



Dear Colleague

GLUTEN FREE FOOD ADDITIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICE TRIAL EXTENSION

Purpose

1. This Circular advises NHS Boards, community pharmacy contractors and other interested parties of a 6 month extension to 30 September 2015 of the Gluten Free Food Additional Pharmaceutical Service.

Background

2. Circular [PCA \(P\) \(2013\) 29](#) advised of an amendment to the Drug Tariff in respect of the introduction on a trial basis of a new Gluten Free Food Additional Pharmaceutical Service (GFFAPS).

3. The trial was scheduled to run for **12** months from 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015, with consideration of extension beyond that date dependant on the result of a review which would examine experience during the trial period.

4. The trial is now being extended by **6** months to **18** months ending on 30 September 2015. This is to allow the review to be conducted in the light of experience across the full original 12 month trial period.

5. During the **6** month extension the operating arrangements for the trial GFFAPS will continue unchanged.

Detail

6. Paragraph 2 of Schedule 3 at Annex A of Circular PCA (P) (2013) 29 is formally amended, and the date 31 March 2015 is replaced by the date 30 September 2015.

18 December 2014

Addresses

For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards

For information

Chief Executive, NHS NSS

Directors of Pharmacy, NHS Boards

Enquiries to:

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Review arrangements

7. The review is being conducted on behalf of the Scottish Government by Margaret Ryan of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, who will be in touch with key stakeholders to assess how successful the trial has been in terms of improving clinical benefit for appropriately diagnosed patients, cost effectively by comparison with the previous arrangements plus any other impact on participating parties. The intention is that this review will be completed and the way forward announced in early summer 2015. Contact details for Ms Ryan are:

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Action

8. **NHS Boards are asked to:**

- **copy this Circular to all community pharmacy contractors on their pharmaceutical lists and to all non dispensing GP practices;**

9. **Community pharmacy contractors are asked to:**

- **note the content of this circular and,**
- **to give particular attention when making reimbursement claims under the trial arrangements that they comply with all laid down procedures for example by ensuring that the CHI of the patient concerned is stated on all submitted CPUS forms for the GFFAPS, as required by paragraph 5.4 of Annex B to PCA (P) (2013) 29.**

Yours sincerely



W SCOTT
Deputy Director/Chief Pharmaceutical Officer