



COMMUNITY PHARMACY ARDEN

GENERAL UPDATE 18th June 2026

Information is subject to change and is as accurate as we can ascertain at date published.
If your pharmacy is part of a larger organisation (CCA, IPA), please consult with your HO in relevant matters.

LOCAL/LPC NEWS

Message from ICB: Unifine SafeControl needles

Coventry & Warwickshire ICB have been made aware that there are ongoing difficulties for pharmacies trying to obtain stock of Unifine SafeControl needles. These needles are on the Coventry and Warwickshire formulary to be prescribed on FP10 for patients where an NHS-employed community nurse is administering their insulin injections. It is the preferred choice for Coventry community nursing teams and they have been trained on this specific product, therefore prescriptions should not be substituted with an alternative brand.

Owen Mumford have informed them of the following:

1. There are no stock shortages of Unifine SafeControl
2. AAH have stopped stocking Unifine SafeControl.
3. Phoenix and Alliance have confirmed that they have Unifine SafeControl in their warehouses.

We hope that this information is helpful in obtaining supplies for your patients. If you have any further problems or queries, please contact: natalie.bradford@owenmumford.com, or the ICB Medicines Optimisation team cwicb.mot@nhs.net

CPE Regional Workshop, West Midlands – Tuesday 30th June 2026

CPE's regional roadshows are back – designed not just to update you, but to give you clear, usable insight and a genuine say in what comes next for community pharmacy.

These interactive evening sessions bring you face-to-face with the negotiators representing you, cutting through the noise to focus on what matters most to your business and your patients right now.

Why it's worth your time:



Understand what's really happening: get candid, jargon-free updates on negotiations and sector pressures.

Take away practical insight: leave with a clearer view of what changes could mean for your pharmacy.

Influence the agenda: share your realities to help shape priorities and decisions.

Connect locally: compare challenges and approaches with peers facing the same pressures.

This isn't just a briefing – it's your opportunity to be informed, be heard, and help steer the future!

Details for the West-Midlands event are as follows:

Location: The National Motorcycle Museum, Coventry Road, Hampton in Arden B92 0EJ

Date & Time: Tuesday, June 30 • 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM

[Book your place now](#)

REGIONAL/ NATIONAL NEWS

New MenB Vaccination Service for Community Pharmacies

Community pharmacies will begin delivering a new MenB vaccination service from late July 2026. The programme is aimed at Year 13 students and under-25s entering university or residential further education for the first time.

Eligible patients will receive two doses of the vaccine to help protect against Meningococcal B disease ahead of the autumn term. The service has been introduced in response to a recent increase in MenB cases in England, with around one million young people expected to be eligible.

Meningococcal B (MenB) time limited vaccination offer letter: [Meningococcal B \(MenB\) time limited vaccination offer letter - GOV.UK](#)

Read further details: [Pharmacies to provide new MenB vac service - Community Pharmacy England](#)

Further details are expected once national negotiations are complete.

Contractual Updates – Action Required EPS/HCFs/Temporary Suspension of Services

The following communication was sent to all community pharmacies by the Pharmacy & Optometry Primary Care Commissioning Team Office of the West Midlands on 10th June 2026: [Contractual Updates – Action Required EPS/HCFs/Temporary Suspension of Services – Arden LPC](#)



Expanded Children's Flu Vaccination Advanced Service (October 2026)

From 1 October 2026, community pharmacies in England will be able to provide an expanded Children's Flu Vaccination Advanced Service following agreement with NHS England.

Key changes include:

- The existing service for 2- and 3-year-olds will continue.
- The service is being expanded to include:
 - Clinically at-risk children aged 2 years to under 18 years.
 - School-aged children (Reception to Year 11) who missed their vaccination at school (available from 1 December 2026).

Payment:

- Pharmacies will receive £10.06 per vaccination, increased from £9.58 in 2025/26.
- Funding comes from NHS vaccination budgets, not the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework budget.

Service Aims:

- Increase flu vaccination uptake among children.
- Support GP practices by vaccinating clinically at-risk children.
- Provide catch-up opportunities for school-aged children who missed vaccination through the School Aged Immunisation Service.

Vaccine Supply:

- Most eligible children will receive the live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) nasal spray, supplied centrally to pharmacies.

Further details will be published in the service specification from NHS England.

Read more about the service: [Childhood Flu Vaccination Service - Community Pharmacy England](#)

Additional eligible cohort added to adult flu vac service

The [amendment to the national flu letter](#) also announces the inclusion of a new eligible cohort of patients for the adult flu vaccination service later this year – people aged 16 years and over experiencing homelessness. This is defined as “rough sleepers and those using homeless hostels or night-shelters, rather than the broader definitions of homelessness”.

This addition to the eligible cohorts follows JCVI advice to the Government in June 2024. NHS England will issue further guidance on the addition of this cohort in due course.



Advice published for newly qualified prescribing pharmacists

The General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) has published advice for newly qualified prescribing pharmacists, ahead of the first cohort joining the register as independent prescribers from summer 2026.

The advice is aimed at pharmacists who have completed their MPharm under the 2021 initial education and training standards and will join the register as pharmacist independent prescribers. It highlights key considerations to support safe and effective prescribing from the outset, including:

- working within individual scope of practice;
- seeking appropriate support and mentorship;
- making prescribing decisions in the best interests of patients; and
- maintaining appropriate indemnity cover and engaging with revalidation.

[Read the GPhC's advice for newly qualified prescribing pharmacists](#)

The publication of the GPhC advice comes as [independent prescribing](#) is due to be introduced into the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) in 2026/27 as an extension of Pharmacy First and the Pharmacy Contraception Service from autumn 2026.

The 2026/27 National Cardiovascular Disease Prevention (CVDP) Lipid Point of Care Testing (PoCT) Community Pharmacy Pilot, led by Barts Health NHS Trust.

The pilot supports lipid testing in community pharmacies to help identify cardiovascular risk earlier and improve prevention and treatment outcomes.

The Expression of Interest deadline has now passed. However, if you are interested in learning more or discussing potential opportunities, please contact us.

Important Dates for 2026

Don't forget to check the CPE website for upcoming important dates [here](#).

Advance payment timetable for 2026

CPE has published an Advanced Payment Timetable for 2026, which you can find [here](#).



Latest Supply Issues: Shortages and SSPs

You can find all the latest supply notifications and SSPs [here](#).

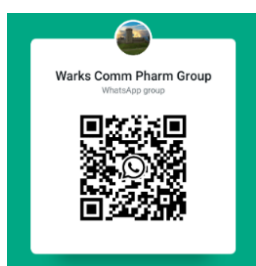


[CPA Patient-facing Website and Facebook Page](#)

[Pharmacy Coventry & Warwickshire Website](#)

[Pharmacy Coventry and Warwickshire Facebook Page](#)

Finally... WhatsApp Groups Reminder to share the WhatsApp groups with others who work in community pharmacy within Coventry and Warwickshire.



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USEFUL LINKS:

[CPA Website](#)

[CPHW Website](#)

[CPE Newsletters](#)

[CPE Payment Timetable and Deadline Tracker](#)

[CPE CPCF Important Dates](#)

[Price Concessions](#)