

IAN STRACHAN, CHAIR NPA

Community Pharmacy – clinical, personal and local

The NPA believe there is no sustainable solution to the NHS capacity crisis that doesn't involve community pharmacy. The reason? Because what effects primary care, secondary care and social care impacts upon community pharmacy and vice versa.

Ian Strachan NPA chairman explained how integration can and should be achieved through collaborating with the wider community pharmacy network and not necessarily within those pharmacies with proximity to surgeries.

The NPA argue that demand pressures and bottlenecks along with lifestyle interventions and the management of complex caseload are best addressed through the community pharmacy network. This is because pharmacy sees patients 14-20 times per year which contrasts to only 4-5 times in primary care. The second reason is because of community pharmacies unique ability to access patients. Community pharmacy is highly trusted and respected Strachan adds. Combined with a 5 year clinically underpinned Master's degree it is ready made solution to the demand pressures facing a demoralised NHS.

Strachan finished by reaching out to the developers to send an uncompromising message. That despite the adversity, pharmacy is open for business within the estates market. Community pharmacy will mould its future because it is needed and trusted. Community pharmacy makes sense.