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Updated Care Homes Resources for Pharmacists and Technicians

Community pharmacy staff are advised that updated care homes resources are now available via [this link](#) and replace all previous versions. The resources on this page were developed by the prescribing support team specifically to support primary care pharmacy staff working with care homes. They have been made available here for community pharmacy staff to access. Individuals using these resources are responsible for assessing the relevance of the documents in their own area of practice. Available resources include training materials for pharmacists and technicians providing services such as –

- medication reviews
- supply functions
- medicines information on all aspects of safe use of medication in the care homes setting, including legal and ethical considerations and antibiotic stewardship.

Various support materials to aid pharmacists and technicians in providing training for general practice and care home staff on homely remedies, order procedures, reducing waste and safe disposal of medicines (including controlled drugs) are also provided.

Hyperlinks to useful external resources provided by other agencies such as the Mental Welfare Commission, Care Inspectorate etc. are embedded within many of the documents.

Enquiries or comments should be directed to the Pharmacy and Prescribing Support Team
PRESCRIBING@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

*With best wishes for
Christmas and 2017
from the CPD team*



NHSGGC- smokefree Pharmacy Campaign

NHSGGC Smokefree Services are running a major campaign from 16 January to 12 February 2017 with the key message **'2017, there's no better time to stop - go to your local Pharmacy'**.

The artwork imagery, developed for the 2016 campaign of the hand holding money, continues to be featured since saving money is still the major motivational factor influencing smokers' decision to stop. It also attempts to capitalise on New Year resolutions to stop smoking. Campaign visuals will be displayed at bus stops, billboards and digital screens in high footfall areas across the 40% most deprived postcode areas

What you should look out for:

- Arrival of your support pack from NHSGGC Pharmacy Services in the 1st week of January with smokefree materials for your pharmacy along with details of your local Smokefree Community Service and key contacts.
- Those customers who wish to stop smoking and would like to share their journey on social media with other smokers e.g. **'I'm Mrs Smith and I stopped smoking thanks to my local pharmacy'** Please email andy.scott@ggc.scot.nhs.uk or call 0141 201 4892 with the details and Andy will follow them up.
- Local Smokefree Community Services who may contact you to offer support, particularly in cases where customers present with challenging life circumstances which require more intensive support systems.
- Smokefree Services have liaised with Community Pharmacy Scotland to produce stop smoking visuals for your pharmacies that will bring an element of consistency to the artwork to avoid confusion.

Best wishes for the Festive Period and a successful campaign from smokefree services who look forward to continuing working with you in 2017.

HOLIDAY READING

Consultation on religion, personal values and beliefs in delivering person-centred care in pharmacy.

The GPhC recently launched a consultation about the wording on personal values and beliefs in the new standards for pharmacy professionals, **due to come into effect in 2017** and about the guidance on the behaviours expected of pharmacy professionals in applying these standards in practice.

The proposals would change the expectations of pharmacy professionals when their religion, personal values or beliefs might, in certain circumstances, impact on their ability to provide services, and shift the balance in favour of the needs and rights of the person in their care. The proposed changes to the standards and guidance have been prompted by feedback from the consultation on standards for pharmacy professionals and reflect the relevant legal framework of human rights and equality law.

The proposed changes make it clear that pharmacy professionals must not discriminate against a person based on their own – or the person's – religion, personal values or beliefs, or lack of religion or belief, or knowingly put themselves in a position where a person is unable to receive the care or advice they need. The draft guidance explains that the most appropriate action depends on the individual needs and circumstances of the person seeking a pharmacy service, and that in some cases a referral to another service provider might not be the right option, or enough, to ensure that person-centered care is not compromised. The guidance is intended for individual pharmacy professionals, but also recognises the important role of employers in supporting pharmacy professionals and the wider pharmacy team to create a person-centred environment.

Full details of the [consultation](#), which closes on 7 March 2017, can be found at

<http://www.pharmacyregulation.org/news/gphc-consults-religion-personal-values-and-beliefs-pharmacy-practice>

Naloxone – use in practice

A recent episode in Renfrew served to illustrate the importance of pharmacy staff being suitably trained and competent in the use and administration of Naloxone in practice. Carron Grogan, a pharmacist in Boots, Renfrew responded to the pleas of two friends of a man who had collapsed nearby from a suspected overdose. His condition deteriorating rapidly and giving cause for concern, Carron administered a number of Naloxone injections and CPR prior to the ambulance crew arriving, her decisive and timely intervention preventing the patient from becoming yet another tragic drug-death statistic. I'm aware of staff in other pharmacies being involved in similar situations. Although supply options have been modified to increase availability, the opportunity still exists for pharmacy staff to be involved in this process, particularly when the public already associate supply and treatment with the community pharmacy network. Amanda Laird, Advanced Specialist Pharmacist at Glasgow Addiction Services should be contacted at Amanda.laird@ggc.scot.nhs.uk to register your interest in becoming more involved.

GPhC consultation on revised threshold criteria.

The GPhC has also launched a consultation on revising the threshold criteria used in assessing the level of severity to be applied in investigating concerns about pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. Threshold criteria are used by decision-makers within the GPhC, who are involved in investigating concerns, to decide whether a case should be referred to the investigating committee.

Revision of the threshold criteria are being considered to ensure they are an effective decision making tool and also to take account of changes in pharmacy regulation, including the new standards for pharmacy professionals which will be introduced in 2017. The **12-week consultation** will close on **7 March 2017**.

Full details of the consultation can be accessed at <http://www.pharmacyregulation.org/news/gphc-consult-revised-threshold-criteria>

AND A GREAT BIG WELCOME TO.....

Alan Harrison - who joined the team as Lead Pharmacist for Community Care at the end of November.

Alan joins us from the Well Group and brings significant experience and expertise in community pharmacy at senior level.

Alan can be contacted at alan.harrison@ggc.scot.nhs.uk or 0141 232 1740 and is available Monday to Thursday