

Thursday 17 October 2024

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**Finance Q&A sessions** We're pleased to announce there will be another series of finance Q&A sessions next month. Taking place on Teams, this is your opportunity to hear the latest about our financial position and ask questions of the finance team. Dates and times are below, to request the meeting invite and submit questions in advance, please email [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot) All sessions will be recorded and shared through this brief, so you can still send in a question, even if you are unable to attend.

Monday 18 November - 3-4pm

Wednesday 20 November - 10-11am

Thursday 21 November - 12.30-1.30pm

**Slavery – a modern-day problem** Tomorrow is anti-slavery day. The word 'slavery' may conjure up images of the past, but modern slavery remains an issue today. In Scotland it is referred to as human trafficking and exploitation. Depending on your role, it possible you may encounter victims of human trafficking. The public protection team have put together a detailed factsheet to help you know what to look out for and how you can help. [It's available on the intranet here](#) (networked devices only). There is also a short e-learning on Turas which you may find helpful: [Human trafficking | Turas | Learn \(nhs.scot\)](#) (log-in required)

**Slavery – acknowledging our past** In recognition of anti-slavery day tomorrow, we are sharing a talk, [given last year by Dr Matthew Lee](#), which explores the historical links between the building of the original Aberdeen Infirmary (later Woolmanhill) and the Carribean and Atlantic slave trade. Please be aware this talk quotes directly from historical documents, which include language we no longer use, and which you may find offensive.

**Important Changes to blood glucose monitors and ketone quality control procedures** Ketone functionality on blood glucose monitoring devices will be phased out in areas with multiple devices and infrequent ketone testing. This change aims to reduce unnecessary quality control checks, and associated costs, in inpatient settings. This will be done in stages, starting on 1 November. Our local hypoglycaemia protocols still apply, and patient safety will not be compromised. All areas will still have access to ketone measurements. More detailed communication is going direct to the relevant areas.

Training on the use of blood glucose and ketone monitors, including quality control procedures, is [available on Turas \(log-in required\)](#). For questions or further assistance, or if you think this could apply in your area and you haven't heard from us, please contact [gram.poct@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.poct@nhs.scot).

**New adult IVOST guidance** Today sees the publication of the newly updated adult antibiotic intravenous to oral switch therapy (IVOST) guidance. [Please familiarise yourselves with this document](#) and promote its use within your ward areas. Any printed copies of previous guidance should be removed.

**Future Care Planning: Treatment Escalation Plans (TEPs) for all inpatients** We are excited to share the second video in our informative series about Future Care Planning. This video highlights the specific benefits of Treatment Escalation Plans for the Hospital@Night team and how these plans can enhance patient care. Watch it here: [Empowering the Hospital at Night Team The Benefit of Treatment Escalation Plans for our Staff \(youtube.com\)](#)

If you need support or guidance on embedding Treatment Escalation Plans in your area, please reach out to our team at [gram.realisticmedicine@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.realisticmedicine@nhs.scot) Additionally, you can request access to the Future Care Planning SharePoint [via this link](#) to access valuable resources.

**Pension Age Disability Payment** This payment, the Scottish replacement for Attendance Allowance, will open for new applications in phase one pilot areas on Monday (21 October). Aberdeen City is one of the pilot areas. If you are a healthcare professional who completes Social Security Scotland Benefits Assessment under Special Rules in Scotland (BASRiS) forms and Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) SR1/DS1500 forms for terminally ill patients, from Monday you will do the following:

- For terminally ill patients applying for Pension Age Disability Payment a BASRiS form (instead of a DS1500 or SR1 form) should be completed and sent to Social Security Scotland.
- For terminally ill patients already in receipt of Attendance Allowance (DWP benefit) a BASRiS form (instead of a DS1500 or SR1 form) should be completed and sent to DWP.

Further guidance is available here: [Social Security Scotland - When to complete a BASRiS, SR1 or a DS1500 form](#)

**Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) Day** This annual event takes place tomorrow (Friday). DLD is a hidden but common disability, affecting 1 in 14 people, causing difficulties understanding and using language for no known reason. The theme this year is 'Speak Up for DLD' [and this poster explains why](#). DLD occurs in every language and lots of landmarks across the world will be lit up purple tomorrow, including Marischal College. Many speech and language therapists (SLTs) work every day with children and adults with DLD to support their communication. In Aberdeen we celebrated DLD day early by inviting some parents into school to learn more about DLD, from children with DLD, over a coffee and fine piece. The Aberdeenshire speech and language therapy teams have created several displays in libraries and health centres across the 'Shire to raise awareness about DLD and to signpost families to support. Find out more here: [RADLD - Raising Awareness of Developmental Language Disorder - RADLD](#)

**Tune of the day** Today's request goes out to our many lovely colleagues working across retail catering. Tomorrow, while serving up hot meals, snacks, and drinks, they will be 'wearing it pink' for breast cancer awareness month. This is a cause particularly close to their heart, so for them, we have who else but P!nk and [Leave Me Alone \(I'm Lonely\)](#) (does contain some swears, for info).

For the One Direction fans, [Night Changes](#) (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)