

Pharmacy opening times in North Ayrshire

With many GP practices and pharmacies closing for the May bank holiday (Monday 29 May), North Ayrshire residents are being urged to prepare to cope with any common health concerns.

Community pharmacists can answer questions on choosing and using the right medicine and provide easy-to-understand advice on treating everyday ailments such as coughs, colds and flu. NHS 24 also has a number of community pharmacists who are able to answer medicine and pharmacy-related questions over the telephone on freephone 111.

You can also do a number of things to ensure you are prepared to deal with common illnesses for the coming months. Have a sufficient supply of medicines like paracetamol, sore throat and cough remedies, as these will help to relieve the symptoms of common ailments. If you take regular medication, check your existing supplies and only order what you need to ensure you have enough to see you through the bank holiday weekend.

What your community pharmacist can do:

- If you qualify for the Minor Ailments Service your community pharmacist may prescribe medication for you following a consultation.
- Give you advice on the best way to take your medicines.
- Give women advice and supply emergency hormonal contraception.
- Dispense prescriptions.
- Give advice on diet and exercise.
- Give advice, support and where appropriate, prescribe nicotine replacement therapy to those giving up smoking.
- Hold records of your medicines to ensure that the safety of any future medication is checked.
- Provide a private area to discuss sensitive issues.

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- Give you advice over the telephone.

Many pharmacies also offer:

- advice on travel health;
- pregnancy testing;
- collection and delivery of prescriptions;
- supervised methadone supply; and
- needle exchange.

Most pharmacies in North Ayrshire will be closed on Monday 29 May 2017 with the **exception** of:

- Well Pharmacy, 18 - 20 Main Street, Beith, open 9am – 6pm.
- Boots the Chemist, 1 Fullarton Square, Irvine, open 10am – 5pm.
- Superdrug Pharmacy, 6b Aitken Street, Largs, open 8.30am – 5.30pm.
- Halliday Pharmacy, 5 Aitken Street, Largs, open 8.30am – 4pm.
- Morrisons Pharmacy, 4 Irvine Road, Largs, open 9am – 5pm.
- Boots, 77 Dockhead Street, Saltcoats, open 9am – 5.30pm.
- Arran (Lamlash) Pharmacy, Red House, Lamlash, Isle of Arran, open 9am – 4pm.
- Arran Pharmacy, Shore Road, Whiting Bay, Isle of Arran, open 11am – 3pm (pharmacist available between 1pm and 2pm).
- Arran Pharmacy, Brodick, open 9am – 4pm.
- Cumbrae Pharmacy, 30 Stuart Street, Millport, open 9am – 1pm and 1.30pm - 5.30pm.

If you need a doctor urgently and your GP's surgery is closed, call NHS 24 on 111.

For emergency dental treatment, call NHS 24 on 111.

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For further media enquiries about this topic, please contact:

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Vhairi Slaven
Communications Assistant
NHS Ayrshire & Arran
University Hospital Crosshouse
Kilmarnock KA2 0BB

Telephone: 01563 826110
Out-of-hours: 07769 648975

Vhairi.Slaven@aapct.scot.nhs.uk

www.nhsaaa.net

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