

Monday 13 February 2023

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**Turkey/Syria earthquake** It is a week since devastating earthquakes hit Turkey and Syria, leaving tens of thousands of people dead and millions in the affected area without access to food, shelter, or medical aid. The Disasters Emergency Committee have launched a fundraising appeal; if you want to find out more or donate, click this link: [Home | Disasters Emergency Committee \(dec.org.uk\)](https://www.dec.org.uk)

**Reverse Vending Machine comes to ARI** One of the first reverse vending machines in a UK hospital has been installed at the main entrance of ARI (beside WH Smith) as we conduct a trial run of the deposit return scheme. Anyone – staff, patients, visitors, or just a member of the public – can drop off their bottles and cans. During the trial, for every item deposited, you will receive a 5p voucher to be used in Aroma Cairngorm, up to a limit of £2.50. Here's what you need to know:

- The machine will accept glass bottles, plastic bottles, and drinks cans.
- Do NOT deposit plastic milk bottles; these are a different type of plastic and not part of this trial.
- Bottles and cans should be empty
- Do NOT crush bottles or cans; the machine will compact them as they are deposited.

The trial comes in advance of a national Deposit Return Scheme (DRS). Under the terms of the DRS, we will also have to plan to either install machines or join a local network at Woodend, Dr Gray's Hospital, and Royal Cornhill Hospital. This trial will help us decide on the best course of action. We will also be sharing our experience with colleagues at other health boards across Scotland. As the trial progresses, we'll share updates in this brief.

**Adverse Event reporting – what we don't need to know** If you are completing a Datix form following an adverse event, please remember personal data should **not** be included in the description field. This section is available to multiple colleagues involved in reviewing any adverse events, therefore it should only be used to describe the event. If patient or staff data is required, it will be accessed by the investigator/approver as needed.

**Pension Recycling of Contributions (REC) for 2022/23 Annual Allowance Tax Charge** At the end of last year, we shared information regarding a Pension Recycling Scheme, which is available for eligible pension scheme members who can show a reasonable expectation of an Annual Allowance tax charge in 2022/23. Information, and the NHS Grampian REC Payment Application Form (which must be used) is available here: [Home \(scot.nhs.uk\)](https://scot.nhs.uk) (intranet link, networked devices only). This page now includes a Ready Reckoner, to be used by applicants who do not have a 2021/22 pension savings statement to evidence an AA tax charge for 2022/23. A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is also now available, again via the link above.

**The deadline for receipt of a REC Payment Application is 28 February 2023.**

**Do you know The WHO Code?** The International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitute (The Code) is an international health policy framework to regulate the marketing of breastmilk substitutes in order to protect breastfeeding. Our maternity, neonatal, health visiting, and family nurse services are accredited by UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative. We acknowledge & endorse the WHO Code throughout all services and premises. This means we are required to implement The Code and we should ensure there is:

- No advertising for infant feeding products anywhere within health services
- No contact or sharing of information between company personnel and people who are pregnant or new parents.
- No items bearing company logos on public service premises or used by its staff, e.g., stationery, lanyards etc.
- No free samples to health professionals or parents
- Only scientific and factual information, free from commercial bias, used in the care of babies and their parents.

Health boards across Scotland have reported being approached by representatives of Nestlé (one of the world's biggest manufacturers of infant formulas) offering training around Cow's Milk Protein Allergy. We wanted to raise awareness of this issue so that you would know what to do if you are unsure you have been targeted and the Code has been breached. If you are approached by a company or think that the Code has been breached, please email [emma.williams2@nhs.scot](mailto:emma.williams2@nhs.scot).

To read more, please visit [The International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes - Baby Friendly Initiative \(unicef.org.uk\)](https://www.unicef.org.uk) You can find unbiased evidence-based information on formula milks at [First Steps Nutrition](#)

**Pause for thought** Other people's knowledge and experience are important to support our own learning, but not everything we learn as truth is actually true. What difference might other truths make?

**Tune of the day** David Jolicoeur, a founding member of De La Soul, has died at the age of 54. Our tune of the day is [Eye Know](#) from their debut album 3 Feet High and Rising (EP).

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)