Community pharmacies open in East Ayrshire over the New Year holiday period

Ayrshire and Arran's community pharmacies can help you battle the winter blues with a healthy dose of good advice.

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 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 winter 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 weekends, public holidays and holidays away from home.

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.
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- Hold records of your medicines to ensure that the safety of any future medication is checked.
- Provide a private area to discuss sensitive issues.
- Give you advice over the telephone.

Many pharmacies also offer
- Advice on travel health.
- Pregnancy testing.
- Collection and delivery of prescriptions.
- Supervised methadone supply.
- Needle exchange.

Over New Year, GP practices will be closed for four days from New Year’s Day until Tuesday 5 January. During this time, you can still get advice from your community pharmacist.

Thursday 31 December 2015
All pharmacies will open and close as normal with the exception of:
- Wm Morrison Pharmacy, West Langlands Street, Kilmarnock – closes at 5.30pm

Friday 1 January 2016
All pharmacies will be closed except:
- Boots UK Ltd, 5 Burns Precinct, Kilmarnock. Open 2pm – 4pm.
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 120 Glasgow Road, Kilmarnock. Open 12noon – 2pm

Saturday 2 January 2016
All pharmacies will be closed except:
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 178 Main Street, Auchinleck. Open 9am – 1pm.
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 9B Townhead Street, Cumnock. Open 9am – 5pm
- R W McConnell, 27 Mauchline Road, Hurlford. Open 9am – 12noon.
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- Boots Chemists, 62/70 King Street, Kilmarnock. Open 8.45am – 5.30pm.
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 120 Glasgow Road, Kilmarnock. Open 9am – 5.30pm.
- Morrisons, West Langlands Street, Kilmarnock. Open 8am – 8pm.
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 16 Central Avenue, Kilmarnock. Open 9am – 5pm.
- Well Pharmacy, 1/5 Loudoun Street, Mauchline. Open 9am – 1pm.
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 24 The Castle, New Cumnock. Open 9am – 1pm.

Sunday 3 January 2016
All pharmacies will be closed except:
- Boots Chemists, 62/70 King Street, Kilmarnock. Open 12noon – 4pm.
- Morrisons, West Langlands Street, Kilmarnock. Open 9am – 6pm.

Monday 4 January 2016
All pharmacies will be closed except:
- Boots Chemists, 62/70 King Street, Kilmarnock. Open 10am – 5pm.
- Boots UK Ltd, 5 Burns Precinct, Kilmarnock. Open 9am – 1pm.
- Boots UK Ltd, 63 Grange Street, Kilmarnock. Open 10am – 5pm.
- Boots UK, 9/11 St Marnock Street, Kilmarnock. Open 10am – 3pm.
- Morrisons, West Langlands Street, Kilmarnock. Open 9am – 5pm.
- Deans Healthcare, 53 MacPhail Drive, Kilmarnock. Open 9am – 6pm.
- Bellfield Pharmacy, 89 Watriggs Road, Kilmarnock. Open 10am – 2pm.
- Kilmaurs Village Pharmacy, 13 Main Street, Kilmaurs. Open 9am – 1pm.
- R W McConnell, 30 Main Street, Newmilns. Open 9am – 1pm.
- Ochiltree Pharmacy, 90 Main Street, Ochiltree. Open 9am – 5.30pm.
- Boots UK Ltd, 1 Doonside Avenue, Patna. Open 10am – 2pm.
- Boots UK Ltd, 8 Main Street, Stewarton. Open 11am – 4pm.

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.

For further media enquiries about this topic, please contact:

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