



Dear Colleague

## **ADDITIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES AMENDMENT TO DRUG TARIFF IN RESPECT OF GLUTEN FREE FOOD SERVICE REMUNERATION**

### **Summary**

1. This Circular advises community pharmacy contractors and NHS Boards of an amendment to the Drug Tariff from 1 August 2016 in relation to the Gluten Free Food Service (GFFS).

### **Background**

2. Circular [PCA\(P\)\(2013\)29](#), published on 28 November 2013, announced the introduction of the GFFS Service in community pharmacies on a trial basis. In September 2015, Circular [PCA\(P\)\(2015\)24](#) advised that following a review of the trial period, the service was to continue as an Additional Pharmaceutical Service.
3. Circular [PCA\(P\)\(2016\)11](#) advised of amendments to the Drug Tariff coming into effect from 1 April 2016.

### **Detail**

4. As advised by Circular [PCA\(P\)\(2016\)11](#), the fixed element of the Operations and Development Payment for all contractors who have agreed to provide the GFFS is set at £125 monthly.
5. All contractors providing the GFFS must ensure that patients' full and accurate CHI numbers are provided when making claims. Patients' dates of birth are not acceptable to qualify for payment. Circular [PCA\(P\)\(2013\) 29](#) advises that payments will not be made unless the CPUS form is submitted to Practitioner and Counter Fraud Services (PSD) and contains the patient's full and accurate CHI number.

29 July 2016

#### **Addresses**

##### For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards

##### For information

Chief Executive, NHS NSS  
Director of Practitioner Services,  
NHS NSS  
NHS Directors of Finance  
NHS Directors of Pharmacy

#### **Enquiries to:**

Elaine Muirhead  
Pharmacy & Medicines Division  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor East Rear  
St Andrew's House  
EDINBURGH  
EH1 3DG

Tel: 0131-244-3433

Email:

[Elaine.Muirhead@gov.scot](mailto:Elaine.Muirhead@gov.scot)

[www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot)

6. From 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016, where a significant proportion of CHI numbers are invalid or missing from contractors' claims, a deduction to the fixed element of the O&D payment will be applied as follows:-

**Level 1:** (to apply during the period 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016–31<sup>st</sup> October 2016)

£50 deduction monthly where CHI capture is less than 90%

**Level 2:** (to apply during the period 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016-31<sup>st</sup> March 2017)

£50 deduction monthly where CHI capture is less than 90%

OR £125 deduction monthly where CHI capture is less than 50%

7. The deductions will be applied in the month following submission of claims to PSD.
8. The deductions will be monitored and reviewed for 2017-18. Electronic support for GFFS is being rolled out to all contractors.
9. PSD's Payment Verification team will work with Community Pharmacy Scotland to identify and address issues relating to the submission of CHI numbers.
10. Community Pharmacy Scotland has been consulted on the contents of this Circular and the Drug Tariff amendment.

#### **Action**

11. **NHS Boards should share a copy of this Circular and to bring it to the attention of community pharmacy contractors, local pharmacy committees and Health and Social Care Partnerships.**

Yours sincerely



**DR ROSE MARIE PARR**  
**Chief Pharmaceutical Officer/**  
**Deputy Director Pharmacy and Medicines Division**