

## **NHS Forth Valley Community Pharmacy Palliative Care Network**

### **Introduction**

This service specification forms the basis for the network community pharmacists to provide a pharmaceutical care service to palliative care patients in Forth Valley. It will be carried out in accordance with the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Code of Ethics and Standards.

### **1. Service Description**

To establish a network of trained community pharmacists, based on geographical Localities, providing a pharmaceutical palliative care service to cancer patients in Forth Valley.

### **2. Aims & Objectives of the Service**

- 2.1 To ensure that patients requiring palliative care receive continuity of supply of essential medicines and devices for drug delivery.
- 2.2 To create a network of specialist community pharmacies to provide information and advice on the pharmaceutical aspects of palliative care to patients, carers, GPs nurses and other community pharmacists.

### **3. Service Outline**

#### **(a) Palliative Care Network Pharmacists:**

1. Maintain stock of commonly used specialist and non-specialist palliative care medicines as documented in the palliative care stock list
2. Will be responsible for supplying palliative care medication , pharmaceutical advice and education to patients, carers, GPs, nurses, and other community pharmacists, including out of hours, if necessary
3. Provide a continuity of pharmaceutical palliative care service in your locality

4. To provide support and advice on Palliative Care to other Community Pharmacists within Forth Valley
5. Work in partnership with local GPs, District Nurses, Macmillan Nurses and the Area Specialist Palliative Care Pharmacist
6. Maintain records of Palliative Care activity and care provided
7. Ensure that he/she obtains, and maintains on a regular basis up to date knowledge relevant to providing pharmaceutical care for palliative patients and attend at least two of the four peer review sessions annually
8. Complete the NES Palliative Care distance learning pack within 6 months of joining the network
9. Undertake further training in Palliative Care, if required

**(b) Responsibilities of Area Specialist Palliative Care Pharmacist**

1. To provide, directly or indirectly, initial and ongoing training in palliative care to locality pharmacists.
2. To provide support and advice to locality palliative care pharmacists.
3. To facilitate liaison between primary and secondary care pharmacists.
4. To organise regular peer review sessions (quarterly)
5. To ensure adequate information/training for on call pharmacists in Acute Services.

**(c) Responsibilities of the Participating contractor**

1. To ensure that the pharmacists and staff involved in the provision of the service have relevant knowledge and are appropriately trained in the operation of the service
2. To notify primary care of any staff changes

**(d) Responsibilities of CHP Lead Pharmacists**

1. Liaise with the Area Managers in the event of a network pharmacist moving on and secure a new pharmacist
2. Dealing with any complaints or issues raised by service users

#### **4. Quality Indicators**

- 4.1 The network reviews its standard operating procedures and palliative care stock lists on an annual basis.
- 4.2 The network can demonstrate that pharmacists are involved in the provision of the service have undertaken CPD relevant to this service.
- 4.3 The pharmacy interventions are recorded by the network pharmacists and analysed on a 6 monthly basis
- 4.4 Discussing the general activity and audit results of the network to the MCN

#### **5. References**

- *Medicines, Ethics and Practice Guide (current edition)*. Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, London.