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Dear Colleague

**NURSE PRESCRIBING IN SCOTLAND:
DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS**

Summary

This letter outlines the arrangements for nurse prescribing in Scotland. Two demonstration projects have been set up and will take effect from 1 July 1996. Two GP practices, in Craigmillar, Edinburgh and in Forfar, have been selected to take part in the demonstration. Appropriately qualified nurses working in the 2 practices have undertaken the necessary training and the Pharmacy Practice Division of the Common Services Agency has developed a system for the processing and monitoring of prescriptions written by nurses. Regulations have been put in place to allow Community Pharmacists to dispense these prescriptions.

Action

Health Boards and NHS Trusts are asked to distribute the attached memorandum to all NHS prescribers, pharmacist contractors and appliance suppliers, and in addition to Unit General Managers, CAPOs, CANOs and CAMOs. Bulk supplies of the memorandum will be sent under separate cover.

Yours sincerely

AGNES ROBSON
Director of Primary Care

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**GENERAL MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS
CHEMIST CONTRACTORS
APPLIANCE SUPPLIERS**

NURSE PRESCRIBING IN SCOTLAND: DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

Background

1. The implementation of nurse prescribing in Scotland is based on the recommendations contained in the Report of the Advisory Group on Nurse Prescribing 1989 (Crown Report). Appropriately qualified nurses have been authorised to prescribe within demonstration sites in England since October 1994.

2. Two demonstration sites have been chosen. Craigmillar Surgery is a non-fundholding practice serving approximately 8,600 patients in a large urban population on the south side of Edinburgh. The Green Street Group Practice is a fundholding practice serving more than 8,000 patients in Forfar and the surrounding rural area.

Nurse Prescribers

3. 'Nurse prescriber' means a nurse or health visitor who is qualified to order listed drugs and medicines and listed appliances on an NHS prescription form. Nurse prescribers are first level nurses on the professional register who have a registered health visiting qualification or a recorded district nurse qualification and who have successfully completed nurse prescribing training of a standard considered sufficient by the United Kingdom Central Council (for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting), the UKCC. At the time of prescribing, the nurse prescriber must be employed by a Health Board or an NHS Trust, or employed by a doctor whose name is included in a medical list.

The UKCC will annotate the professional register to indicate that a nurse or health visitor has successfully completed training. The UKCC may be contacted by a pharmacist or employer to confirm it is using telephone number 0171 631 3200.

Preparations which nurses may prescribe under the Drug Tariff

4. Medical preparations - see Annex A

Appliances and Reagents (including Wound Management Products) - see Annex B.

Prescription Forms GP10 (PN) and GP10 (CN)

5. For practice nurses the form is a GP10 (PN) and is coloured lilac. For health visitors and district nurses the form is a GP10 (CN) and is coloured green.

6. Nurse prescription forms will be stamped to include the nurse's name and UKCC PIN; the full address and telephone number of the GP practice and a PPD code unique to each nurse prescriber.

Action by Dispensers

7. Nurse prescription forms should be sorted by prescriber name with the lilac practice nurse forms uppermost. Nurse prescription forms will be part of the "C" group for submission to PPD.

Monitoring of Nurse Prescribing

8. Scottish Prescribing Analysis (SPA) Level I and II reports will be provided to all nurse prescribers during the demonstration. The costs of prescribing by nurses will be included in budget schedules for the GP practice. The costs will not be separately identified in those schedules but they will appear in PRISMS data.

THE SCOTTISH OFFICE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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NURSE PRESCRIBING

List of preparations approved by the Secretary of State which may be prescribed on forms GP10(CN) and GP10(PN) by nurses for National Health Service patients.

