

# **APSMI NEWSLETTER**

## **May 2023**

### **Contents:**

#### **World Topics:**

- **GSCF: WHA Self-Care Side Event**
- **GSCF: Papers on NCDs and Self-Care Literacy**
- **GSCF: Interview "Progressing The Global Self-Care Industry's Sustainability Agenda "**
- **Philippines: DOH, CHAP, Partner for streamlined Registration of Healthcare Products, Increased Consumer Accessibility**
- **EMA: Annual Report 2022**
- **EMA: Guidance for industry to prevent and mitigate medicine shortages**
- **US-FDA: GUIDANCE DOCUMENT "Testing of Glycerin, Propylene Glycol, Maltitol Solution, Hydrogenated Starch Hydrolysate, Sorbitol Solution, and Other HighRisk Drug Components for Diethylene Glycol and Ethylene Glycol"**
- **UK: Pharmacy First Service**
- **Thailand: "Pharmacy for common illness" initiative**
- **Thailand: Transferring Drug Services from Hospitals to Community Pharmacies**



**ASIA-PACIFIC SELF-MEDICATION INDUSTRY**  
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## **World Topics**

### **GSCF: WHA Self-Care Side Event**

On the occasion of the 76th WHO World Health Assembly, A WHA Self-Care Side Event “Self-Care: A Foundational Component of Health System Sustainability” will be held at Geneva Press Club at 12:00-14:00 on 24 May 2023 (CET).

The event will be livestreamed on GSCF’s channel on YouTube through the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vXv2PKYAX1U>

### **GSCF: Papers on NCDs and Self-Care Literacy**

GSCF publishes two papers on NCDs and Self-Care Literacy:

- a. “ How Self-Care contributes to the Prevention and Management of Noncommunicable Diseases” (12 pages)
- b. “Self-Care Literacy: empowering people, organizations, and systems to maintain and promote self-care for health and well-being” (4 pages)

The papers are available at the following URL:

<https://www.selfcarefederation.org/resources>

### **GSCF: Interview “Progressing The Global Self-Care Industry’s Sustainability Agenda ”**

Dr. Padmaja Kamath, Director of Regulatory and Scientific affairs, GSCF introduces the GSCF’s Sustainability Agenda at the Interview of HBW Insight on 9 May 2023.

The interview (26 m 18 s) can be accessed at the following URL:

[https://soundcloud.com/citelinesounds/progressing-the-global-self-care-industrys-sustainability-agenda-with-gscfs-padmaja-kamath?utm\\_source=clipboard&utm\\_campaign=wtshare&utm\\_medium=widget&utm\\_content=https%253A%252F%252Fsoundcloud.com%252Fcitelinesounds%252Fprogressing-the-global-self-care-industrys-sustainability-agenda-with-gscfs-padmaja-kamath](https://soundcloud.com/citelinesounds/progressing-the-global-self-care-industrys-sustainability-agenda-with-gscfs-padmaja-kamath?utm_source=clipboard&utm_campaign=wtshare&utm_medium=widget&utm_content=https%253A%252F%252Fsoundcloud.com%252Fcitelinesounds%252Fprogressing-the-global-self-care-industrys-sustainability-agenda-with-gscfs-padmaja-kamath)

### **Philippines: DOH, CHAP, Partner for streamlined Registration of Healthcare Products, Increased Consumer Accessibility**

Department of Health (DOH) and the Consumer Healthcare Industry Association of the Philippines’ (CHAP) agreed to collaborate in improving the Registration process of OTC and Household Remedy Products and Increased Consumer Accessibility through e-pharmacy.



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Detail information is available at the following URL:

[https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=pfbid0J2jbNNdC7B5HgBERZia7ovkKSsiTvX8TyAXXfp8MtrhkQ3AtvDpzzGPdD1pAVek3l&id=100064703437033&sfnsn=mo](https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid0J2jbNNdC7B5HgBERZia7ovkKSsiTvX8TyAXXfp8MtrhkQ3AtvDpzzGPdD1pAVek3l&id=100064703437033&sfnsn=mo)

**EMA: Annual Report 2022**

EMA published its annual report 2022 on 15 May 2023. The report provides an overview of the Agency's activities to protect and promote public and animal health in the European Union (EU).

The report is available at the following URL:

<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/news/ema-annual-report-2022-published>

**EMA: Guidance for industry to prevent and mitigate medicine shortages**

EMA published guidance regarding good practice of prevention of shortages of medicines on 17 May 2023.

