MARCH 2008

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the Spring 2008 edition of Public Health Pharmacy News. This is an informal communication which highlights some pertinent and some social issues associated with Public Health Pharmacy in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

Please take time to read this and contact the relevant person should you require further information or clarification.

If you have any snippets of public health information that you would like to communicate to the wider pharmacy community in Greater Glasgow and Clyde, then please write, e-mail or phone our secretary, Karen Carberry.

Phone: 0141 201 4824
E-mail: karen.carberry@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
Address: Public Health Pharmacy, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Dalian House, 350 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G3 8YU

STARTING FRESH: THE PHARMACY SMOKING CESSATION SERVICE - HEALTHY LIFESTYLE AWARD

At a ceremony in Edinburgh in November 2007, the NHS Healthy Lifestyle Award was awarded to June Waugh from the Pharmacy Starting Fresh Team. June has been developing and organising the pharmacy smoking cessation service, Starting Fresh, since 2003. It has expanded to become the largest of its kind in the UK as more than 53,000 people have now used the service. Starting Fresh provides customers at pharmacies with a ‘one stop shop’ offering expert support and advice combined with nicotine replacement therapy.

Brenda Jennings, Project Assistant, June Waugh, Project Officer, Liz Grant, Public Health Pharmacist and Karen Carberry, Pharmacy Secretary, at the ceremony with their award.
SMOKEFREE PHARMACY SERVICES

Good bye Starting Fresh,
Hello NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde Smokefree Pharmacy Services!

You will now hopefully have your new posters and window stickers in the pharmacy depicting the newly revamped NHS GG&C Smokefree Pharmacy Services. Smokefree is the generic term for all cessation and prevention services running throughout NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde so you will see the same image in different colours across all the services.

Lots more advertising materials will be coming your way throughout the coming months but remember if you are ever short of anything just contact the office!

SMOKEFREE PHARMACY SERVICES – TRAINING DAYS

If you wish to book a place on one the following training days, please e-mail june.waugh@ggc.scot.nhs.uk with your details and you will receive confirmation if you secure a place.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Start time</th>
<th>Finish time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 8 May</td>
<td>9.15 am</td>
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<td>Board Room, Dalian House</td>
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<td>Friday 13 June</td>
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<td>Thursday 28 August</td>
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<td>Thursday 25 September</td>
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<td>Wednesday 26 November</td>
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EAST GLASGOW: SMOKEFREE YOUTH SERVICES

East Glasgow now has a tobacco training officer to support young people. In support of this new position it is worth highlighting MHRA advice for adolescents (12-18 years) who wish to use NRT.

“Adolescents are three times more likely to become addicted smokers for life and helping teenagers quit with the help of NRT, could prevent decades of continued tobacco use and subsequent ill-health. Studies indicate that NRT is as well tolerated by teenagers as it is with adults and is certainly safer than smoking. Furthermore, young patients are much more likely to have better general health than older smokers. The working group also considered that there was no evidence that indicated adolescents would abuse/misuse NRT. The working group did, however advise that if a teenager (12-18 years) needs to use NRT for longer than 12 weeks, this should be discussed with a Healthcare professional.”

SmokeFree pharmacists can support adolescents for 12 weeks in the usual manner. Support and links can also be made with Andy Scott, Tobacco Training Officer, Youth Services, should there be teenagers wishing additional support.

Contact details Tel. 0141 201 9826 email: andrew.scott@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
PHARMACY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN 2007

The sixth Pharmacy Awareness Campaign ran from 20 August 2007 until 2 September 2007.

All pharmacies in the NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde area were encouraged to participate in the campaign “Just Ask your pharmacist about Health”.

Activities organised by the pharmacies included healthy eating, exercise, breast cancer awareness and asthma awareness. Many pharmacies took the time to organise window and in-store displays. Well done to all who participated. The winners were:

1st place – Ian Mahon and his staff at Cadder Pharmacy
   Silver Salver & Gift Vouchers.
2nd place – Lloyds Pharmacy, 523 Clarkston Place
   Gift Vouchers.
3rd place – William Morrison Pharmacy, Newlands.
   Gift Vouchers.

Norma Choat, Pharmacy Public Health Facilitator
norma.choat@nhs.net

VACCINE AUDIT IN PRIMARY CARE

Subsequent to a vaccine incident in Grampian and a review of vaccine storage records in GP practices, a comprehensive audit of vaccine storage in all GP surgeries in NHSGGC was undertaken over the last 6 months. A steering group and project team were established to monitor the project, undertake the practice visits and review any practices referred for further support. Following the visits, practices were provided with individualised feedback reports and asked to return a signed copy if the recommendations were accepted. All practices (270 main surgeries plus 39 branch surgeries) participated. The bar chart below outlines the frequency with which improvements were required.

Advice given/recommendations for improvement

![Bar chart showing frequency of improvements needed in various areas]
Where necessary, follow-up was arranged (e.g. further submission of temperature records after improvements had been implemented) and this was required in half of the practices. In a small number of practices (9%) further review was required. The steering group was satisfied that there were no circumstances where revaccination was necessary. The key learning points from the project were that practices required further education and support in relation to:

- the purchasing, maintenance and calibration of suitable fridge and temperature-monitoring equipment;
- the positioning and storage of vaccines within the fridge compartment;
- the need to ensure staff understand the importance of, and the process for, temperature recording including action taken in the event of abnormal temperatures;
- training provision for all staff involved in vaccine storage and handling (clinical and non-clinical);
- ensuring that validated cool boxes are used when transporting vaccines outside of the practice.

The report makes recommendations to develop best practice in NHSGG&C to ensure satisfactory storage of vaccines which requires additional resource but may be cost-saving in avoiding future storage incidents. The report’s findings will be further discussed with all stakeholders in NHSGG&C, including CHCPs, to agree how best to take forward these recommendations. The full report is available on request from Liz McGovern, Specialist in Pharmaceutical Public Health on 201 4777.

PHARMACY PUBLIC HEALTH IMPROVEMENT WEBSITE

We are delighted to inform you that we have developed a new website. This website is specifically aimed at community pharmacists and their staff who work in the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde area but will be helpful to all who are active in public health improvement. It provides information on health improvement topics which relate to community pharmacy practice and today's public health agendas, giving detailed advice and contacts useful in delivering these agendas.

Information is also available on future training events and public health events. You can access the website at: www.nhsggc.org.uk/cphi Have a look and let us have any comments or recommendations.

ALL YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT CLINICAL GOVERNANCE BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK! OPEN ONLY TO NORTH, EAST & SOUTH WEST STAFF

A Clinical Governance training event will be jointly hosted by your CH(C)P, Community Pharmacy Clinical Governance Audit Facilitators and CPDT on the morning and afternoon of Wednesday 26 March in Board Room 2, Dalian House. This will be a great way to learn more about implementing this in practice with some fun and also gives you and your support staff the opportunity to explore some of the new clinical governance supporting facilities that have been produced recently. The event is suitable for Pharmacists, Pre-Registration Students and Registered Pharmacy Technicians.

If you are interested in attending either the morning or afternoon session, please contact Bridie McCallum to book a place. You can contact Bridie on 201 5638 or send her an e-mail bridie.mccallum@ggc.scot.nhs.uk Can you please also indicate if you require lunch and if you have special dietary requirements.