



Pharmacy Services

Community Pharmacy

Weekly Script

Friday 14th July
2023.

No: 28

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MEET THE TEAM – Kirsty Williams



What is your current role? I am the Pharmacist Store Manager at Lawthorn Pharmacy in Irvine

How long have you worked in community pharmacy? I have been a pharmacist for 12 years but have worked in community pharmacy since I was 16 years old. I started as a student at Eaglesham Pharmacy. Once I qualified I spent a year locuming before taking up my current role at Lawthorn Pharmacy where I have remained for the last 11 years!

What's the best bit of your job? I love helping patients and delivering great patient care. Being at Lawthorn for the last 11 years has allowed me to build up great relationships and trust with my patients. I am currently undertaking my independent prescribing and on completion of that I look forward to furthering this patient care and the great relationships I have with my patients.

What do you think about the future of community pharmacy? I think the future of community pharmacy is really exciting given the expansion of pharmacy services and the opportunities available for pharmacists via independent prescribing and Pharmacy First Plus. I see these as great opportunities to allow pharmacists to develop and utilise their skills so that in turn they are working at the top of their license. It allows us pharmacists to move away from historical dispensing roles to a more clinical role.

What do you do to relax outside of work? I love spending time with my children who are 5 and 7 years old. We love to travel and explore! During Covid we spent a lot of time exploring the UK but this year we are going abroad and we can't wait!

Stat of the week

The numbers are on....June 2023 was the highest ever volume of NHS Pharmacy First activity recorded from pharmacies in A&A! You recorded a total of **32,704** interactions and a whopping **28,998** items supplied to patients! Thank you all for this tremendous contribution to caring for the citizens of Ayrshire & Arran!

COMMUNICATIONS SUMMARY

Fri 7th - Clinical PCT – Weekly Communication

Mon 10th - Drug Alert – Class 2 Labetalol

Wed 12th - Clinical PCT – September Public Holiday Opening Times

- MEMO – Unscheduled Care PGD

Thurs 13th - Memo – Upcoming Shortage: Tresiba Flexpen

- Drug Alert – Class 2 – Vigabatrin
- MSAN (2023)12 - GLP1 Receptor Agonists - level 3

GOOD NEWS STORY – FENWICK PHARMACY

This week we received an email from a member of the NHS Care At Home team to highlight excellent patient care at Fenwick Pharmacy. The team had supported a patient with sight impairment who was prescribed a number of eye drops. This patient has no sight in his left eye and this made it extremely difficult for him to know what drops to put into each eye.

The member of the Care At Home team and the pharmacy worked together to devise a colour coded system where the pharmacy put coloured tape on his drops “red for right, blue for left, and red/blue for both” to help the patient identify his eye drops more easily.

To quote the Care At Home team member “Ash and the staff at Fenwick are always looking for ways to support their patients, an amazing bunch”

This is a great example of collaborative working between sectors and offering a bespoke service to deliver great patient care. Well done to everyone involved!

Key Messages

Epistatus

Following the message last week regarding Midazolam we have an update to share regarding obtaining stock of the licenced Epistatus pre-filled syringes.

These can be ordered from Alliance Healthcare via the following PIP codes and these are all currently in stock.

Product Name	PIP code
Epistatus 2.5 mg	540-0759
Epistatus 5 mg	540-0767
Epistatus 7.5 mg	540-0775
Epistatus 10 mg	540-0783

We are aware that some PMR systems have not yet been updated with these products (including Columbus which will be updated on 23rd July) but these products ARE available via the Alliance portal or telephone ordering.

Again, further to last week's message (below) watching the following video may help pharmacy teams understand the reasons why patients / carers can NOT give part doses of Epistatus.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9-CnlzMUZbl>

(Repeat message) Midazolam 10mg/ml oromucosal liquid (Epistatus)

The above liquid is now licensed and available (via specials suppliers) as pre-filled syringes which contain 2.5mg in 0.25ml, 5mg in 0.5ml, 7.5mg in 0.75ml and 10mg/ml. A full prefilled syringe, given as a single dose is the preferred choice however in certain circumstances, the 5ml bottle (with 4 syringes) may be prescribed.

Please be aware that there are 4 DIFFERENT sizes / strengths available!

All strengths are now licensed however at present only the 10mg/1ml prefilled syringe appears in the BNF-C. The prefilled syringes are not graduated, so can only be used to administer the full volume they contain.

The pediatric epilepsy service are having reports of parents being given prefilled syringes from which they have to decant the prescribed dose. This is not appropriate. If a prefilled syringe of the correct dose is not available then the 5ml bottle should be prescribed.

Community Pharmacists can contact Marie Stewart or Alison Lockett, Pediatric Pharmacists, via the switchboard (01563821133) at UHC for further information.

Protected Learning Time (PLT) for GP Practices

A polite reminder of the upcoming PLT sessions on Tuesday 18th July for certain Ayrshire GP Practices (See email 20th June 2023 for list of affected practices)

Information on how to access advice from a GP will be made available on the participating GP Practices telephone messaging systems, practice websites and notices on the practice doors.

Unscheduled Care PGD – V30

The new version of the PGD was sent to all clinical mailboxes on Wednesday this week. Please can all pharmacists working in A&A sign and return the authorization form for this PGD as soon as possible (return by e-mail to aa.cpteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk)

This version of the PGD is now live and can be used immediately following signing it.

Also, please take a few moments to read the ‘what’s new’ guidance that was attached to the MEMO on Wednesday.

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