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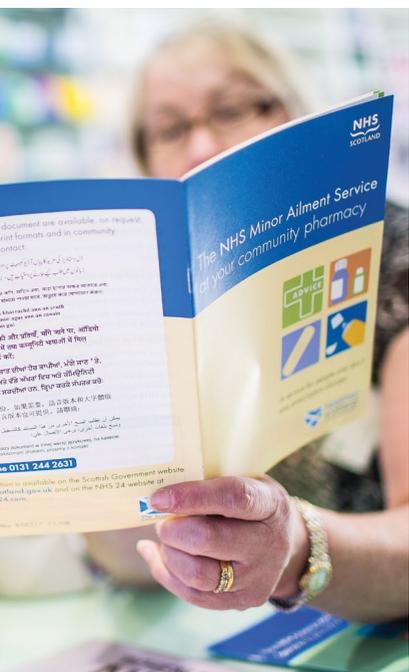


Manifesto

Our Ambition

To champion and support excellent health outcomes for all the communities we serve

We believe the community pharmacy network in Scotland should be supported to deliver this ambition under three headings...



Pharmacy First

Make community pharmacy the first port of call when people need the NHS

Why

GP and A&E resources are stretched like never before and community pharmacy can support the NHS by ensuring the public access the right healthcare professional, at the right time in their community. This solution would save money to be used in other areas of the NHS.

How

Current services and frameworks can be developed further to allow the community pharmacy to play an even greater role as part of the primary care team:

- The current cost effective¹ Minor Ailment Service should be extended to treat more Common Conditions
- Appropriate access to relevant patient information to allow safe and effective treatment of more patients in the community. This will prevent unnecessary in and out of hours contacts for patients that can easily be dealt with in a community pharmacy setting.
- The community pharmacy should be viewed as an integral part of primary care with improved referral pathways to and from each setting including out of hours.

If the community pharmacy network is resourced to help alleviate the burden on other areas of the NHS, money will be saved for the NHS while supporting person-centred, safe and effective care in the most appropriate setting.

¹ Community Pharmacy Management of Minor Illness (MINA Study) – Pharmacy Research UK – January 2014.

Prevent

Build on the Public Health Service to facilitate healthy living for those with and without long term conditions

Why

We believe that the community pharmacy network can be at the forefront of tackling the country's public health challenges to prevent ill health occurring.

Support to improve health outcomes should be provided by pharmacy teams in partnership with patients. One outcome of this would be to prevent many inappropriate hospital admissions relating to public health causes.

How

A number of public health areas should be expanded and resourced through the community pharmacy network including:

- NHS Vaccination services
- Alcohol misuse awareness service
- Current sexual health services should be enhanced

Community Pharmacy Scotland believes that community pharmacy teams can deliver even more to support the public health of the nation and asks for support to enable this to happen. Fewer people in ill health = Saving in monetary terms.

Support

Working with the public (including carers) to maximise the benefits of their medication

Why

A reduction in inappropriate hospital admissions, reduced medicine waste and improved quality of life can all be achieved when the public are supported to get the best from their medication.

The network of community pharmacy healthcare professionals can use their expertise in medicines to support these areas in a cost effective manner ensuring that valuable NHS resources are used appropriately.

How

The potential of the Chronic Medication Service (CMS) should be fully realised in a variety of ways:

- Working in partnership and integrating further with NHS colleagues and services
- Targeted support can be delivered for those most likely to suffer ill health
- Policy on Polypharmacy (people on five or more medicines) should be incorporated formally into CMS²

Community Pharmacy Scotland seeks a commitment to proper funding and resource to support continued contractual development with CMS in line with many of the aspirations outlined in the Prescription for Excellence national strategy.

² 1 in 5 adults in Scotland are dispensed 5 or more medicines - Scottish Patient Safety Programme - September 2015.