
COMMUNITY PHARMACY ARDEN

GENERAL UPDATE 9th February 2023

Information is subject to change and is as accurate as we can ascertain at date published.

PQS: Antibiotic review data published

The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) has published a spreadsheet showing which community pharmacy contractors have submitted data for their antibiotic review as part of the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2022/23. Details [here](#).

PQS: Declaration window now open

The declaration window for the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2022/23 is now open. Community pharmacy contractors can make a claim for a PQS payment up until 11.59pm on Friday 3rd March 2023 through the Manage Your Service (MYS) portal. Details [here](#).

Valproate audit reminder

PSNC has issued a reminder about the mandatory national audit on valproate. The last day on which pharmacy contractors can start the audit is Saturday 18th February. NHSBSA has published an initial set of data about submissions so far and they will publish further updates over the next few weeks. Find out more [here](#).

SSPs: Penicillin V

Due to continuing supply issues, the eight Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) currently in effect for Penicillin V products (SSPs 040-047) which are due to end on 31 January are being extended. The end date for these SSPs will now be 28 February 2023. In addition, SSPs 043-047 have been amended to remove the options of azithromycin and clarithromycin.

If you have any questions regarding the SSPs please contact the NHS Prescription Service:

Email: nhsbsa.prescriptionservices@nhsbsa.nhs.uk, Telephone: 0300 330 1349

To access the latest information about SSPs (including supporting guidance), please visit the following link:

<https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/serious-shortage-protocols-ssps>.

Data Security and Protection Webinar

PSNC will be holding a webinar on Thursday 23rd February at 7pm to help community pharmacy contractors to complete the Data Security and Protection Toolkit for 2022/23. Details [here](#).

Pharmacy Pressures Survey

PSNC has launched a nationwide Pharmacy Pressures Survey to help demonstrate the scale of the pressures that the community pharmacy sector is under, providing important data for use in future negotiations and their work to influence Government. We would be grateful if you could spare a few minutes to complete these surveys. The surveys will be open until Monday 20th February. Details [here](#).

You can find the direct links to the surveys below:

[Pharmacy business owners/head office representatives survey](#)

[Pharmacy teams survey](#)

The LPC is also working towards raising awareness about the unprecedented pressures pharmacies are facing at the moment. Last week we had a very productive virtual meeting with Taiwo Owatemi, who is the MP for Coventry North West and also the Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Pharmacy Group. The Group has recently published The Future of Pharmacy Manifesto Report, which you can find [here](#). Ms Owatemi is very interested to hear about any concerns, issues, ideas and innovative solutions from pharmacies, so please let us know if there's anything you would like us to discuss with her.

The LPC is promoting the [#saveourpharmacies](#) media campaign. Pharmacies are encouraged to use this hashtag too on social media to highlight the pressures they face on a day-to-day basis. Find out more about this campaign [here](#).

Primary Care Wellbeing Survey

NHS England commissioned the Institute for Employment Studies to conduct a study of the wellbeing of the primary care workforce over a period of three years. This short survey is the sixth and final in a series of surveys, and will ask staff to reflect on their personal wellbeing as well as the functioning of their team and their experiences of working in their role. You can access this survey on the link below:

<https://online1.snapsurveys.com/interview/e4ec20e8-5856-4c29-b99b-ab905f38c4b3>

Mental Health First Aid Training: Coventry and Warwickshire

Please be reminded of the upcoming Mental Health First Aid Training courses running in March, April and May. You can find all the details [here](#). You can find the registration link [here](#).

Virtual Outcomes: Hypertension Case-Finding service, GP Surgery Training

One of the recent releases on Virtual Outcomes is a training course for pharmacies to share with their local GP surgeries to highlight the Hypertension Case-Finding service. This course is designed to give surgeries all the information they need to feel confident in signposting patients to their local pharmacy to have their blood pressure checked. The link to this course can be found [here](#).

Please remember that all Pharmacies in Coventry and Warwickshire have free access to the Virtual Outcomes training modules. You can find these by logging in with your pharmacy F-code [here](#).

Virtual Outcomes is also in the process of preparing training for the contraception supply service which will go live for both pharmacies and surgeries soon.

Independent Prescribing Pilot

If you are an IP currently working in Community Pharmacy and you would be interested in supporting the pilots, we would love to hear from you! There's some information about this on the NHS Futures platform [here](#) (you'll need to sign up with your NHS email to access this information). If you're interested in this opportunity, please contact Fiona Lowe – fionalowe@nhs.net.

Urgent and Emergency Care Recovery Plan

NHSE has published their [Recovery Plan for Urgent and Emergency Services](#). You can see PSNC's guidance published on our website [here](#).

NHS Hints and Tips

The new issue of NHS Hints and Tips has been published. You can download it from the NHSBSA website [here](#).

One Off Prescriptions & Nominations (Coventry & Warwickshire)

There have been instances of patients having to use more than one pharmacy over recent weeks with some supply chain issues or temporary closures etc. The GP practices don't need to change the regular nomination to allow different pharmacies to dispense – some do set up a one-off nomination through EMIS. When you dispense for a non-regular patient under these circumstances you must not change their permanent nomination unless it is at the express request of the patient and their decision should not impact on the supply against the presenting adhoc script. Read PSNC's guidance on nominations [here](#).

Special LPC Meeting

CPA is holding a virtual SMG on 9th February 2023 at 7-8pm to vote on the proposal to amend the constitution and extend the term of the newly formed LPC by a year to align with PSNC and other LPCs. You can find details [here](#).

Future Plans

We're planning to bring you some information from third party organisations in our regular LPC updates in the near future, such as medicine safety and other relevant information we hope you'll find useful.

Watch out for our first Services Update, which we're planning to send you at the beginning of March. Initially, this will be sent out monthly.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this update, please contact the LPC Team.

Copies of our previous newsletters can be found [here](#).

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USEFUL LINKS:

[CPA Website](#)

[CPHW Website](#)

[PSNC Newsletters](#)

[PSNC Payment Timetable and Deadline Tracker](#)

[PSNC Important Dates and Checklist](#)