Detail information is available at the following URL:

<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/news/guidance-industry-prevent-mitigate-medicine-shortages>

**US-FDA: GUIDANCE DOCUMENT "Testing of Glycerin, Propylene Glycol, Maltitol Solution, Hydrogenated Starch Hydrolysate, Sorbitol Solution, and Other HighRisk Drug Components for Diethylene Glycol and Ethylene Glycol"**

FDA released a GUIDANCE DOCUMENT "Testing of Glycerin, Propylene Glycol, Maltitol Solution, Hydrogenated Starch Hydrolysate, Sorbitol Solution, and Other HighRisk Drug Components for Diethylene Glycol and Ethylene Glycol" on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

The guidance document is available at the following URL:

<https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/testing-glycerin-propylene-glycol-maltitol-solution-hydrogenated-starch-hydrolysate-sorbitol>

**UK: Pharmacy First Service**

**a. Pharmacy First Service in England**

"Pharmacy First " Service will be introduced in England in 2023.

According to plans, published jointly by the government and NHS England, the service will launch before the end of 2023 and enable pharmacists "to supply prescription-only



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medicines, including antibiotics and antivirals where clinically appropriate, to treat seven common health conditions".

Target 7 minor illnesses:

1. Sinusitis
2. Sore throat
3. Earache
4. Infected insect bite
5. Impetigo
6. Shingles
7. Uncomplicated urinary tract infections in women

Detail information is available by the following article:

[https://pharmaceutical-journal.com/article/news/pharmacy-first-will-be-introduced-in-england-in-2023-says-government?utm\\_source=Breaking+news&utm\\_campaign=7f8b5a1287-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2023\\_05\\_09\\_09\\_45&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_7f8b5a1287-%5BLIST\\_EMAIL\\_ID%5D](https://pharmaceutical-journal.com/article/news/pharmacy-first-will-be-introduced-in-england-in-2023-says-government?utm_source=Breaking+news&utm_campaign=7f8b5a1287-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2023_05_09_09_45&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_7f8b5a1287-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D)

#### **b. Pharmacy First Service in Scotland (Implemented in 2021)**

The "Pharmacy First" Service was implemented in Scotland in 2021 with the following 24 minor illnesses:

1. Acne
2. Allergies
3. Athlete's foot
4. Backache
5. Blocked or runny nose
6. Cold sores
7. Constipation
8. Pain
9. Cough
10. Period pain
11. Cystitis (in women)
12. Diarrhoea
13. Earache
14. Eczema
15. Headache
16. Head lice
17. Haemorrhoids (piles)
18. Hay fever
19. Impetigo
20. Indigestion
21. Mouth ulcers
22. Sore throat
23. Threadworms
24. Thrush
25. Warts
26. Verrucas

Detail information is available at the following NHS Scotland website:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/nhs-pharmacy-first-scotland-information-patients/>

#### **Thailand: "Pharmacy for common illness" initiative (Implemented in October 2022)**

Being aware of pharmacies' importance, the National Health Security Office (NHSO), the Pharmacy Council of Thailand and the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) have recently launched the "Pharmacy for common illness" initiative, aiming to increase people's access to primary care.

In partnership with the NHSO, these pharmacies have provided free consultations and medicines to the beneficiaries of the Universal Coverage Scheme (UCS) for 16 symptoms and diseases: headache, dizziness, pain in joints, muscle pain, fever, cough, sore throat, stomachache, diarrhea, constipation, dysuria, vaginal discharge, skin rash/lesion, wound, eye, and ear disorder.

Detail information of the initiative is available at the following URL:



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<https://eng.nhso.go.th/view/1/DescriptionNews/Pharmacies-vital-to-primary-care/475/EN-US>

**Thailand: Research Report on Transferring Drug Services from Hospitals to Community Pharmacies**

Health Systems Research Institute (HSRI) Publish interesting research results in March 2023. One of them is the research titled "Guidelines and feasibility of transferring drug services from hospitals to community pharmacies".

To provide services that will allow community pharmacies or quality pharmacies to operate like hospitals if services are transferred, which are all 8 aspects of service.

It consists of: 1. Pressure measurement 2. Blood glucose measurement 3. Home delivery of medication 4. Medication consultation and medication management 5. Explanation of drug side effects and monitoring of adverse drug reactions 6. Consultation via email/telephone/other channels, 7. Primary screening and treatment of diseases, and 8. Medication replenishment for non-communicable diseases.

Detail information of the research is available by the following article:

[https://www.thecoverage.info/news/content/4822?fbclid=IwAR0hhIBAScu1pR5cn6tkFs7np9HJP-fUBgVs6\\_KF4gYmKvjAwA-QTyDKvJc](https://www.thecoverage.info/news/content/4822?fbclid=IwAR0hhIBAScu1pR5cn6tkFs7np9HJP-fUBgVs6_KF4gYmKvjAwA-QTyDKvJc)