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Meet the Team – Amanda Howie



What is your current role?

I currently work in Burns Mall as a Pharmacist Store Manager, and have recently qualified as an IP.

How long have you worked in community pharmacy?

I have worked in community pharmacy since qualifying in 2011 and been in my current store for 7 years.

What's the best bit of your job?

I love building relationships with my customers and being that friendly face for them to chat to and get advice from. I love helping people, whether it's providing advice on medication or just being someone to talk to. Although I am a little nervous, I do think becoming an IP pharmacist will allow to help my patients even more and the benefits to the local community are invaluable.

I love training staff and enjoy the job satisfaction from helping my trainees achieve their goals and success in their career.

What do you think about the future of community pharmacy?

I think the prospect of even more IP pharmacists working in communities is exciting and will allow patients to access a quicker, more accessible healthcare for their needs.

What do you like to do to relax outside of work?

I have two young children so I don't relax much but I do love spending time with my family with the odd day relaxing in a spa or catching up with friends over a coffee or dinner!

COMMUNICATIONS SUMMARY

Friday 8th March: ClinicalPCT – Primary Care Contracts – weekly communication

Tuesday 12th March: ClinicalPCT – ePharmacy Validation Certificate Renewal
ClinicalPCT - Changes to P&CFS

Wednesday 13th March: aa.cpteam – Class 2 drug alert Sodiofolin solution for injection/infusion

ClinicalPCT – Prostate Cancer Service Audit – (Not all contractors received this)

Friday 15th March: ClinicalPCT – Amendment to Easter Bank Holiday Opening Times

CONGRATULATIONS



The Community Pharmacy Network in Ayrshire & Arran have been shortlisted for the final of this year's Scottish Pharmacist Awards along with our Trauma & Orthopaedics colleagues in the "Working Together" category for the community pharmacy pathway in our hospital discharge service pilot!

Carrick Pharmacy has also been shortlisted for the final, again in the "Working Together" category for the test of change work that was done with AUCS over the Festive Period.

Good luck to all the finalists at this year's awards which will be held in Edinburgh on 20th April!

This Weeks Key Messages

ACTION REQUIRED – Prostate Cancer Service Audit

37 pharmacies received an e-mail this on Wednesday this week regarding an audit relating to the prostate cancer (Enzalutamide supply) service.

Please note that the deadline for return of the audit is **Thursday 21st March 2024**.

Thank you in anticipation of your support with this.

CAPSASIN CREAM – Learning from incident

Message from Julie Stewart – Senior Clinical Pharmacist – Pain Management

NHS Ayrshire and Arran have recently received a complaint from a patient who was prescribed capsaicin cream 0.075% cream by a consultant and was told this was not available at the community pharmacy. We would like to remind all community pharmacies that unlicensed preparations for both strengths of Capsaicin cream are currently available and can be obtained via specials manufacturers following the usual specials authorisation process.

PUBLIC HEALTH POSTER - Update

You will be aware that the SARCS poster campaign scheduled for February was cancelled. The menopause campaign that was due to be displayed in pharmacies in March has also been cancelled and therefore you should continue to display the Quit Your Way poster for now and until further notice.

PGD – Hospital Discharge / AUCS prescribing

Thanks to the 91 pharmacists who have completed the MS form confirming that you have signed the updated PGD CP 24 066.

As a reminder, there is no need to e-mail a copy of the signature form for this PGS, simply complete the MS form via the link / QR code below.

This PGD needs to be signed by all pharmacists (even if you are not taking part in the hospital discharge service) as it is required to make supplies via AUCS requests.

If you have not yet confirmed via the MS form, please do so at your earliest convenience. Link below.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=veDvEDCgykuAnLXmdF5JmsfMUXAe5h9MsSfvDN3-3-hURTJaTjdOTDU1VDJaR0c1VkpIRVNMNFVLWi4u>

PGD CP 24 066



Survey – Antibiotics, infection prevention and antibiotic resistance

Please see below, the opportunity to participate in a short survey of patient facing healthcare professionals in the UK about their knowledge and attitudes about antibiotics, infection prevention and antibiotic resistance.

The survey takes around 20 minutes to complete, and a certificate of completion can be requested afterwards.

This is a great opportunity to collaborate with a National service undertaking important research and give your views & opinions on real life practice.

For anyone working on the RPS Core Advanced Curriculum this could be used to support demonstration of competency 5.4 (collaborates with others in undertaking research and supports others to engage with research and improvement activities).

Dear colleagues,

You are invited to complete a short survey of patient facing healthcare professionals in the UK about their knowledge and attitudes about antibiotics, infection prevention and antibiotic resistance.

[Take the survey here](#)

This survey is being conducted on behalf of the UK Health Security Agency by M3 and Basis Research and is open until 15 March.

The survey is seeking responses from healthcare workers, including doctors, nurses, pharmacists, dentists as well as nursing assistants, dental/pharmacy technicians across all four UK nations.

On completion, a certificate of participation can be requested; this will not be linked to your responses.

The objectives of the study are to:

- repeat the healthcare workers survey conducted in 2019 across 30 European countries
- gain a better understanding of healthcare professionals' knowledge and perceptions to provide a base to support future needs in terms of policy and education changes, and
- fill in gaps in the evaluation of communication campaigns and resources for healthcare professionals

For further information contact espauro@ukhsa.gov.uk (UK Health Security Agency).

Kind regards, **NES IPC Education Team**

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