



Pharmacy Services

NHS Ayrshire & Arran

# Community Pharmacy Script

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

No: 06

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Emma McGilvery

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## Meet the Team – Emma McGilvery



What is your current role?

PHOENIX Study Pharmacist for North and South Ayrshire

It is estimated 5,700 people in Scotland experience three severe disadvantages at the same time, classifying as People experiencing Severe and Multiple Disadvantage (PSMD) – homelessness, criminal justice encounters and substance dependency.

The Pharmacy Homeless Outreach Engagement Non-medical Independent prescribing trial, known as PHOENIX, is a randomised control trial run in conjunction with the University of Edinburgh. The study will examine whether giving PSMD access to integrated outreach health and social care support reduces the risk of overdose, and improves health and community connectedness, while reducing hospital admissions and criminal justice involvement.

The study involves weekly encounters with myself, a pharmacist prescriber, and a Recovery Drug Worker from the Alcohol and Drug Partnership. Each participant will have this input for 9 months. As part of the intervention we aim to treat acute conditions (e.g. infections, common minor ailments), promote harm reduction and prevention of disease, and ensure chronic conditions are well managed by liaising with GP and secondary care colleagues.

How long have you worked in pharmacy?

Since I was 16! I began my pharmacy career as a weekend worker and summer student in community pharmacy before going on to do my MPharm at Strathclyde University. I did my pre-registration year with Lloyds Pharmacy and when fully qualified took on various roles including Relief and Pharmacist Manager. In 2020 I completed my Independent Prescribing qualification and made the move to the health board as a GP Clinical Pharmacist. This then led me to my next challenge with the PHOENIX study.

What is the best bit of your job?

In my new role I get to combine everything I have learned in community and GP pharmacy, and really use my skills as an IP to the fullest of my capabilities. Being able to make connections with people who otherwise may struggle with access to routine services is really fulfilling. I am learning new things every day and collaborating with services such as addictions, housing, third sector charities and criminal justice amongst many others.

What do you do to relax outside of work?

I love travelling to new places. Last year I went to South Africa and this month I head to Dubai! I have a wee fluffy dog called Louie, who our household revolves around and loves going on adventures. I enjoy nights out with friends and am getting back into the gym – life is all about balance!

## RECENT COMMUNICATIONS SUMMARY

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb – ClincialPCT – Field safety notice – non-automaated BP gauges

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> – aa.cpteam – Class 3 drug Alert Azacitadine 100mg and 150mg vial / Class 2 Drug Alert Pemetrexed 10mg/ml & 8mg/ml / PCA (P)(2025)02 SSP Estradot Patches

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> – aa.cpteam - Class 2 Drug Alert Boots Paracetamol 500mg Tabs / Product Recall Anderside Tools Medicine Cup 30ml

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> – aa.cpteam – Class 4 Drug Alert Jubilant Pharma Azithromycin 250mg caps

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> – ClincialPCT – Easter and May Public Holiday Opening times for Community Pharmacy

## This Weeks Key Messages

### **Potential abuse of Pharmacy Services**

We have received notification from a Pharmacy in Ayr to inform us that a male patient has been seeking methocarbamol from different pharmacies.

We believe that the patient has had emergency supplies issued on 28<sup>th</sup> December, 1st January (60 tablets) and a further supply (20 tablets) on the 12th January from different pharmacies, in Ayr and another in Kilmarnock.

Details have been shared with GP practice teams.

This acts as a reminder of the importance of sending in Unscheduled Care supplies notifications to GP practices in order to keep records up to date.

Many thanks to the pharmacy concerned who highlighted this.

### **Community Pharmacy Protected Learning Time – CP PLT**

Following on from the success of last year's first cycle of CP PLT, we are pleased to announce its return for 2025. We plan to run this much in the same way as last year with pharmacies given the choice of days in which to close for a morning or afternoon to undertake training or activities much in the same way as has been long established for GP surgeries. We will send out more detailed information in due course alongside feedback received from the network on their experiences and suggested activities to consider for this next cycle of CP PLT. For multiples, we will liaise with owners, area managers or superintendents in the first instance.

### **MCR registration**

It has come to our attention that some patients MCR registrations have not saved or have reverted back to where they had been registered previously. For this reason when prescriptions are generated at the GP Practice they do not have the correct pharmacy destination on them. This causes confusion/frustration for patients and no doubt extra work for yourselves trying to locate a patient's prescription. To mitigate this issue it is important to make sure that each patient that has SRx at your pharmacy also has an active registration to MCR. Please reach out to any of the CP team if you need any further guidance.

### **Unlicensed specials pre-approved list update**

The pre-approved list for unlicensed specials has been updated to reflect the increase of prices of some unlicensed medications such as Creon, please ensure you are working with the current version. This can be found here:

<https://www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk/nhs-ayrshire-arran/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/Authorisation-pro-forma-v9-use-from-March-2025.docx>

## **Simulation sessions for Community Pharmacy IP's**

As our simulation sessions continue to be beneficial for those who have attended we have planned dates for 2025.

The aim of our sessions is to create a supportive learning opportunity in an entirely safe and confidential space to enhance our legacy community pharmacy prescribers' confidence and skills in delivering Pharmacy First Plus. The added bonus is a network opportunity to get to know other community pharmacy prescribers within A&A!

**There are 2 sessions planned. The dates are as follows:**

- **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April**
- **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June**

**Each session will run from 0900 - 1300 hours.**

**The venue for this will be in the Education Centre at Crosshouse Hospital.**

**Sessions will be limited to a maximum of 4 people per session.**

If you are interested in attending, please email [aacpteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:aacpteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk).

# Community Pharmacy Network event



THURSDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2025  
6pm-9pm

CENTRESTAGE  
15 Elmbank Drive  
Kilmarnock  
KA1 3AE



Please register for the event using the attached QR Code or following link: [2025 Community Pharmacy Network Registration](#)

All members of the pharmacy team and regular locums are welcome.

We look forward to seeing you there on the night!

Buffet

Networking Opportunities

Guest Speakers

### 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
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### PRIMARY CARE CONTACTS

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**GENERAL ENQUIRIES EMAIL: [aa.cpteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:aa.cpteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk)**

*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.*