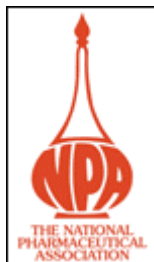


Press Release



March 2004

NPA LAUNCHES PARTNERSHIP WITH MACMILLAN CANCER RELIEF

The National Pharmaceutical Association (NPA), the trade body which represents the professional and commercial interests of the nation's community pharmacists, has chosen Macmillan Cancer Relief as its charity partner.

The NPA will support Macmillan over the next two years by encouraging its members to be involved in a variety of fundraising activities to raise funds for Macmillan and promote awareness of Macmillan's work through Macmillan campaign information. Fundraising activities for 2004 include pin badges in participating community pharmacies and involvement in Macmillan's "Week of Hats" fundraising initiative, which is taking place between 26th June and 4 July, 2004.

Money raised will benefit Macmillan's increasing range of services, including Macmillan nurses and doctors, cancer care centres, a range of cancer information and direct financial help for those who need it most.

NPA Head of Public Relations, Judy Viitanen says, "As the face and voice of community pharmacy we can play a valuable role in highlighting to pharmacy users the excellent work that Macmillan does. We are sure that our members will want to help to raise money to support the one million people currently living with cancer throughout the UK."

Judy Beard, director of fundraising, Macmillan added, "We are thrilled to be working with such an established and successful trade association, who like us have good links with local communities. Their pledge to encourage their pharmacist members to raise money as well support us with our campaign work will help us provide the practical and emotional support which will change the lives of people living with cancer today."

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

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About Macmillan Cancer Relief

Macmillan Cancer Relief helps people who are living with cancer. In the UK, over a million people are living with cancer and four in ten people will be diagnosed with cancer during their lifetime. These figures are forecast to increase, and so will the demand for our services. As well as taking action today to support people with cancer, we're shaping the future of cancer care. Our increasing range of services, including our Macmillan nurses and doctors, cancer care centres, a range of cancer information and even direct financial help for those who need it most, is funded entirely through the generosity of our supporters. Thanks to them, Macmillan provides the practical and emotional support which will change the lives of people living with cancer today – and tomorrow.

For cancer information and support, contact the Macmillan CancerLine (Monday – Friday, 9.00am – 6.00pm) by freephone: 0808 808 2020, textphone: 0808 808 0121 or email: cancerline@macmillan.org.uk; or log on to <http://www.macmillan.org.uk/>.

About the NPA

The National Pharmaceutical Association (NPA) represents the professional and commercial interests of the owners of some 11,000 community pharmacies in the UK. As the pharmacy profession faces a challenging future, the NPA provides leadership, knowledge and advocacy for its membership and for the profession – and is regarded as the face and voice of UK community pharmacy. A key aspect of the Association's remit is to raise awareness of the pharmacy profession, and to promote community pharmacists' current and potential contribution to the health of the nation.