



Safe and Secure Storage of Opioid Substitution Therapies (OST) During the Public Holiday Period December 2019 - January 2020

Guidance from Forth Valley Substance Use Services

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Consultation and Change Record – for ALL documents

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Dec 2014	JBL	Revised to use term ORT for methadone & buprenorphine. Community Pharmacy Opening times amended	7
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		CGL as new 3 rd sector providers replacing Signpost Recovery Forth Valley.	
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Introduction

This document builds on previous work by Forth Valley Alcohol & Drug Partnership to minimise risk for substance users who are prescribed opioid substitution therapy (OST), methadone and buprenorphine

This guidance provides advice on the minimisation of risk related to 'take home' OST medicine for clients, any children living with or visiting them, and the population of Forth Valley.

1. Background

- 1.1 Forth Valley rate of OST supervised consumption is 67%.
- 1.2 During public holiday periods, the majority of community pharmacies close and clients are given additional OST doses to take at home.
- 1.3 In the period 2019/2020, Christmas/Boxing Day and New Year holidays will fall on a Wednesday and Thursday. Most community pharmacies will dispense on the Tuesday preceding the closures and will open again on the Friday. Over this period, supervised clients and those on daily collection may have up to two days of 'take home' OST dispensed. Consideration should also be given to clients on other regimes who may have additional 'take home' doses.
- 1.4 Parents are also considered where OST stored at home may present a risk to their children's safety.

2. Community Pharmacy Safeguards

- 2.1 Primary Care Administration publishes a list of opening and closing times for Christmas and New Year periods (appendix 1). Pharmacies engaged in Injecting Equipment Provision (IEP) and the Naloxone programme are detailed in appendix 2.
- 2.3 Community pharmacists reinforce safe storage with clients prescribed OST and issue safe storage leaflets and cards advising pharmacy opening hours. Most community pharmacies now hold an "emergency stock" of naloxone accessed via the pharmacy team in an emergency situation.
- 2.6 Community pharmacists dispense 'take home' doses of methadone in individual bottles, with childproof locks to reduce the risk of accidental ingestion of large quantities. 'Store safely' warning labels are attached to all 'take home' bottles.

3. Community Alcohol and Drugs Service (CADS), Forth Valley Substance Treatment Service (FVSTS), Addiction Recovery Services (ARS) and General Practitioner Prescribing Service (GPPS)

- 3.1 Key workers from all prescribing services will reinforce safety issues according to an agreed checklist with all clients before Christmas. Information leaflets and emergency

contact numbers will be issued to each client as part of a 'Public Holiday Safety Pack'. Overdose awareness and naloxone training and naloxone kits will be provided to all clients. Further information about this programme is available from CGL, telephone 0808 1962188.

- 3.2 Changes to regular prescriptions should be kept to a minimum during December.
- 3.3 The period of titration where the dose is gradually increased is a period of risk for clients. The decision to commence OST during December and over the festive period will be made on a case by case basis.
- 3.4 A risk assessment is completed prior to removal of supervision, which looks at client's individual vulnerability, and safe storage in houses where children and young people spend time. Discussion with the Social Work Team is also documented.
- 3.5 Clients for whom the storage of additional doses at home presents unacceptable risk may be moved to a pharmacy with extended opening hours. The client and both pharmacies will be consulted and kept fully informed of arrangements.

Clients on methadone treatment and known to have children living in or visiting the household will be offered a lockable storage box.

4. Safeguards from other Agencies

4.1 Change, Grow, Live (CGL)

4.1.1 CGL Forth Valley offer a helpline (FREEPHONE telephone 0808 1962188), which is available during fixed hours on public holidays (Appendix 3).

4.1.2 Availability of the Harm Reduction Service over the Christmas and New Year periods are detailed in Appendix 2.

4.1.3 Arrest Referral Service is operational for the Police custody suites throughout the period, inclusive of public holidays.

4.2 Courts

4.2.1 The days that Christmas and New Year holidays fall on this year indicates there is some disruption to court proceedings.

4.2.2 Courts in Falkirk, Alloa and Stirling will take place as follows:

	Falkirk Sheriff Court	Alloa Sheriff Court	Stirling Sheriff Court
W/c 16 th December	Normal Service	Normal Service	Normal Service
Mon. 23 rd December	Normal Service	Normal Service	Normal Service
Tues. 24 th December	0900-1300 1400-1530	0900-1300 1400-1530	0900-1300 1400-1530
Wed. 25 th December	Closed	Closed	Closed
Thurs. 26 th December	Closed	Closed	Closed
Frid. 27 th December	0900-1630	0900-1630	0900-1630
Sat. 28 th December	Closed	Closed	Closed
Sun. 29 th December	Closed	Closed	Closed
Mon. 30 th December	Normal Service	Normal Service	Normal Service
Tues. 31 st December	0900-1300 1400-1530	0900-1300 1400-1530	0900-1300 1400-1530
Wed. 1 st January	Closed	Closed	Closed
Thurs. 2 nd January	Closed	Closed	Closed
Fri. 3 rd January →	0900-1630	0900-1630	0900-1630

4.3 Social Work

4.3.1 Social work operates a system of alerts, including issues relating to vulnerable families, which is passed to Emergency Duty Teams. These can trigger a variety of responses, including a scheduled visit where there is particular concern. It is important for substance use workers to share information to aid this process.

