONS SESSION

FOR COMMUNITY PHARMACY TEAMS

GRANGE MANOR  
THURS 22ND AUG 2024

6:45PM - 8:30PM  
(buffet from 6.30 pm)

We are delighted to offer a training session which will be delivered by Karyn Webster (Clinical Lead for Out of Hours).

The session will focus on conditions which are commonly presented to OOHs but could be managed within the community under Pharmacy First, Pharmacy First Plus and the local FV extension service.

Some of the conditions covered on the night will include: Rashes, Croup, Respiratory Tract Infection & Ear, Nose and Throat

It will also cover information for Independent Prescribers to support them to manage more complex cases

To book this FREE  
event visit  
<https://forms.office.com/e/jPVCzjSFpt>

OR scan QR CODE



*Thank you for reading!*