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Meet the Team – Mark Smith

What is your current role? Pharmacist Manager at Boots Pharmacy Kilbirnie

How long have you worked in community pharmacy?

I have worked in Community Pharmacy since 2005. I started out as a locum pharmacist. When I started with Boots I worked in Kilwinning and Irvine. I then moved to Kilbirnie store 7 years ago.

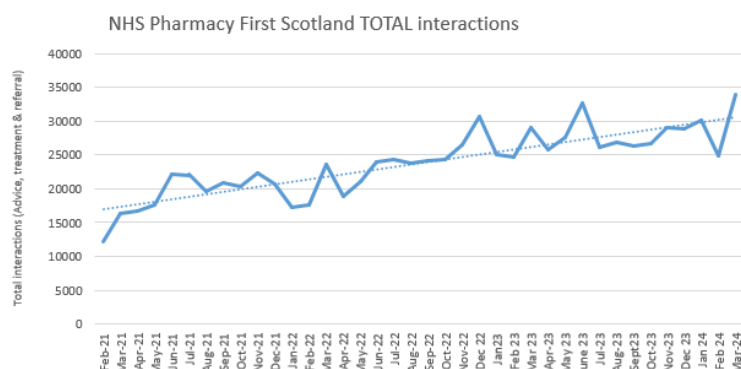
What's the best bit of your job? I really enjoy the patient interaction element of my role. This has been further improved since recently qualifying as an IP. I am able to provide a broader range of treatment options to patients which results in a much more simplified patient journey which is benefiting the local community and GP practice.

What do you think about the future of community pharmacy? We have seen in recent year the wider variety of services that we are able to deliver through PGDs and now through Pharmacy first plus. This shows the direction of travel towards more services, patient focused and clinical roles for the pharmacist in community. The use of automation also feeds into this allowing the teams to use their skills and freeing up time for the pharmacist to be able to provide those services to the local community.

What do you like to do to relax outside of work? I enjoy spending time with my family, in particular going to the football with my little boy. We love a day trip and can very often be found down at Blackpool pleasure beach.

NHS PHARMACY FIRST SCOTLAND

The annual performance report for Primary Care Contractors has recently been prepared for submission to the board. We wanted to highlight the RECORD number of NHS Pharmacy First Scotland interactions (supplies, advice & referrals) recorded in March 2024 (**34,031**) and also say thank you and well done to all of the community pharmacy teams in NHS Ayrshire and Arran for continuing to increase the number of patient interactions as shown in the graph below. The contribution made to primary care is recognised, valued and appreciated! Thank you and keep up the great work!



This Weeks Key Messages

For the attention of ECS users

An ESSENTIAL upgrade is required to be performed to the NHSS network on the 18th May, which will require the Emergency Care Summary application to be taken offline.

Please see details below outlining the scheduled upgrade plan an associated downtime:

Disaster Recovery Pre-Test Window

Wednesday 8th May 2024, 07:00 – 09:00 (incl outage of 15 mins)

Thursday 9th May 2024, 07:00 – 09:00 (incl outage of 15 mins)

Firewall Disaster Recovery Fail-over Window

(Done prior to and after the upgrade)

Friday 17th May 13:00 – 15:00 (incl outage of 15 mins)

Monday 20th May 10:00 – 12:00 (incl outage of 15 mins)

Actual Firewall Upgrade

Saturday 18th May 2024

Change window: 08:00 – 16:00

Outage window: 08:30 – 10:30 (2 hours)

Pain Education Event – ‘Pain Management Does Not Need to be Painful’

The specialist pain management service are hosting a healthcare professional education evening "Pain Management does not need to be painful" on 20th May 2024 at Crosshouse Hospital as detailed below -

Primary Care Healthcare Professionals Education Evening

20th May 2024 6-9pm, Alexander Fleming Education Centre, University Hospital Crosshouse

Event poster is attached to this e-mail with details of how to book.

Below is the QR code direct link to the booking form.



Alternatively you can book on the link here:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=veDvEDCgykuAnLXmdF5JmtCnjWz5y-JPsBARiPVZ1ipURTFIRVpVNDNIMUIORTJXU05STUdWM1NIMCQIQCN0PWcu>

The education evening is available for anyone working with individuals with persistent pain in primary care and there will be a mixture of talks, project updates and panel discussions.

Community Pharmacy colleagues are welcome to attend.

Places are limited so please book soon to avoid disappointment.

Valproate Dispensing – Please take a few minutes to complete survey

In November 2023 the MHRA updated the guidance on the dispensing of Valproate products. If a patient is not receiving Valproate in original packaging then a risk assessment should be carried out signed and kept in the pharmacy. To help us understand what support is required please could you take the time to fill in the below questionnaire. <https://forms.office.com/e/EMEZxxF4HN>



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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.