



PRIMARY CARE COMMUNITY PHARMACY

LOCAL PHARMACY SPECIFICATIONS

ALCOHOL BRIEF INTERVENTIONS (ABI)

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Specification for Alcohol Brief Interventions (ABI)

1. Background/Introduction

- 1.1 ABI – Alcohol Brief Interventions
- 1.2 Alcohol-related harms in Scotland are among the highest in Western and Central Europe. The Scottish Government published Changing Scotland's Relationship with Alcohol: A Framework for Action which set out the strategic approach to tackling alcohol misuse in Scotland. A key element of the strategy was the delivery of Alcohol Brief Interventions (ABI).
- 1.3 ABIs are delivered to individuals who are identified through screening as drinking at hazardous or harmful levels.
- 1.4 An ABI is defined as “a short, evidence-based, structured conversation about alcohol consumption with a patient/client that seeks in a non-confrontational way to motivate and support the individual to think about and/or plan a change in their drinking behaviour in order to reduce their consumption and/or their risk of harm.”

2. Aim of Service

To offer and deliver appropriate Alcohol Brief Interventions (ABI) to patients with harmful and hazardous drinking patterns presenting in community pharmacies in areas of high prevalence or harm – with the aim of reducing their alcohol consumption to safe and healthier levels.

3. Objectives of Service

- 3.1 To screen for harmful or hazardous drinking.
- 3.2 To offer and deliver Alcohol Brief Interventions, offer lifestyle advice, additional

information or signpost to other service if required.

- 3.3 To report activity back to the health board.

4. **Service Outline**

- 4.1 Each participating Community Pharmacy will be required to ensure that:-

- They offer and deliver an ABI to individuals identified as engaging in hazardous or harmful drinking
- Quarterly statistics are returned to the Health Board
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5. **Accreditation and Eligibility**

- 5.1 In order to participate in this Enhanced Service a clinical member of the pharmacy team involved in the delivery of ABI must complete the set of online learning packages (alcohol awareness and ABI training) followed by a three hour practical training session. Training will build on existing knowledge and skills.

- 5.2 Pharmacists who are selected and complete training will be reimbursed at the single day rate of £240.

- 5.3 The NHS Prevention and Service Support Team (P&SST) will provide a process for recording and reporting ABI activity back to the P&SST in order to provide ABI data to the Information Services Division

6. **Funding Arrangements**

- 6.1 This enhanced service is funded by North Ayrshire's Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) with an allocation from the Drug Death Taskforce. The allocation is cash limited resulting in a maximum number of funded interventions. Each involved Community Pharmacy will be allocated a defined limit of activity to be undertaken by 31st March 2023.

- 6.2 Activity and funding will be reviewed throughout the year with a view to issuing practices with updated activity levels based on actual monthly activity.

- 6.3 These measures are designed to maximize equity of access to ABIs and furthermore to ensure so far as possible that the allocation is spent up to and including the budget limit.

7. Breach of Contract

- 7.1 Where prima facie evidence of a breach of the terms of this service comes to the notice of NHS Ayrshire & Arran the matter will be referred in the first instance to the pharmacy contractor concerned for comment. If appropriate, the pharmacy contractor will be invited to submit proposals for the rectification of the breach. Failure to provide a satisfactory response, or to rectify the breach, will result in the matter being referred to the Chief Executive of the NHS Ayrshire & Arran for consideration by the NHS Board and determination of any further action or sanctions to be taken, including termination of the contract under this service and recovery of any payments made in respect of services which have not been provided.