

## Primary Care Organisation

Spittal Street Centre  
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EH3 9DU



To: Community Pharmacists

cc: Pat Murray  
Assoc Directors of Pharmacy  
Primary Care Pharmacists  
James Shanley, Harm Reduction  
Team Manager

Date: 30 July 2009

Enquiries to Elaine Rankine  
Extension 48339  
Direct Line 0131-537-8339  
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Email [elaine.rankine@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:elaine.rankine@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk)

Dear colleague

### Pharmacy Needle Exchange Support Pharmacist Post

*Do you have an interest in improving pharmacy services for drug misusers? Would you like to be involved in work to prevent transmission of Blood Borne Viruses? We are looking for an enthusiastic self motivated pharmacist to provide some short term input into a project to look for solutions to a number of issues involved in the delivery of pharmacy based needle exchange services to injecting drug users.*

The launch of the Hepatitis C Action Plan for Scotland Phase II (May 2008 – March 2011) marked a significant investment in, and demonstration of the Government's ongoing commitment to, tackling Hepatitis C in Scotland. The importance of prevention is addressed through several actions designed to reduce the sharing of needles/syringes and other injecting equipment by injecting drug users.

The Lothian Hepatitis C Managed Care Network has agreed to fund a Pharmacy Needle Exchange Support Pharmacist to support the implementation of new national guidelines for services providing injecting equipment (enclosed) within pharmacy based needle exchanges in Lothian and to improve data collection and reporting systems.

I am writing to you to request notes of interest in providing this support service on behalf of NHS Lothian. The requirements for the service support and the individual skills required to provide this facilitation are enclosed with this letter. It is likely that the level of input required will vary slightly but will generally be equivalent to one day a week.

The payment for this service would be £25 per hour and we would require the candidate providing the service to be flexible in their ability to deliver. This may include some evening work in order to deliver training sessions. Initially funding for this sessional support would run for a minimum of 6 months.

I should be grateful if interested pharmacists would provide a short CV detailing their skills and any experience relevant to the pharmacy needle exchange service by **Monday 31 August 2009**. CVs should be sent electronically via e-mail to [elaine.rankine@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:elaine.rankine@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk).

The award for the contract for providing this service will be based upon the relevant skills of each individual. Please contact me if you have any questions or require further information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Elaine Rankine'.

**Elaine Rankine**  
**Specialist Pharmacist in Substance Misuse**

Encl.