



COMMUNITY PHARMACY ARDEN GENERAL UPDATE 1st October 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.

Autumn/Winter Vaccination Campaign Gets Underway

The Autumn/Winter Seasonal Vaccination Campaign gets underway today, with community pharmacies playing a key role in protecting patients against COVID-19 and flu. Contractors registered to provide COVID-19 vaccinations can now begin delivering the service, while flu vaccinations for eligible adult cohorts can also commence. Pregnant women have been eligible for flu vaccination since 1st September.

Further information:

[Flu Vaccination – Arden LPC](#)

[Covid Vaccination – Arden LPC](#)

Children's Seasonal Flu Vaccination Service Now Underway

The Children's Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Service also launches today, with pharmacies registered to provide the service now able to administer flu vaccinations to eligible children and young people. From today, pharmacies providing this service can vaccinate:

- *All children aged 2 and 3 years.*
- *Clinically at-risk children aged 4–17 years.*
- *Young people aged 16 and 17 years who are in the people experiencing homelessness risk group.*

Please note that catch-up vaccinations for school-aged children (Reception to Year 11) cannot commence until 1st December 2026.

This [poster](#) summarises the recommended flu vaccines for children.



Reminder: Are you registered to use RAVS?

Community pharmacies delivering NHS vaccinations are reminded that all vaccinations must be recorded using the NHS Record a Vaccination Service (RAVS). RAVS is now the sole approved platform for recording NHS vaccinations.

Already using RAVS?

Before administering vaccines, ensure that all vaccine batch details have been added within the vaccine section of your account.

Need to register?

Pharmacies not yet signed up will need to create a RAVS account before providing vaccination services. You can create an account [here](#).

Important Recording Requirement

NHS vaccinations should no longer be recorded in PharmOutcomes or any other clinical system. All NHS vaccination activity must be entered directly into RAVS to ensure compliance with NHS requirements.

Pharmacy owners are advised to contact their IT system provider to see if RAVS can be integrated into their current system for the coming season – otherwise RAVS will have to be used as a standalone system.

[Learn more about RAVS](#)

[RAVS user guide](#)

[Request access to RAVS](#)

[Help and support](#)

Visit CPE for more guidance on RAVS and the upcoming seasonal vaccination services [here](#).

Levemir® discontinuation – are you still dispensing it?

Levemir® (insulin detemir) is being discontinued, with UK stocks expected to be exhausted by the end of December 2026.

Despite previous communications, a significant number of patients are still receiving Levemir®.

Community pharmacy teams can help identify patients who may not yet have been switched.

If you are still dispensing Levemir® FlexPen® or Penfill®:



- Ask the patient whether they are aware Levemir® is being discontinued and whether a switch has been arranged.
- If not, encourage them to contact their GP practice or diabetes team promptly for review.
- Do not advise patients to stop Levemir® or independently change their insulin.
- When patients are switched, carefully check the new insulin, strength, dose and device, and ensure the patient understands how to use it.

Please make sure all members of the pharmacy team, including dispensary staff, are aware so that patients still receiving Levemir® can be identified.

The discontinuation is not due to a safety or quality issue.

Adrenaline Auto-Injectors in Schools

From 1st September 2026, new statutory guidance requires schools in England to stock spare adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs) for emergency use.

Under the Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2017, pharmacies can supply spare AAIs to schools without a prescription. Requests must be made in writing by the headteacher/principal and confirm the school name, quantity required and that the devices are for emergency use.

Schools may request pairs of devices, typically 150 microgram for children under 6 or 300 microgram for children over 6. Any brand can be supplied, with the transaction being private and subject to a pharmacy fee.

Pharmacy teams should familiarise themselves with the new statutory guidance and the arrangements for supplying emergency AAIs to schools.

Further information: [*Allergy Safety in Schools Statutory Guidance*](#)

First National Health Campaign Starts Soon!

The first 2026/27 national health campaign starts next week (Monday 5th October 2026).

All pharmacies will need to participate in the campaign, which focuses on the expectation that pharmacy staff are treated with respect so they can undertake their professional practice safely, and in the best interest of both patients and the people working in our pharmacies.

How to meet the requirements of the campaign



Pharmacy owners must promote the campaign to the public during the campaign period, **Monday 5th October 2026 to Sunday 25th October 2026** by promoting the campaign messages to the public, including any of the following:

- *Displaying posters relating to the campaign topics at the pharmacy;*
- *Information on your pharmacy's website; or*
- *Information posted on your pharmacy's social media channels.*

Pharmacy owners can use assets developed by NHS England [here](#) or CPE [here](#).

Community Pharmacy England's 2025/26 Annual Report

Key achievements include securing £3.073 billion in CPCF funding, agreement to write off £193 million in historic medicines margin over-delivery, and £153 million through medicines price concessions. CPEs focus now turns to contractual reform, the next CPCF negotiations and the Autumn Budget, as we continue working towards a sustainable future for the sector.

Read CPE's 2025/26 Annual Report: [CPE Annual Report for 2025/26](#)

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](#).



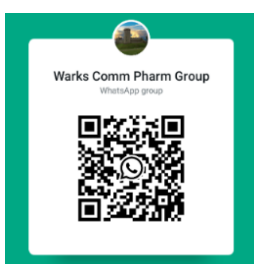
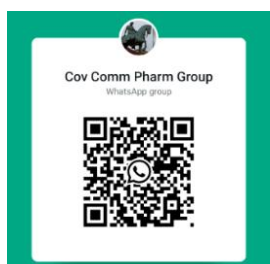
CPA Patient-facing Website and Facebook Page



[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](#)