

Community Pharmacy Update

Please share this update with the wider pharmacy team including reliefs and locum pharmacists

International Overdose Awareness Day 2026



International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) occurs every August 31st featuring events to raise awareness of the issue of drug overdose deaths.

For 25 years, IOAD has brought people together to remember those we've lost and to take action to save lives.

Events are taking place across the country, locally in NHS A+A a walk will be taking place in **Cumnock** on **Monday 31st August at 11:30 am**, details of this can be found here - [Cumnock - International Overdose Awareness Day](#)

A total of 1017 people suffered a fatal overdose in Scotland last year, with the majority of these involving opioid drugs.

Overdoses can be prevented through initiatives, increased awareness and measures such as the availability of Naloxone.

Naloxone is a first aid intervention which can temporarily reverse the effects of opioid drugs, which, in an overdose situation can preserve life until an ambulance can arrive.

A reminder of the community pharmacy-based Naloxone service can be found here - [Community pharmacy Naloxone service](#)

ACTION REQUIRED: Unplanned Closures

Please let us know if your pharmacy has to close unexpectedly or is unable to open

1. Phone 07805 248 789 or 07557 114 209 to advise of the unplanned closure as soon as possible so that we can inform partner agencies.
2. Let us know what arrangements you have made for any daily pick-ups if the pharmacy is going to be closed for more than an hour or two.
3. Signpost patients who require urgent medication or advice etc to the nearest alternative pharmacy

If your pharmacy is part of a group, please don't assume that your head office will inform us immediately. Although they will let us know, the notification is often received hours later after the event.

Finally, the two numbers given above are manned during weekday working hours and also at weekends.

Information from Previous Communications

ACTION REQUIRED: Community Pharmacy Network Event

We are delighted to invite you and your team to our **Community Pharmacy Network Event** on **Thursday 3 September 2026** at CentreStage, Kilmarnock. The evening will begin with a buffet and refreshments from **5.30pm**, followed by the main event from **6.30pm**.

This will be a fantastic opportunity for the whole pharmacy team to come together, network with colleagues from across Ayrshire and Arran, hear about key developments in community pharmacy, and celebrate the important contribution made by our workforce every day.

For pharmacists and pharmacy technicians, the event will also provide valuable learning and reflection opportunities that can support your **CPD and professional development**.

All members of the pharmacy team and regular locums are welcome to attend. We encourage contractors to support attendance from across their teams.

Thursday 3 September 2026

📍 CentreStage, 15 Elmbank Drive, Kilmarnock, KA1 3AE

🕒 Buffet and refreshments from 5.30pm

🕒 Event starts at 6.30pm

Please register using this link: [2026 Community Pharmacy Network Event](#) or by scanning the QR code below.

We look forward to seeing you there.



ACTION REQUIRED: Pre-Quit Registration on PCR for Smoking Cessation

At the Pre-Quit Registration stage on PCR for the Smoking Cessation Service, please remember to ask patients about their previous use of smoking cessation products.

There is a drop-down menu within the registration screen where this information can be recorded. It is important that this section is completed at the point of sign-up, as it forms part of the registration process and helps ensure accurate service data.

Please see the screenshot of PCR below:



Figure 10-3: Smoking Cessation Pre-Quit Registration

ACTION REQUIRED: L3 MAR Service

It has been brought to the CP team's attention that some MAR charts are not fully compliant with the service specification regarding the recording of administration times. I have included an example below of administration times that would **not** be acceptable on a MAR chart under the current service specification:

Returned	TIME
0800	
1200	
1800	
2200	

The service specification states:

"Administration times must be stated as morning, lunchtime, teatime, and bedtime NOT specific times (e.g. 9am, 12pm, 6pm, and 9pm) to allow for any slight variation in carer attendance at individuals home. Note: Some medicines may require specific times e.g. Parkinson's medicines."

Please revise the service specification for L3 MAR service with your teams and ensure this is followed.
Please click the link below:

[V5.0-Medication-Administration-Record-Charts.doc](#)

RECENT COMMUNICATIONS SUMMARY

Tuesday 21st July – aa.cpteam – Drug Alert Class 4 No 35 – Macarthy's Laboratories Ltd T/A Martindale Pharma – Xaggitin XL prolonged release tablets

Thursday 23rd July – aa.cpteam – Drug Alert Class 4 No 36 – Neuraxpharm UK Ltd – Tuzulby prolonged release tablets

Wednesday 22nd July – ClinicalPCT – Pharmacy PIN

Friday 24th July- ClinicalPCT – Fairwarning stop-press
- PCA2026-(P)-11 extension to Ramipril 1.25mg SSP

Friday 31st July – aa.cpteam – PHS Health Protection Alert regarding falsified Rabies vaccine in the Philippines

Wednesday 12th August – ClinicalPCT – DSI 2026 007 PDF

Thursday 20th August – aa.cpteam – Drug Alert Class 2 No 37 – Zentiva Pharma UK Ltd – Fingolimod 0.5mg capsules

KEY COMMUNITY PHARMACY CONTACTS

CP Team	Community Pharmacy Administration	aa.cpteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk	01292 513905/513833
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PRIMARY CARE CONTACTS

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GENERAL ENQUIRIES EMAIL: aa.cpteam@aacpt.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.