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All of the NHS Ayrshire & Arran pharmacy services team wish all our Community Pharmacy colleagues a Very Happy New Year and we look forward to working with you in 2024 to deliver first class services and care to our citizens!



## Signposting 2024



Our theme for 2024 is 'Signposting'.

Your NHS A&A community pharmacy team will be using the Weekly Script to share with you and to highlight signposting opportunities and resources that you in turn can share with your patients. This will help you as community pharmacy teams make 'every contact count' and add extra value to the care that you provide patients and ensure they and you make the best use of the services and resources that are available to citizens of Ayrshire & Arran.

This week we would like to highlight the recent Scottish Government Circular – PCA (P)(2023) 45 regarding the Updated guidance and referral form for the treatment of minor eye conditions.

This circular (attached to this edition for reference) contains the new optometry referral form as well as a reminder to have local conversations with optometry colleagues.

*It is recommended that optometry practices and pharmacies work together to develop a deeper understanding of how the service will operate and to strengthen referral pathways for patients. By discussing the content of this document with your local optometry and pharmacy teams, you can agree what works for everyone e.g. telephoning optometry practices prior to sending a patient, using email/printed forms for referrals.*

We hope that the effective use of this process helps to ensure that patients presenting at community pharmacies or optometry practices get the best care and treatment timeously and close to home in line with our Caring for Ayrshire vision!

## Save the Date!

Following the success of this year's community pharmacy network event, planning is underway to hold a similar event in 2024!

The evening event will be open to ALL members of community pharmacy teams as well as locum pharmacy staff working in Ayrshire & Arran.

The provisional date for the event is Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and will be held in the evening with food provided.

Our venue for 2024 is Fullerton ConneXions in Irvine

Further details, agenda and booking forms will follow in the coming weeks.

### COMMUNICATIONS SUMMARY

- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January:**
- aa.cpteam: NPSA 2024/001 – Shortage of GLP-1 Receptor Agonists
  - aa.cpteam: Class 4 Drug alert – Cozaar 100mg

## This Weeks Key Messages

### New Pharmacist in post – Ayrshire Hospice

The Ayrshire Hospice have a new Palliative Care pharmacist in post.

Adam Russell works in the hospice on a Wednesday and Thursday each week and is happy to be contacted for any palliative care queries.

[Adam.russell@ayrshirehospice.org](mailto:Adam.russell@ayrshirehospice.org)

### KEY COMMUNITY PHARMACY CONTACTS

<b>CP Team</b>	Community Pharmacy Administration	<a href="mailto:aa.cpteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk">aa.cpteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk</a>	01292 513905/513833
<b>Iain Fulton</b>	Principal Pharmacist, Community Pharmacy, Public Health & SA HSCP	<a href="mailto:iain.fulton@aapct.scot.nhs.uk">iain.fulton@aapct.scot.nhs.uk</a>	01292 513831 / 07977 941048
<b>Kirstie Church</b>	Senior Pharmacist, Primary Care & Community Pharmacy (East)	<a href="mailto:Kirstie.church@aapct.scot.nhs.uk">Kirstie.church@aapct.scot.nhs.uk</a>	07970439225
<b>Alan McGeer</b>	Senior Pharmacist, Primary Care & Community Pharmacy (South)	<a href="mailto:Alan.mcgeer@aapct.scot.nhs.uk">Alan.mcgeer@aapct.scot.nhs.uk</a>	07827840326
<b>Adam Russell</b>	Palliative Care Pharmacist – Ayrshire Hospice	<a href="mailto:Adam.russell@ayrshirehospice.org">Adam.russell@ayrshirehospice.org</a>	
<b>Sharleen Bell</b>	Controlled Drug Inspection Officer	<a href="mailto:Sharleen.bell@aapct.scot.nhs.uk">Sharleen.bell@aapct.scot.nhs.uk</a>	01292 513822
<b>Alex Adam</b>	Specialist Pharmacist in Substance Misuse	<a href="mailto:Alexander.adam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk">Alexander.adam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk</a>	07557 083093
<b>Laura Gill</b>	Facilitator, Digital Services	<a href="mailto:Laura.gill@aapct.scot.nhs.uk">Laura.gill@aapct.scot.nhs.uk</a>	01292 513742

### PRIMARY CARE CONTACTS

<b>Anne Shaw</b>	Primary Care Manager, Pharmacy and Optometry	<a href="mailto:Anne.shaw2@aapct.scot.nhs.uk">Anne.shaw2@aapct.scot.nhs.uk</a>	
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**GENERAL ENQUIRIES EMAIL:** [aa.cpteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:aa.cpteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk)

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