4.3.2 The social work team on call operates the same system for cover as at weekends. The emergency duty teams will provide additional support and cover from 5pm on Tuesday 24th December 2019 until 9am on Friday 27th December 2019 and from 5pm on Tuesday 31st December 2019 until 9am on Friday 3rd January 2020. They may be contacted by telephone on 01786 470500.

4.4 Scottish Prisons Service

Prescribing services liaise with the Scottish Prison Service to encourage early notification of liberations. The generic mailbox should be used for the initial point of contact for prisons regarding substitute prescribing services in Forth Valley. The generic mailbox will be checked by CADS staff and the referral managed accordingly.

4.5 Others

It is important to highlight to other agencies which clients may come in contact with, that the clients may have additional doses of OST at home. These include Maternity Services, Mental Health Services and the Acute Hospital. The Hospital Addiction Team can be contacted on 01324 566231 or radio page 1051/1651. Please refer to the guideline: [Managing Substance Misuse in the in-Patient Setting](#).

5. Summary

5.1 It is important that all agencies share information about vulnerable clients prior to holiday periods, so appropriate safeguards can be put in place.

5.2 This guidance will be disseminated to all Substance Use Services, Social Work Departments, Maternity Services, Police Scotland, Acute Hospital, Community Pharmacies, General Practitioners, Out of Hours Service, Scottish Prison Service, NHS 24 and other agencies who may come into contact with substance users over the holiday period. The aim is to promote consideration of the issues around the safety and security of OST prescriptions.

5.3 'Safe Storage of Methadone' leaflets and naloxone/overdose awareness leaflets are available from the ADP support team on 01786 - 464787 or FV-UHB.FVADP@nhs.net

5.4 Many specialist drug agencies close on public holidays and are unable to provide advice and assistance at these times. CGL Forth Valley offer a FREE helpline (telephone 0808 1962188), which is available during fixed hours on public holidays (appendix 3).

5.5 Forth Valley Substitute Prescribing Services and staff available over the Christmas and New Year period with contact details are listed in appendix 4.

Appendix 1

Community Pharmacy Opening Hours: Christmas and New Year 2019/2020

<u>ALLOA AREA</u>	<u>Opening Time</u>	<u>Tel. Number</u>
<u>Wednesday 25 December 2019 (Public Holiday)</u>		
Lindsay & Gilmour Pharmacy, 81 Main Street, Sauchie	9.00am – 10.00am	01259 723155
<u>Thursday 26 December 2019 (Public Holiday)</u>		
Boots the Chemist, 36-40 High Street, Alloa	12noon – 4.00pm	01259 723246
<u>Wednesday 01 January 2020 (Public Holiday)</u>		
Boots the Chemist, 36-40 High Street, Alloa	12noon – 1.00pm	01259 723246
<u>Thursday 02 January 2020 (Public Holiday)</u>		
Boots the Chemist, 36-40 High Street, Alloa	12noon – 4.00pm	01259 723246
<u>STIRLING AREA</u>		
<u>Opening Time</u>		
<u>Tel. Number</u>		
<u>Wednesday 25 December 2019 (Public Holiday)</u>		
Right Medicine Pharmacy, 8 The Square, Fallin	10.00am – 11.00am	01786 480600
<u>Thursday 26 December 2019 (Public Holiday)</u>		
Boots the Chemist, 34-41 King's Mall, Thistle Centre, Stirling	9.00am – 5.00pm	01786 473628
Lloyds Pharmacy (Sainsbury Store), Drip Road, Stirling	9.00am – 5.00pm	01786 445121
<u>Wednesday 01 January 2020 (Public Holiday)</u>		
Lloyds Pharmacy (Sainsbury Store), Drip Road, Stirling	9.00am – 5.00pm	01786 445121
<u>Thursday 02 January 2020 (Public Holiday)</u>		
Boots the Chemist, 34-41 King's Mall, Thistle Centre, Stirling	10.00am – 5.00pm	01786 473628
Lloyds Pharmacy (Sainsbury Store), Drip Road, Stirling	8.00am – 9.00pm	01786 445121
<u>FALKIRK AREA</u>		
<u>Opening Time</u>		
<u>Tel. Number</u>		
<u>Wednesday 25 December 2019 (Public Holiday)</u>		
Pines Pharmacy, Unit 1 The Pines, 5 Fleming Court, Denny	10.00am – 11.00am	01324 824044
<u>Thursday 26 December 2019 (Public Holiday)</u>		
Boots the Chemist, 79-91 High Street, Falkirk	10.00am – 5.00pm	01324 620535
T. McLean & Sons, 13 King Street, Stenhousemuir	9.00am – 1.00pm	01324 553323
<u>Wednesday 01 January 2020 (Public Holiday)</u>		

