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Discharge Medicines Service (DMS)

The DMS has got off to a good start from the RD&E and NDHT, with just under 200 referrals coming into community pharmacy in the first month of going live with the service.

The Devon Partnership Trust will also now be referring patients for whom ongoing adherence with medication is a significant concern and risk.

Initially this will only include discharges from Haytor ward (acute adult mental health ward in South Devon) and will be reviewed at the end of June. The referrals will be for patients who have a history of repeated non-adherence with their mental health medicines leading to harm or admission, and for new patients whose non-adherence is a significant concern and cannot be mitigated in other ways, such as with a long acting antipsychotic injection or through supported living.

As part of the referral you will be provided with the contact details for the community mental health team responsible for the care of that patient. We would encourage you to add this to the patient’s record and contact them should you have any concerns over uncollected medications or the patient’s presentation. Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust are planning to go live in July- hold the date of 14th July 2021 for the local engagement event.

Have you completed the HEE workforce survey? The 2021 Health Education England (HEE) Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey commenced earlier this month and contractors who received an email about the survey but who have not yet completed it are encouraged to do so as soon as possible.

This survey will gather a meaningful data set to inform future planning and system investment decisions in relation to the community pharmacy workforce across the NHS in England.

Data collection will close mid-June. The aggregated and anonymised datasets will be made publicly available in the autumn 2021.

The Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey 2021 is being conducted in partnership with NHS England and NHS Improvement, the Department for Health and Social Care, representative bodies from community pharmacy, professional bodies and the regulator.

The survey is managed by the University of Manchester and their research partner ICF on behalf of Health Education England.

The deadline to complete the survey is **11.59pm on Friday 18th June 2021**. [Read more about the survey](#)
[Frequently Asked Questions on the survey](#)

NHS Contracts and Inhaler Review Training (Plymouth only) FAQs

Following a number of queries regarding the new process using NHS standard contracts, the CCG have produced an FAQs document to answer common questions and provide some further clarity around what it is they are requesting. The deadline for the submission of Appendix 1 and Appendix B was the end of last month Monday 31st May - as these will determine the content of the contract paperwork. The second part of the process i.e. Appendix 2, policy submissions and contract agreements will have a cut-off date of 31st July 2021.

We have also obtained some generic policy documents which you can use if you do not already have these documents in place – these can be [found on our website here](#). If you have any further specific queries, you can contact the CCG at D-CCG.medicinesoptimisation@nhs.net.

GP CPCS update

We are starting to make progress with GP CPCS implementation and now have training dates booked for Torridge, Beacon & WEB PCN pharmacy teams who will be going live with the services within the next month. Invites are being sent out over the coming week. The sessions will provide a GP CPCS refresher as well as specific information on how the practices in your PCN will be sending referrals to you and what the re-escalation process will be.

We are asking for GP CPCS champions to be nominated in each pharmacy – it's really important that this person is able to advise and support weekend colleagues and locum/relief pharmacists when the normal pharmacist may not be available, so ideally the champion would be someone other than the regular pharmacist, such as a lead pharmacy technician. Please ensure at least 2 people from your pharmacy attend the event and that one of them is the champion – if this is not possible, whoever is able to attend should share the information within the pharmacy team so that all members of staff are aware of the service and the details specific to your pharmacy.

We are continuing to work with Michelle from NHSE&I (Implementation manager for GP CPCS) in conversations with PCNs across Devon and more will be going live in the coming months. Your PCN leads will be involved in local conversations and pass information through current communication channels to you. The LPC are here to support and facilitate those training sessions.(??) If you have any queries, please use our admin@devonlpc.org email address.

Request for expressions of interest for non-medical prescribing places

We are delighted to inform you that Health Education England (HEE) have confirmed to us that they have been successful in securing funding for non-medical prescribing places for community pharmacists in the South West (5 places in each of the LPC areas).

Funding has gone directly to the University of West of England (UWE) so there won't be funding from this pot for any other education provider. The course is planned to be delivered online so travel considerations shouldn't be a barrier to those who are working in Devon. This will be for September 2021 and Jan-Feb 2022 intake.

Each applicant must:

- Meet the minimum learning time requirements set by UWE, including 90 hours of learning in practice
- Have a defined area of practice in which to train as a prescriber and advise what that is
- Have secured a designated prescribing practitioner (DMP/DPP)
- Confirm their employer and where they are based in Devon
- Confirm whether they are applying for the September 2021 and Jan-Feb 2022 intake

Information on the UWE course is available here: <https://courses.uwe.ac.uk/Z51000077/non-medical-prescribing-independent-andor-supplementary-prescribing>

Expressions of interest, including information to show the above criteria can be met, should be submitted by pharmacists to admin@devonlpc.org as soon as possible, but at the latest by midday on Monday 14th June 2021 as we have to inform HEE by the 15th June at the latest.

