



February 2023

New Newsletter

A new newsletter will now be sent to all Hertfordshire Pharmacies. The newsletter will be sent every 3 months (November, February, May and August).

Within this news letter SPECTRUM including the Clinical Admin Team, who are responsible for the production of our batch prescriptions you receive every 2 weeks, will inform of any upcoming changes and events you need to aware off.

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Contact us

CGL SPECTRUM. St Martins House, The Common, Hatfield AL10 0UR.

T 0800 652 3169

How was your Christmas?

Christmas ended up very busy for clinical admin, despite all their efforts in precreation for the prescriptions over the Christmas period and Postal Strikes.

It was decided by CGL to hand deliver the pre Christmas Batch's due to the planned postal strikes.

This was a success with the support of other CGL workers and we were able to deliver all of the batched prescriptions.

However it then came to that in some circumstances that the previous batch's had not yet been received by some pharmacies and were unsure about who had and who had not received their earlier batch's of prescriptions that were now becoming due to start dates for dispensing.

Once aware of the situation the clinical admin reprinted all the missing prescriptions and arranged delivery.

Please remember that is you feel/think you are missing prescriptions please contact you Local Clinical Admin for advice.

Interesting Facts about SPECTRUM CGL Prescribing Teams

SPECTRUM have created over 45,500 prescriptions during Jan 2022 to Dec 2022

There 9750 hours of clinicians time used in 2022.

Over £14,000 has been spent on posting prescriptions.

SPECTRUM has 184 Hertfordshire Pharmacy's who play a part in supporting Hertfordshire residence with their treatment for substance misuse.

4875 clinical admin time is spent creating, printing and distributing prescriptions in 2022.



Contacts for Clinical Admin Team

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Clinical Admin E mail: clinical.admin@cgl.org.uk

Help Us to Help You with “what if”

When Spectrum needs to STOP prescriptions.

All instances whereby a script needs to be stopped, irrespective of the reason, the Recovery Worker will attempt to telephone the relevant dispensing pharmacy to inform them of this change and in turn complete a form outlining the details of why the script has been stopped and the dates this would be applicable to. The completed form will be forwarded to Spectrum’s clinical admin who will in turn submit it to

Pharma Outcomes,

to ensure the dispensing pharmacy is updated of changes to prescribing regimes in a timely manner.

Needle Exchange

A reminder to all pharmacies providing NSP/ Naloxone (Needle Exchange), please ensure that you are carrying stock of five naloxone kits and that these kits are in date

If you have any queries about Needle Exchange or Naloxone please contact chris.bates@cgl.org.uk

A Quick Word !!!

Hi I am Azlinda Zabha

GPhC NUMBER: 2057154

I graduated with a Master of Pharmacy Degree (MPharm) from Aston University in 2002. I undertook my training and started my pharmacy career in community pharmacy then moved on to hospital pharmacy and prison pharmacy. I furthered my clinical knowledge with a Clinical Pharmacy Postgraduate Diploma in De Montford University, Leicester before obtaining Independent Prescriber (IP) Qualification with Advanced Assessment Skills from King's College London. Prior to joining CGL, I worked in various London prisons for 5 years as a Pharmacy Manager and Medicines Management Lead.

My special interest is Prescribing in substance misuse field. I completed Royal College of General Practitioners (RPGC) Secured Environment Part 1 and Part 2 Certificate in the Management of Drug Misuse to support my role.

Outside my professional life, I live with my husband and 2 young boys, settling in their family life in the idyllic Hertfordshire countryside.



You Asked, We Answered

No questions raised from November 2022 News Letter

Within this section we will respond to questions raised by yourselves so everyone can see the response to your questions about the service. If you have any questions that are not client specific and about the service please e-mail

Up Coming Events and Issues

Potential Postal Strikes

Due to the ongoing postal workers industrial action we may have run Prescription batch's either earlier than planned or further in advance than the normal 4 weeks, to avoid these postal disruptions and ensure timely delivery of the prescriptions. If an extended batch is going to be produced beyond the normal 4 weeks in advance, we will let you know by e-mail.

Ready for Easter

Easter is coming and we will be getting ready in advance. In March we will be looking at all service users that have a prescription start day of either Monday or Friday that can be changed. This will avoid Friday 7th April and Monday 10th April

Should you have any concerns about the date the prescriptions have been signed we can send you documentation showing that in this instance the start date of the prescription is the primary date which should be used for the purpose of dispensing. If you would like a copy of this please request via your nominated clinical admin and they will send it to you.

Next newsletter.

We hope that this edition has been useful. Remember, send any questions that you would like to be incorporated in the May 2023 Newsletter to Robert.buckley@cgl.org.uk

Many Thanks

What we have learnt and what we done about it.....

INC 3354 and INC 3464

There have been a couple in incidents where the Pharmacy has been requested by CGL to stop/curtail dispensing medication to a client. The Pharmacy has then continued to dispense to the client despite the request not to.

Please ensure that when a request is received to stop/curtail dispensing to a client that appropriate actions are taken to prevent any further dispensing of medication. If you are unsure about what is being requested, please contact clinicaladmin.herts@cgl.org.uk who will then get the required clarification of the request.

INC 7177

Client presented at Pharmacy intoxicated .

If a client presents at a pharmacy and appears to be intoxicated we would like to remind all pharmacy's on Spectrums dispensing regime that they should not dispense medication to the client.

Spectrum will breathalyse any client that appears to be intoxicated if they are collecting there prescription from the Service before the prescription is given to them.