Pines Pharmacy, Unit 1 The Pines, 5 Fleming Court, Denny	10.00am – 11.00am	01324 824044
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Thursday 02 January 2020 (Public Holiday)

Boots the Chemist, 79-91 High Street, Falkirk	10.00am – 5.00pm	01324 620535
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GRANGEMOUTH / BO'NESS AREA

Opening Time

Tel. Number

Wednesday 25 December 2019 (Public Holiday)

Rowlands Pharmacy, 16 Charlotte Dundas Court, Grangemouth	10.00am – 11.00am	01324 484297
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Thursday 26 December 2019 (Public Holiday)

Boots the Chemist, 32-34 La Porte Precinct, Grangemouth	12noon – 4.00pm	01324 482118
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Wednesday 01 January 2020 (Public Holiday)

Lloyds Pharmacy, 29 La Porte Precinct, Grangemouth	10.00am – 11.00am	01324 482008
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Thursday 02 January 2020 (Public Holiday)

Boots the Chemist, 32-34 La Porte Precinct, Grangemouth	12noon – 4.00pm	01324 482118
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**Appendix 2
Harm Reduction Service
2019/2020 Christmas and New Year period**

Date	Venue	Location	Opening Hours
Mon–Fri 16 th – 20 th Dec - normal hours Closed Wed. 25th & Thurs. 26th Dec Mon 23 rd Dec & Fri 27 th Dec – normal hours Mon 30 th Dec. normal hours Closed Wed 1st & Thurs 2nd Jan Normal hours from 3 rd Jan 2020	CGL	Limetree House, Castle Street, Alloa 27-29 Vicar Street, Falkirk 45 Cowane Street, Stirling	9am - 5pm

For naloxone training and supply, contact CGL FREEPHONE ☎ 08081962188

Community Pharmacies engaged in Injecting Equipment Provision (IEP)
Opening times are detailed in appendix 1.

Area	Pharmacy	Address
Clackmannan	R&J Marshall	130a Stirling Street, Alva
	Lindsay & Gilmour	81 Main Street, Sauchie
	Lloyds	Marshall, Alloa
	Boots	4 Tron Court, Tullibody
Falkirk	Lloyds	29 La Porte Precinct, Grangemouth
	Lloyds	96/98 Grahams Road, Falkirk
	Lloyds	1 Stirling Street, Denny
	Graeme	308 Main Street, Camelon
	AD Healthcare	94 Main Street, Larbert
	Boots	60 South Street, Bo'Ness
Stirling	Lindsay & Gilmour	5 Firs Entry, Bannockburn
	Lindsay & Gilmour	15 Bannockburn Road, St. Ninians
	Plean Pharmacy	Braefoot, Main Street, Plean
	Lloyds	39 Bannockburn Road, St. Ninians
	Superdrug	Thistle Centre, Stirling
	Cornton Pharmacy	54 Johnston Ave., Cornton

Pharmacies engaged in **naloxone provision** are listed on the [Forth Valley ADP website](#).

Appendix 3



Change Grow Live Forth Valley availability over 2019/2020 Christmas & New Year

CGL Recovery FREEPHONE helpline ☎
08081962188

Date	Service Status
22 nd December	Closed
23 rd December	Normal Service
24 th December	Normal Service
25 th & 26 th December	09:00 – 13:00 Telephone service
27 th December	Normal Service
28 th December	09:00 – 13:00 Telephone service
29 th December	Closed
30 th December	Normal Service
31 st December	Normal Service
1 st & 2 nd January	09:00 – 13:00 Telephone service
3 rd January onwards	Normal Service

Contact	Contact Number	Availability
Addictions Support & Counselling	01324 874969	<p>Normal hours 9:00am to 5:00pm Mon-Fri 16th to 20th December 2019</p> <p>Closed Wednesday 25/12/19 & Thursday 26/12/19</p> <p>Wednesday 01/01/20 & Thursday 02/01/20</p> <p>Normal Hours from 3rd Jan 2020</p>

Appendix 4

Forth Valley Substitute Prescribing Services 2019/2020 Christmas & New Year

1. CADS, ARS, FVSTS

Contact	Contact Number	Availability
Prescriptions: Falkirk Stirling/Clacks	01324 673670 01786 468282	Normal hours 8:30am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday 16 th to 20 th December and from 3 rd January 2020 Festive Season Closed: Wednesday 25/12/19 & Thursday 26/12/19 Wednesday 01/01/20 & Thursday 02/01/20
Key workers: Falkirk CADS/ARS Stirling/Clacks CADS/ARS FVSTS	01324 673670 01786 468282 01786 468282 Or keyworker mobile	

2. Substance Use Pharmacy Team

Contact	Contact Number	Availability
Pharmacy advice	01786 454593 01786 454798 or 01324 567616 during normal hours	Normal hours 8:30am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday 16 th to 20 th December. 23rd ,24th & 26th December Mobile :07920 711 033 27th and 30th Mobile 07780 574783 31st December & 3rd January 2020 Mobile 07780 955802

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NHS Forth Valley is happy to consider requests for publications in other language or formats such as large print.

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