



CONTENTS

Meet the team

Carly Arkison

Good News story:

Penmans Pharmacy -
Beith

Communications

Summary: 2

This Week's Key

Messages:

- Valproate containing medicines
- Mouth Cancer Action Month
- APPC Members wanted
- Date For The Diary: NES Webinar Smoking Cessation
- Pharmacy Technician Day
- National Naloxone Service... 3 Weeks To Go!
- Emergency advice from DAT

MEET THE TEAM - Carly Arkison



What is your current role? I am a Pharmacy Support Assistant at Gallaghers Pharmacy, primarily working in the Glasgow Street, Ardrossan branch.

How long have you worked in community pharmacy? I have worked in community pharmacy for 15 months.

What's the best bit of your job? I love helping the public and delivering great patient care. I really love my job and enjoy the fact that there is so much variety – every day is different! The staff I work with also play a big part in why I enjoy my job so much, they are a great team and I love being part of that!

What do you think about the future of community pharmacy? I think the future of community pharmacy is changing constantly in a positive way. I hope that going forward we will have more time to spend with patients face to face and extend the pharmacy services we offer.

What do you do to relax outside of work? I love spending time and socialising with my family and friends and spending time with my dog Rocco, who is my pride and joy! I love walking and enjoy going for long walks with Rocco – he is well exercised!

Good News Story : Another community pharmacy Greatix award!

Penmans Pharmacy Beith

Following the good news story in *Weekly Script* 37, Penmans Pharmacy were awarded a Greatix!



COMMUNICATIONS SUMMARY

Wednesday 11th October:

- Clinical PCT – Christmas / New year opening times
- APPC vacancies

Valproate containing medicines

The MHRA this week published guidance on the dispensing of medicines containing valproate. Please familiarise your dispensing teams with this communication and ensure that unless covered by one of the few exceptions, valproate containing medicines are dispensed in full, original packs.

[Full pack dispensing of valproate-containing medicines - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/full-pack-dispensing-of-valproate-containing-medicines)

(Reminder) Resources available – Mouth Cancer Action Month (November)



The Oral health Improvement Team is promoting Mouth Cancer Action Month which runs from 1st – 30th November to raise awareness of the signs of mouth cancer. We would like to encourage people to look in their own mouths and contact their dentist promptly if they have any worries regarding mouth cancer.

Therefore, we are encouraging pharmacies to promote Mouth Cancer Action Month to customers & staff and would be happy to offer you some resources. We can supply a poster, some balloons, pens, disposable mouth mirrors and self-examination sheets for a small display.

If you are interested in participating, please email oralhealthimprovementteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk requesting MCAM resources for your dental practice. Please email no later than Wednesday 18th October to allow sufficient time for the resources to be ordered then delivered to your pharmacy.

APPC – Members wanted

Message from Iain Fulton – Co-Chair APPC.

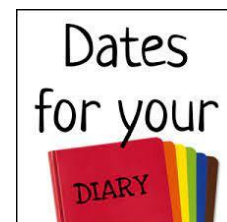
You received an e-mail from Clinical PCT on Wednesday this week with a link to a SWAY document inviting nominations for community pharmacist representatives to join the Area Pharmacy Professional Committee.

The committee meet for approximately 2 hours (in the evening) every 8 weeks.

Membership of the committee will allow you to be involved in professional decisions relating to pharmacy in your area and also provide opportunities for networking and further professional development.

Please refer to the communication for more details and feel free to reach out with any questions you may have.

Date For The Diary: Community Pharmacy Smoking Cessation Service Update - Improve your Smoking Cessation Service Skills



To support community pharmacy teams to deliver the NHS Smoking cessation service in community pharmacy, NES are hosting a webinar to provide an update on the service and current developments for the service.

The webinar is running on Tuesday 24th October from 7:00 to 8:30pm

This can be booked through Turas learn – [Community Pharmacy Smoking Cessation Service - Improve your Smoking Cessation Service Skills | Turas | Learn \(nhs.scot\)](#)

Pharmacy Technicians Day – 17th October 2023



World Pharmacy Technician Day is on Tuesday 17th October this year and we want to celebrate all of our fabulous Pharmacy Technician's for the hard work, care and support they provide on a daily basis.

NHS Ayrshire & Arran pharmacy services are compiling a photo collage of pharmacy technicians who work in our team and we would love to have pictures of pharmacy technicians from our amazing community pharmacy network as part of this.

If you are able to, it would be great if you could send us a picture of pharmacy technicians from your pharmacy with one of the pharmacy technician day graphics in the background as demonstrated here by Taz, one of our Advanced General Practice Pharmacy Technicians. (Taz has the image on a screen behind her to save printing!)



Resources can be downloaded free from:

<https://www.ptcb.org/pharmacy-technician-day/pharmacy-technician-day-graphics>

Pictures for inclusion in the collage should be e-mailed to Sandie one of our principal technicians

Sandie.taylor@aapct.scot.nhs.uk

Or they can be sent by WhatsApp to Iain on 07977 941048

We are hoping for a great representation from community pharmacy technicians in this celebratory activity!



National Naloxone Service.... 3 Weeks Until Service is Live!!!

The community pharmacy naloxone emergency supply service begins in just over two weeks. Please make sure that your preparations are nearly complete.

The NHS Circular [\(PCA\(P\)\(2023\)22\)](#) provided details of the payment arrangements to contribute towards training and purchase of two naloxone kits in anticipation of the service.

The local enhanced service in NHS Ayrshire and Arran employed the Nyxoid nasal spray as the preferred naloxone option for holding by community pharmacy so this would be the recommended option for purchase if you have not already ordered your naloxone kits. **Remember:** only Prenoxad or Nyxoid are suitable for supply through this service (other naloxone is not suitable for lay administration).

Any questions contact Alex Adam.

Seeking Emergency Advice from Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services

Following a recent incident in a community pharmacy, all staff are reminded not to have instalments of medication available for self-selection by patients. Staff should retain safe custody of medication until it is supplied directly to the intended recipient.

If a pharmacy team urgently require advice or input from the specialist drug and alcohol treatment services please use the telephone numbers below:

North	South	East
01294 476 000	01292 559 800	01563 574 237

Where services are closed and urgent advice about drug and alcohol treatment is needed, contact may be made with the specialist team in the hospital: **Woodland View, Ward 5 - 01294 322377**

If it is not possible to contact the services in a reasonable timeframe, and email contact is not likely to be sufficient (for example, following an accidental overdose after consuming another patient's larger dose of methadone), then please make a professional judgement regarding what is in the patient's best interests at that time (in this example, it would be typical to facilitate the patient's attendance at the Emergency Department for monitoring).

KEY COMMUNITY PHARMACY CONTACTS			
CP Team	Community Pharmacy Administration	aa.cpteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk	01292 513905/513833
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Information contained in this communication is issued on the understanding that it is the best available from the resources at our disposal and the opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect Ayrshire & Arran Patient Services' policy.