

21st May 2020

Dear Colleague

National Patient Group Directions (PGDs) to support Community Pharmacy Contract Services

As previously communicated on 7th February 2020 the Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee Collaborative (ADTCC) in collaboration with the Scottish Antimicrobial Prescribing Group (SAPG), Primary Care Community Pharmacy Group and Community Pharmacy Scotland has progressed the development of national PGDs to support the introduction of the new NHS Pharmacy First Service to be introduced in 2020. The intention of this service is to make Community Pharmacies in Scotland the first port of call for common clinical conditions.

Initially, two PGDs for common clinical conditions were developed nationally and disseminated for trimethoprim in acute uncomplicated urinary tract infections (UTI) for women between 16 and 65 and fusidic acid cream for impetigo for adults and children from 2 years. An additional PGD for nitrofurantoin in acute uncomplicated urinary tract infections for women between 16 and 65 has also now been agreed. All 3 PGDs are attached – note that the original ones for trimethoprim and fusidic acid have not changed.

In addition, to reduce variation in practice national assessment forms and GP communication forms for uncomplicated UTI in women between 16 and 65 years and impetigo have been developed.

The ADTCC are requesting that the local Area Drug and Therapeutics Committees can support and advise their PGD subgroups in the approval of these national PGDs to support the NHS Pharmacy First Service **without** any alteration to the details of the PGDs or associated forms to help reduce workload in Boards.

There will be further opportunities to utilise this approach to expand the common clinical conditions that community pharmacists can deal with and these would all follow a similar process to that of these PGDs.

We would be grateful if you could provide a response to indicate your Board's support in the local approval of these nationally developed PGDs to ADTCC email (hcis.adtc-collaborative@nhs.net) by 5th June 2020.

There is an expectation that the new national PGDs and associated documents will be implemented by 31st July 2020.

Yours sincerely



Scott Hill
National Clinical Lead – ADTCC



Jacqueline Sneddon
Project Lead, Scottish Antimicrobial
Prescribing Group



Diane Robertson
Chair, Primary Care
Community Pharmacy Group