

NHS Ayrshire & Arran Community Pharmacy Update

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

ScotPharm Training

*Opportunity for further training on
clinical skills and Pharmacy First Plus
conditions*



ScotPharm Training was established to support pharmacists in developing the practical clinical skills needed to assess, diagnose and manage patients via Pharmacy First Plus. Founded by experienced pharmacist independent prescribers and educators, Kirsty Hamilton and Maxine McCabe, our aim is to provide high-quality, hands-on training that helps bridge the gap between qualification and day-to-day practice.

We offer bespoke training sessions for pharmacy groups and multiples across Scotland, tailored to the needs of individual organisations. Topics include common clinical conditions, physical examination skills, consultation skills and clinical history-taking.

Whether supporting foundation year trainees, pharmacists undertaking prescribing training, newly qualified prescribers or experienced IP pharmacists expanding their scope of practice, our training is designed to be practical, relevant and immediately applicable.

Alongside our commissioned training, we deliver Full-Day Clinical Skills Training Courses that can be booked through our website. These interactive courses combine clinical teaching with hands-on skills development and cover:

- **Respiratory Masterclass**
- **Ear examination and common ear conditions**
- **Oral, throat and lymph node examination and conditions**
- **Nasal conditions**
- **Dermatology**
- **Consultation skills**
- **Clinical history-taking**

We are delighted to be bringing our next Clinical Skills Day to Hamilton on 22 November 2026, followed by Edinburgh in January 2027.

To find out more about our courses or discuss bespoke training for your pharmacy team, visit ScotPharm Training Courses.

To join our mailing list and hear about future events first, email scotpharmtraining@gmail.com.

Update to Scottish Palliative Care Guidelines

There has been a significant number of guideline updates to the Scottish Palliative Care Guidelines. A newsletter has been developed by Healthcare Improvement Scotland advising of key highlights, please find this as an attachment to this e-mail.

Information from Previous Communications

ACTION REQUIRED: Simulation - November 2026

As part of continuing education and development for our established community pharmacy independent prescribers, we host a series of simulation sessions. Simulation replicates 'real life' skills, drills, and experiences to realistically rehearse and train in an environment that is safe for both patients and learners. This concept has been used across a variety of healthcare settings for several years as part of clinical training to provide a safe and controlled learning environment where clinicians can make prescribing decisions and learn in real time without compromising patient safety. 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! If you are interested in attending, please email aa.cpteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk Here's what our A&A IP Community Pharmacists said about our January Simulation Session:



The next simulation session is: **Tuesday 3RD November 9am – 1pm**

Information from Previous Communications

Patient Care Record (PCR) Access

The PCR provides registered community pharmacists and pharmacy technicians with the capability to record details of a patient's care. This functionality is a key part of the delivery of Medicines Care & Review (MCR) and allows users to record care provided at the patient's registered Community Pharmacy (CP).

Pharmacists have full access to all functions in the PCR, whilst pharmacy technicians have restricted access to smoking cessation and gluten-free support tool functions.

Please ensure all eligible members of the team have access to the PCR.

If anyone is experiencing difficulties accessing the PCR, useful information can be found on the National Services Scotland and NHS Ayrshire and Arran websites. The links are available here:

[Guidance on the Pharmacy Care Record \(PCR\) | National Services Scotland](#)

[Pharmacy Care Record \(PCR\) – NHS Ayrshire & Arran](#)

Flu season is upon us

Flu Service Special

As we approach winter, flu season is upon us! Let's ensure we keep our patients and communities safe by encouraging those eligible for the vaccine to attend the mass vaccination clinics or their local community pharmacy participating in the service. NHS flu vaccine clinics will be starting in community pharmacies signed up to this service from 14th September 2026.

Follow this link - [NHS Flu – NHS Ayrshire & Arran](#) to be taken to our dedicated NHS A+A Flu section of the community pharmacy website. This holds all relevant guidelines and resources that participating community pharmacy teams may need. The PGD for Flu 2026/2027 was sent out via e-mail to relevant pharmacies and this year includes pharmacy technicians as well as pharmacists.

The community pharmacy NHS flu service for 2026/27 is available to the following eligible patient groups.

- Health and social care workers (All NHS staff frontline and non-frontline and all frontline Social Care Workers)
- Those who experience homelessness
- Those who experience substance use
- Those aged 18-64yrs "at risk" from flu and not eligible for COVID-19 vaccination [from 26th October only](#)
- [Those aged 65 and over from 26th October only](#)

RECENT COMMUNICATIONS SUMMARY

Tuesday 15th September – ClinicalPCT – PCA2026- (P)14 and PCA2026 –(P)15

Friday 18th September – aa.cpteam - Class 4 Drug Alert No 38 2026 - Class 4 Medicines Defect Information – Caution In Use – Martindale Pharmaceuticals Ltd - Clobazam Martindale Pharma 5mg/MI And 10mg/5ml Oral Suspension 150ml

Friday 18th September – aa.cpteam – Pharmacy SRH care invitation to join in with research

Tuesday 22nd September – ClinicalPCT – PCA2026- P(16)

Thursday 24th September – aa.cpteam – Class 4 Drug Alert No 39 2026 – B Braun Melsungen AG – Meropenem 1000mg powder and solvent for solution for infusion

Monday 28th September – ClinicalPCT – PCA2026- P(17)

Tuesday 29th September - ClinicalPCT – SGHD CMO 2026 18

Thursday 1st October – aa.cpteam – Class 4 Drug Alert No 40 2026 – Neuraxpharm granules for oral solution

KEY COMMUNITY PHARMACY CONTACTS

CP Team	Community Pharmacy Administration and general enquiries	aa.cpteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk	01292 513905/513833
Kirstie Williams	Principal Pharmacist, Community Pharmacy, Public Health & SA HSCP	Kirstie.williams@aapct.scot.nhs.uk	07970 439225
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Alex Adam	Specialist Pharmacist in Substance Misuse	Alexander.adam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk	07557 083093
ePharmacy Facilitator	Facilitator, Digital Services	aa.digitalservicescommunityfacilitators@aapct.scot.nhs.uk	

PRIMARY CARE CONTACTS

Primary Care Pharmacy Contracts Team	Primary Care Contracts general enquiries	ClinicalPCT@aapct.scot.nhs.uk	
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GENERAL ENQUIRIES EMAIL: 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.