



# SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

## Health Department

Dear Colleague

### **THE RIGHT MEDICINE: A STRATEGY FOR PHARMACEUTICAL CARE IN SCOTLAND**

#### **Summary**

1. The Scottish Executive's strategy for pharmaceutical care, "*The Right Medicine: A Strategy for Pharmaceutical Care in Scotland*", is being published today. The Strategy has been produced after a period of consultation and it is designed to ensure that the care provided by pharmacists meets the requirements for the 21<sup>st</sup>-century. It sets out the agenda for pharmacists and the Scottish Executive to work with key stakeholders to improve the public's health, provide better access to care, deliver better quality services for patients and develop the profession.

#### **Financial Support**

2. Unified Budget allocations to NHS Health Boards for 2002-3 will include an earmarked provision of £4m to be spent in support of this strategy. Further details will be provided in the allocations letter, which will be issued shortly.

#### **Primary Care Premises Modernisation Programme-Community Pharmacy**

3. For the first time, the most recent phase of this programme was extended to include community pharmacy. Improvement projects affecting Health Centre pharmacies were announced in December 2001. The first 10 innovative community pharmacy premises development projects (worth £550,000 in total) have now been announced to the sponsoring Primary Care Trusts. These seek to improve services to patients and allow pharmacists to better deploy their skills in ways consistent with the vision outlined in this strategy.

#### **Action by Health Boards and Trusts**

4. Chief Executives are asked to ensure that the Strategy is drawn to the attention of all appropriate managers and staff.

4 February 2002

#### **Addresses**

##### For action

Chief Executives, Health Boards  
Chief Executives, NHS Trusts

##### For information

Chief Executive, CSA  
Directors of Public Health  
Medical Directors, NHS Trusts  
Scottish Specialists in Pharmaceutical  
Public Health  
Trust Chief Pharmacists  
Directors of Nursing Services  
LHCCs  
Local Health Councils  
Directors of Social Work

#### **Further enquiries**

##### Professional Issues

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5. A copy of this letter and the Strategy is available on the Scottish Executive website: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk> and the SHOW website: <http://www.show.scot.nhs.uk> as is a copy of the press release covering the launch.

Yours sincerely

TREVOR JONES  
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