Dear Colleague

Ayrshire and Arran Pharmacy Contractors Committee met in June 2010. Below is an update of the discussions.

1. C. Tait and J. Gallagher attended a Council meeting of Community Pharmacy Scotland in May. At this meeting the office bearers for the Board of CPS were elected.
   Other topics included
   - CMS WHICH COMMENCED 11TH MAY 2010. This will be a phased implementation limited to a maximum of 50 patients until end December 2010.
     A review group is being set up which is independent of CPS and SG. Any issues which you may have please communicate with CPS.
   - Discussion concerning GPhC consultation.
   - Discussion of Control of Entry consultation.

2. MAR sheets A paper was presented to the Area Professional Committee by J. Mitchell. The APPC was supportive of the concept.
   At our Contractors Committee meeting it was our understanding there has been a lack of communication between Primary Care/Pharmacy Contractors/patients/Social Services and pharmacists involved in this pilot.
   The Contractors Committee would like to see the SOP for the pilot sites and also a Service Specification from Primary Care.

3. A meeting is being arranged, hopefully mid-end July, for discussions on locally negotiated services. At this we will be attempting to get an uplift on current fees and will be discussing the oxygen contract (is this now fit for purpose due to changes with oxygen supply?) and also denaturing kits for destruction of controlled drugs returned by patients.

4. Prescribing projects substitution. The Contractors Committee is extremely unhappy about some of the proposed projects, in particular Venlafaxine > Venaxx XL.
   Supplies of this product are not available from main line wholesalers. The Committee will be writing to Mrs Hatton of NHS A & A expressing our concerns.

5. Direct To Pharmacy Some products are extremely difficult and time consuming to source. Again contact CPS if problems arise in your pharmacy.

AGAIN I WOULD ASK ALL PHARMACISTS TO SEND THEIR E-MAIL ADDRESS TO CPS

Kind regards

Janet Gallagher

Secretary Ayrshire and Arran Pharmacy Contractors Committee