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NHS Scotland Pharmaceutical ‘Specials’ Service (PSS)

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|  |  | James Arrott DriveNinewells HospitalDundeeDD2 1UB |

12th March 2021

Dear Dental Practice,

**Changes to Emergency Dental Kit**

In April 2018, following discussions with the Chief Dental and Chief Pharmaceutical Officers at Scottish Government a decision was taken by then Tayside Pharmaceuticals (now NHS Scotland Pharmaceutical ‘Specials’ Services (PSS)) to replace the Buccolam oro-mucosal syringes with an unlicensed Epistatus formulation. This was the result of supply problems with the licensed product. We have continued to use the Epistatus formulation in the box up until now. An issue has now arisen that the manufacturer of the Epistatus has had to limit the shelf life of the product to twelve months. This was required by the MHRA due to potential issues with the container / cap combination.

A further discussion between the Chief Dental Officer and PSS has taken place.

In recognising that the change to the twelve month shelf life will likely result in stock from the wholesalers only having a nine to ten month shelf life once PSS receives the product, PSS will revert back to using Buccolam. This is in accordance with Guidance Note 14 issued by the MHRA which states that ‘***an unlicensed product should not be used where an equivalent licensed product is available’***.

PSS will revert back to supplying 2 syringes of each of the strengths (2.5mg, 5mg, 7.5mg, and 10mg) of the Buccolam product. We will also change the manufacturer of the Adrenaline injection for anaphylaxis to further extend the shelf life of the box.

The price of the box will need to increase to **£220.00.** This change will however extend the shelf of the box beyond one year. Please note PSS is not a commercial organisation and any price increases are not for profit.

Regards,

**Simon**

Simon Bath

Production Manager

c.c Tom Ferris (Chief Dental Officer)

Gavin Mclellan Deputy Chief Dental Officer (Interim))

Alison Strath (Chief Pharmaceutical Office (Interim))

Christine Alexander (Head of PSS (Interim))