

Monday 5 February 2024

**Realist medicine – unwarranted variation** One of our aims is to provide care through the principles of Realistic Medicine as our way of delivering Value Based Health and Care. Realistic Medicine and Value Based Health and Care is relevant to everyone working across health & social care. One of the principles of Realistic Medicine is unwarranted variation. We know health & care can – and often should - vary according to the needs of an individual and population; but we also know there are times when variation can't always be explained by the needs of the people we care for. This is unwarranted variation. This resource, explaining more, has been developed by NHS Education for Scotland: [VBH&C: Unwarranted Variation \(cloud.microsoft\)](#)

NES are keen to get feedback on this resource, which will be used to help develop this and further tools. [This quick survey will be open](#) until 7 February.

**Emergency Drug boxes** There is currently a shortage of prefilled amiodarone which is supplied in the emergency drug boxes. Whilst this is ongoing boxes supplied by pharmacy as of now will not contain amiodarone. This means that there will be a mix of boxes in circulation, some which will contain amiodarone and some that do not, boxes that do not contain amiodarone will be clearly labelled, please see photo below. There will be a supply of ampoules of amiodarone located throughout the main hospital sites and the clinical emergency teams for each site will be informed of where these will be located. Community hospitals will have a box located in the casualty/MIU if available or the main ward in the hospital.



**ICYMI – staff vaccination clinic** There will be a vaccination clinic at ARI eye outpatients tomorrow (Tuesday) 10am-4.30pm. No appointment required; clinic will close for lunch between 12.30-1pm. All vaccination clinics in Grampian are open for walk-in by health & social care staff for 'flu and/or COVID-19 jabs.

**Discharge Tab, TrakCare** Following the rollout of the IP EPR to most inpatient areas in Grampian (excluding Mental Health Services), a discharge/transfer tab was trialled in select wards within ARI, Dr Gray's, and Inverurie Community Hospital. The discharge/transfer tab within the IP EPR aims to provide the multi-professional team with a location to collate relevant patient information regarding discharge planning. From tomorrow (6 February) the discharge/transfer tab will be made available Grampian wide (excluding Mental Health Services, Maternity and Neonatal). The aim of the Discharge Tab is to help facilitate multi-disciplinary team working.

The discharge/transfer tab standard operating procedure (SOP) outlines the process for updating the tab and links to training available. The SOP has been attached to the email used to send this brief. Use of the discharge tab is not mandatory; however, it is the intention that all staff\* use the traffic light section of the tab and all sections of the tab are completed for patients categorised as amber or red. (\*excluding paediatrics and areas outlined above).

**Clinical Application System (Generic Registration) essential maintenance** The clinical application system is facing issues, due to the ongoing use of legacy nhs.net email addresses, leading to lost requests. Essential maintenance work will take place at 9am this Thursday (8 February) to make nhs.scot email accounts the exclusive choice. All authorising managers must hold a valid nhs.scot email address. Any missing managers, you should raise a helpdesk call to ensure your application is complete. Future developments are underway to replace the current Clinical Application system. Further guidance will be communicated to the service soon.

**Launch of NEW Lifestyle Savings employee benefit** NHS Grampian employees can now sign up to a new Lifestyle Savings staff benefit scheme, which offers a wide range of discounts across the UK's major retailers including supermarkets, technology, fashion, travel and much more! Registration and membership to this scheme is free of charge. Details about this scheme, the full range of benefits available and a limited time prize draw, [are available on the Lifestyle Savings intranet page](#) (networked devices only).

**NHS Grampian Charity Staff Social Activities** This is a reminder NHS Grampian staff are entitled to claim £10 from NHS Grampian Charity each financial year for a staff social activity. This could be used towards things like a meal out or an activity (for example a cinema trip, a crafting class, an escape room, etc) for staff to take part in together.

Staff social activities must include at least two staff members, must not take place on NHS Grampian premises, and the £10 cannot be used towards travel costs or the purchase of alcohol. If you have not yet claimed your £10 for this financial year, please ensure that your activity is completed, and a claim submitted by 31 March as it cannot be carried over to next year. For more information, please review the [Fund Guidance and claim form on the charity's Intranet site](#) (networked devices only)

**Child Health Commissioner newsletter** The latest newsletter from Tracy Davis, our Child Health Commissioner, is available to read here: [Child Health Commissioner's Newsletter \(cloud.microsoft\)](#)

**Pause for thought** Sometimes we have no words, but we speak in other ways; and sometimes we hear what hasn't been spoken. In what ways do you speak without words? And how do you hear things that haven't been said?

**Tune of the day** Bob Tomlin (Moray Discharge to Assess team) is the recipient of today's request. He's marking a big birthday and the team have asked for [Enjoy the Silence](#) by Depeche Mode to celebrate (EP)

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)

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**International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) - tomorrow** Female Genital Mutilation denies women and girls their dignity, endangers their health, and causes needless pain and suffering, with consequences that endure for a lifetime. This year we want to raise awareness of the practice as we work in Scotland towards the eradication of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), worldwide. Within Scotland, FGM shows up mainly within maternity services. Specialist midwife, Jenni Smith covered the topic in an online 'lunch and learn' on Thursday 25 January. This session has been recorded and can be viewed here: [Lunch and Learn \(25/01/2024\) - Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\) \(youtube.com\)](#) Further information is available on the Public Protection intranet site (networked devices only): <https://nhsgintranet.grampian.scot.nhs.uk/depts/PublicProtection/Pages/default.aspx>