

Core brief

Daily update

(23 December 2024, 10.30am)

Topics in this Core Brief:

- Message from Caroline Lamb, Chief Executive of NHS Scotland and Director General for Health & Social Care
- GGC Medicines Update

Message from Caroline Lamb, Chief Executive of NHS Scotland and Director General for Health & Social Care

As we approach the end of the year, I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your incredible work and for all that we have achieved in 2024.



While November's Scottish Budget might have taken recent headlines, it is your efforts throughout the year that continue to deliver results, and that deserves praise and attention.

Collaborative working across the NHS, social care, social work, community, and primary care workforces is vitally important in improving services across Scotland. This year, we've shown the benefits that working together can have on making sure that people get the treatment and support that they need at the right time, in the right way, and in the right place.

For example, we have successfully targeted the longest waits, cancer treatment times, and diagnostic backlogs across Scotland. This has resulted in 57,000 extra appointments delivered. And the Hospital at Home programme continues to provide care for people at home, or as close to home as possible, while also relieving pressures on urgent care services – treating and supporting over 8,000 people between April and September alone. None of this would be possible without your efforts.

I know that you all do what you do because you care, and you want to make things better for those who need help or support. That's why it is so important that, as we move forward with our reforms in health and social care services, we listen to the experiences of the real experts – you and those who you work with. Going into 2025, we will ensure we keep our workforce and those with lived experience at the very heart of our work to reform and improve services.

While many colleagues will be working over the holiday period, I hope that all of you have an opportunity over the coming weeks to unwind and step away from the demands of the past year. Once again, I am enormously grateful for everything you do, and I look forward to working with you, to offer colleagues, patients and service users the best start to 2025.

Best wishes for the holiday period and for the New Year.



GGC Medicines Update is a series of blogs with important medicines related messages relevant to all healthcare professionals across NHSGGC. Please see below for relevant updates.

Updates

- [Formulary Update November 2024](#)
- [Guideline News November 2024](#)
- [MHRA Drug Safety Update December 2024](#)

The team behind the Medicines Update blogs would like to wish all our readers a wonderful festive period.

All of our blogs can be found on www.ggcmedicines.org.uk and anyone can join our mailing list by contacting us at ggc.medicines.update@nhs.scot

We're also on social media, follow us on: X/Twitter [@NHSGGCMeds](https://twitter.com/NHSGGCMeds)

Remember, for all your latest news stories, visit the Staffnet Hub:
[GGC-Staffnet Hub - Home \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

Be Phishing and Vishing Aware!



Phishing and Vishing are forms of social engineering, a technique used to gain access to private information, often via email. It can cause a huge amount of damage, disruption and distress. To help prevent social engineering attacks at NHSGGC and at home, remember N.E.T.

No Trust

Verify, via alternative means, the identity of those sending unexpected messages, even if the contacts are known to you.



Educate Yourself

Complete the Security and Threat module on LearnPro. Check online sources to see if emails, SMS messages or other forms of social engineering attacks are known or commonplace. Remember, educating yourself can protect you in both your work and personal life.



Think First

Successful attacks generally require a sense of urgency. Stop! Take a moment to reflect and investigate, this can show these attacks for what they are.



Managing technology and data safely and securely is everyone's responsibility throughout NHSGGC.

For further information, visit: [FAQ---IT-Security-v0.2.pdf](#)

Staff are reminded to make sure their [personal contact details are up to date on eESS](#).

It is important to share Core Brief with colleagues who do not have access to a computer.

A full archive of printable PDFs are available on [website](#)