

GRAMPIAN RESPIRATORY MCN

2024/2025 - A YEAR IN REVIEW



Clinical Lead Overview - Dr Kris McLaughlin

The MCN had another productive year in 2024–2025, highlighted by a successful conference at the Aberdeen Altens Hotel. The event featured insightful updates on key topics, including the National Therapeutics Strategy for Respiratory Prescribing, frailty in respiratory disease, and national ambitions for COPD management. We look forward to delivering another outstanding programme at our May 2025 conference.

Throughout the year, we hosted respiratory roadshows across Grampian, supported by Pharma sponsorship. These interactive sessions facilitated valuable discussions, particularly around achieving inhaler emission reduction targets.

Our annual online Winter Educational Event saw record attendance, with expert speakers covering Realistic Medicine in respiratory conditions, winter paediatric illness, and acute respiratory infections.

Beyond education, we advanced priority objectives for sustainable prescribing and updated key clinical guidelines on the Grampian Guidance site. Revisions included prescribing guidance for asthma and COPD, bronchiectasis in primary care, interstitial lung disease, chronic cough, and obstructive sleep apnoea. We will continue refining these resources in 2025 and beyond.



PEOPLE

EDUCATION



PEOPLE

SPIROMETRY



PLACES

REDUCING INHALER
EMISSIONS



PATHWAYS

PRIMARY CARE
DASHBOARD



PATHWAYS

GRIP

We were delighted to bring together 145 attendees at this year's Grampian Respiratory Professional Conference, marking another successful gathering of dedicated professionals seeking to expand their knowledge and expertise while sharing some of their successes and challenges in providing the best level of respiratory care.

Additionally we also hosted 3 evening roadshows across Grampian, extending learning opportunities to our wider community alongside an online winter preparedness conference to provide guidance at this critical time.

We continued to champion the need for improved and equitable access to diagnostic spirometry in primary care. An SABR to highlight the scope of the problem and associated risks to patients, as well as outlining potential solutions, was submitted to the Senior Executive Team in NHS Grampian with support from Primary Care Leadership. This will be discussed further at Senior Management Level in the coming year with the hope that a funded diagnostic service will be commissioned.

The MCN Prescribing Subgroup reviewed the National Prescribing Strategy, prioritising eight recommendations. They developed an implementation plan, updated guidance to include DPI preferences and carbon footprint icons, and hosted educational roadshows. There has been ongoing engagement with consultants and primary care, along with toolkit development, to support delivery of the recommendations. Continued engagement and reporting from teams is ensuring progress on priority recommendations.

We developed a Respiratory Dashboard report that we shared with primary care teams in an effort to provide information around some key respiratory metrics relating to clinical care and prescribing data elements.

Our plans to evolve this next year will be to produce 2 individual reports (in Summer and Spring) with more recent real-time data to help generate discussion within practice teams around potential actions and improvement activities.

GRIP has targeted and engaged with 8 practices with high rates of asthma/COPD admissions. Visits to practices have centred on education, providing knowledge and skills to help practitioners identify high risk patients and target these for review with the aim of optimising care and reducing admission rates. This has included provision of searches to identify high risk patients, updates on new guidance in asthma/COPD and the logistics of a good review.

GRAMPIAN RESPIRATORY MCN



2025/2026 OBJECTIVES



EDUCATION

Education will remain a key focus for the network. We will deliver high quality established events such as our Annual Conference while continuing to broaden the education and training we offer. To do this we will engage with our workforce to better understand their education and training needs, work with other directorates to consider how patient education and improved self management can be achieved and continue to deliver Roadshows across the region to reach as many colleagues as possible.

- Patients
 - Community appointment days
- Workforce
 - Spring conference
 - Respiratory roadshows
 - Winter event



GRIP

GRIP celebrates 10 years of success this year and enters year 3 of its current workplan. There will increased focus on providing in-practice support, training and education to practice teams. While doing this, GRIP will deliver on core objectives (listed below) by improved engagement with practices. We will also consider how GRIP can provide ongoing benefits and value to NHS Grampian and will develop a further 3-year strategy for the objectives of the programme.

- Provide feedback to practices on quality of care for asthma and COPD patients
- Improve practice knowledge of key components of asthma and COPD care
- Focus on:
 - High risk patients
 - Chronic Disease Management
 - Improved prescribing practices



INTELLIGENT USE OF INFORMATION (DASHBOARD)

Accessing and analysing meaningful Respiratory data remains a critical objective for the network. It is crucial that our work is under-pinned and guided by this. By accessing key information across primary care, secondary care and prescribing parameters, we will be able to identify areas of need, targets for improvement, celebrate successes and track improvements over time.

- Quality prescribing data
- Admissions data
- National therapeutic indicators (Shiny Apps) for prescribing
- PCIS (primary care data)
- Bi-annual practice reports



PROMOTING THE REDUCTION OF INHALER EMISSIONS

The network will take a leading role in supporting the ambition of reducing inhaler emissions in keeping with NHS Scotland targets. We will work closely with colleagues across all sectors and with pharmacy groups to promote the National Strategy. We will complete work started on developing practical toolkits that provide guidance for HCPs on the key priorities identified by the networks prescribing subgroup. We will continue to champion this work and seek opportunities to increase the focus on this work at Board level.

- Updated prescribing guidance
- Respiratory Toolkit



FOCUSED DELIVERABLES

We recognise that many of our objectives relate to large-scale, long-term ambitions and strategic priorities. However, we will also have a new focus this year on identifying and delivering on smaller scale projects and targets that can be achieved quickly and build to make impactful change across the system.

- Grampian Guidance/updated guidance
- Working with third sector organisations
- Developing updated primary care electronic template for Asthma and COPD reviews
- Engaging with national groups
- Health defence