

Formulary Focus

West of Scotland Formulary Development – May 2026

Additional Formulary Chapters Now Available

Following the launch of the adult **Gastro-intestinal** and **Respiratory** chapters on 15th April, we are pleased to be able to launch two more chapters of the regional formulary. The **Cardiovascular** and **Skin** recommendations were added to the [formulary website](#) and mobile app on 27th May.

Skin is the first chapter to offer both adult and paediatric recommendations. The following icons indicate the type of recommendations contained within each formulary pathway:



Adult
recommendations



Child
recommendations



Pharmacy First
recommendations

Our [user guide videos](#) are a good way to learn about the features and layout of the website and app.

Upcoming Chapters

The **Endocrine** and **Infections** chapters are the next sections of the formulary that we are looking to launch.

Both chapters are currently progressing through a detailed review and approval process, with input from all five Health Boards.

We expect these chapters to come to the West of Scotland Formulary Committee in late June, with a view to launching by early August.

How to Get Involved

We are currently developing the **CNS** chapter and expect to commence development of the following formulary chapters later this year:

- Ear, nose, and oropharynx
- Musculoskeletal and joint diseases
- Obstetrics, gynaecology & urinary-tract
- Nutrition and blood
- Anaesthesia

If you have an interest in any of these areas, please get involved by nominating yourself via this [short form](#).

Building Modern Standards into the Formulary

The formulary platform uses the [Dictionary of Medicines and Devices](#) (dm+d) to provide the descriptions of all medicines and other products that are included. Using this recognised NHS data standard allows us to consistently describe formulary items in a way that aligns with other modern NHS systems. This offers several benefits:



- Enables future interoperability by making it easier to integrate the formulary into other systems.
- Supports safe prescribing by automatically highlighting controlled drugs, or the presence of additional 'black triangle' monitoring requirements to prescribers.
- Aligns with the latest national prescribing data standards used by Public Health Scotland.
- Supports formulary administration by automatically updating medicine descriptions when changes occur, while providing regular reports of any formulary medicines that have availability restrictions.

Get in Touch

If you've any questions, please contact the Project Team at: WoS.Formulary@nhs.scot