Medicinal Preparations

| | |
|--|---|
| Aqueous Cream, BP | Lignocaine and Chlorhexidine Gel, BP |
| Arachis Oil Enema, NPF | Lindane Lotion, NPF |
| Aspirin Tablets, Dispersible, 300mg, BP | Lindane Shampoo, NPF |
| Bisacodyl Suppositories, BP (includes 5-mg and 10mg strengths) | Magnesium Hydroxide Mixture, BP |
| Bisacodyl Tablets, BP | Magnesium Sulphate Paste, BP |
| Cadexomer-Iodine ointment, NPF | Malathion alcoholic lotions containing at least 0.5% |
| Cadexomer-Iodine paste, NPF | Malathion aqueous lotions containing at least 0.5% |
| Cadexomer-Iodine power, NPF | Malathion shampoos containing at least 1% |
| Calamine Cream, Aqueous, BP | Mebendazole Tablets, NPF |
| Calamine Lotion, BP | Mebendazole Oral Suspension, NPF |
| Calamine Lotion, Oily, BP 1980 | Miconazole Oral Gel, NPF |
| Carbaryl alcoholic lotions containing at least 0.5% | Nystatin Oral Suspension, BP |
| Carbaryl aqueous lotions containing at least 0.5% | Nystatin Pastilles, NPF |
| Carbaryl shampoos containing at least 0.5% | Paracetamol Oral Suspension, BP (includes 120mg/5ml and 250mg/5ml strengths - both of which are available as sugar-free formulations) |
| Catheter Maintenance Solution, Chlorhexidine, NPF | Permethrin Cream, NPF |
| Catheter Maintenance Solution, Mandelic Acid, NPF | Permethrin Cream Rinse, NPF |
| Catheter Maintenance Solution, Sodium Chloride, NPF | Phenothrin Alcoholic Lotion, NPF |
| Catheter Maintenance Solution, 'Solution G' NPF | Phosphates Enema (Formula B), BP |
| Catheter Maintenance Solution, 'Solution R', NPF | Piperazine Citrate Elixir, BP |
| Clotrimazole Cream 1%, BP | Piperazine and Senna Powder, NPF |
| Co-danthramer Oral suspension, NPF | Povidone-Iodine Aqueous Solution, NPF |
| Co-danthramer Oral suspension, strong, NPF | Senna Granules, Standardised, BP |
| Co-danthrusate capsules, BP | Senna Oral Solution, NPF |
| ¹ Dextranomer Beads, NPF | Senna Tablets, BP |
| ¹ Dextranomer Paste, NPF | Senna and Ispaghula Granules, NPF |
| Dimethicone barrier creams containing at least 10% | Sodium Chloride Solution, Sterile, BP |
| Docusate Capsules, NPF | Sodium Citrate Compound Enema, NPF |
| Docusate Enema, NPF | Sterculia Granules, NPF |
| Docusate Enema, Compound, NPF | Sterculia and Frangula Granules, NPF |
| Docusate Oral Solution, NPF | Streptokinase and Streptodornase Topical Powder, NPF |
| Docusate Oral Solution, Paediatric, NPF | Thymol Glycerin, Compound, BP 1988 |
| Emulsifying Ointment, BP | Titanium Ointment, NPF |
| Glycerol Suppositories, BP | Zinc and Castor Oil Ointment, BP |
| Hydrous Ointment, BP | |
| Ispaghula Husk Granules, Effervescent, NPF | |
| Ispaghula Husk Power, Effervescent, NPF | |
| Lactulose Solution, BP | |
| Lignocaine Gel, BP | |
| Lignocaine Ointment, NPF | |

¹ Dextranomer Paste Pad Dressings, included as appliance in Part 2 of the Drug Tariff, are also prescribable

APPLIANCES AND REAGENTS (INCLUDING WOUND MANAGEMENT PRODUCTS)**Chemical Reagents**

The following are listed in Part 9 of the Drug Tariff:-

Detection Tablets for Glycosuria
 Detection strips for Glycosuria
 Detection Tablets for Ketonuria
 Detection Strips for Ketonuria
 Detection Strips for Proteinuria
 Detection Strips for Blood Glucose

Fertility (Ovulation) Thermometer as listed in Part 3 of the Drug Tariff

Film Gloves, Disposable, EMA as listed in Part 2 of the Drug Tariff.

Elastic Hosiery including accessories as listed in Part 4 of the Drug Tariff

Hypodermic Equipment

The following as listed in Part 3 of the Drug Tariff:

Hypodermic Syringes - U100 Insulin

Hypodermic Syringe Carrying Case

Screw cap to convert Hypodermic Syringe Carrying Case for use with Pre-set U100 Insulin Syringe

Hypodermic Syringe - Single use or single-patient use, U100 insulin with needle

Hypodermic needles - sterile, single-use lancets - sterile, single-use

Needle clipping device

Incontinence Appliances as listed in Part 5 of the Drug Tariff

Pessaries, Ring as listed in Part 3 of the Drug Tariff

Stoma Appliances and Associated Products as listed in Part 6 of the Drug Tariff

Urethral Catheters as listed in Part 3 of the Drug Tariff

Urine Sugar Analysis Equipment as listed in Part 3 of the Drug Tariff

Wound Management and Related Products (including bandages, dressings, gauzes, lint, stockinette etc)

The following as listed in Part 2 of the Drug Tariff:

Absorbent Cotton

Absorbent Cotton Gauzes

Absorbent Cotton and Viscose Ribbon Gauze, BP 1988

Absorbent Lint BPC

Arm Slings

Cellulose Wadding, BP 1988

Cotton Conforming Bandage, BP 1988

Cotton Crepe Bandage, BP 1988

Crepe Bandage BP 1988

Elastic Adhesive Bandage BP

Elastic Web Bandages

Gauze and Cellulose Wadding Tissue, BP 1988

Gauze and Cotton Tissues

Heavy Cotton and Rubber Elastic Bandage, BP

High Compression Bandages (Extensible)

Knitted Polyamide and Cellulose Contour Bandage, BP 1988

Knitted Viscose Primary Dressing, BP, Type 1

Multiple Pack Dressing No 1

Multiple Pack Dressing No 2

Open-weave Bandage, BP 1988, Type 1

Paraffin Gauze Dressing, BP

Perforated Film Absorbent Dressing

Polyamide and Cellulose Contour Bandage, BP 1988

Povidone-Iodine Fabric Dressing, Sterile

Skin Closure Strips, Sterile

Sterile Dressing Packs

Stockinettes

Surgical Adhesive Tapes

Suspensory Bandages, Cotton

Swabs

Titanium Dioxide Elastic Adhesive Bandage, BP

Triangular Calico Bandage, BP 1980

Vapour-permeable Adhesive Film Dressing, BP

Vapour-permeable Waterproof Plastic Wound Dressing, BP, Sterile

Wound Management Dressings (including gel, colloid and foam)

Zinc Paste Bandages (including both plain and with additional ingredients)