Maintaining Records on PharmOutcomes

As community pharmacies across Devon play a greater role in becoming further integrated into the wider health system through services such as CPCS and GP CPCS, our profession will be working more closely with our colleagues in other primary care settings.

As part of the CPCS service (whether via 111 or GP referral) a post event message is sent to the patient's GP practice containing the information captured in the PharmOutcomes template. Please ensure that if any additional free text notes are added to the record that they are comprehensive and give appropriate levels of detail whilst being succinct. There have been a small handful of cases where the information recorded is ambiguous or incomplete, which has led to lengthy follow up processes both from GP and Pharmacy practices to resolve. To avoid any further time incumbencies or misunderstandings we would encourage you to ensure your note recording is relevant and would make sense to another health care professionals reviewing that provision record in another care setting.

We are entering the national awards season but is it worth entering? We think it is and urge everyone to give it a go

This year community pharmacy teams have made an extraordinary impact in their communities, especially those who have gone above-and-beyond during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

Is this you? Of course it is. Then why not consider an entry to at least one awards programme so you're in with a chance of picking up a coveted trophy, as well as well-deserved recognition for a job well-done.

It's easy

Awards coordinators just need a few details, and your all-important reasons for why you should win! For example, [here are the categories and questions for the Pharmacy Business awards](#) other awards are not that much different – maybe a few tweaks.



Going above-and-beyond is a frequent category in pharmacy awards

It's good to say well done!

You know that all the people on your team have been working incredibly hard over the last 15 months and throughout the pandemic.

An award will recognise their hard work and achievements and help boost staff morale (if you are all feeling a bit jaded). This is a great opportunity to say well done and thank you to your very own pharmacy heroes!

It'll get people talking about you and your pharmacy!

Winning an award is a great opportunity for free marketing and PR

Because you are worth it

Everyone who works in community pharmacy is amazing, caring and dedicated and this is your chance to let them know.

Awards with deadlines coming up soon

[Recognition of Excellence Awards](#) Closing date **Tuesday, 1 June 2021**

The only national awards programme exclusively for community pharmacy support staff (medicines counter assistant, delivery driver, dispensing assistant, health champion, pharmacy technician, team leader, non-pharmacist manager, or any other patient-facing role in the community pharmacy support team)

[Pharmacy Business Awards](#) Closing date **Friday, 18 June 2021**

[Independent Pharmacy Awards](#) Closing date **Monday, 19 July 2021**

Regs Reminder – access to Summary Care Records - What is required?

Pharmacy contractors must ensure that staff working at their pharmacy can access NHS Summary Care Records (SCR) and that access is consistent and reliable during the pharmacy's opening hours, in so far as that is within the control of the contractor.

SCRs can only be accessed by pharmacists and pharmacy technicians; this regulatory change does not amend that. Subject to the normal patient consent requirements, those registered professionals should access patients' SCRs whenever providing pharmaceutical services to the extent that they consider, in their clinical judgement, that it is appropriate to do so.

Examples of use of the SCR in practice include resolving prescription queries, advising patients on suitable medication, providing emergency supplies and when carrying out medication reviews.

Where can I get more support on this?

Further guidance on how to access and use SCRs can be found on PSNC's [SCR webpage](#).

Over a million more flu vaccination administered by community pharmacists during 2020/21

Nationally, Community Pharmacy teams have administered over a million more flu vaccinations under the national Flu Vaccination Service during 2020/21 than the previous year – a 62% increase. The NHS Business Services Authority has published the [Advanced Service Flu report](#) which shows that community pharmacists administered 2.76 million vaccination under the national Flu Vaccination Service in 2020/21, an increase from 1.72 million in the previous season.

In Devon, community pharmacy deliver just under 70,000 flu vaccinations, which is amazing. To help you prepare for the next 2021-22 flu season, we have commissioned flu vaccination training. Date 25 July 2021 book either a [morning session](#) or an [afternoon session](#). The cost per person is £95.00 to include trainer fees and venue. Venue: Exeter Court Hotel, Kennford, Exeter EX6 7UX. Tea and coffee will be provided.

Calling all Healthy Living Pharmacies in Torbay and South Devon – accredited e-Making Every Contact Count training 22nd June 6.30 pm to 9.30 pm.

The Torbay Healthy Lifestyles Team has offered e-MECC lite virtual training for pharmacy teams working in community pharmacy within the **Torbay and South Devon area**. The training session is FREE AND RSPH accredited so an invaluable opportunity for your Health Champions and other members of the pharmacy team who have contact with patients and the public. **This is perfect timing with the first mandated Community Pharmacy Public Health campaign of 2021-22 starting in June and running until the end of July** focusing on informing the public about the COVID-19 vaccine and encouraging people to take it up when it is offered to them;

MECC is an approach to behaviour change that uses day-to-day interactions that organisations and people have with other people to support them in making positive changes to their physical and mental health and wellbeing. **MECC is aimed at making conversations about lifestyles issues and choices easier and more meaningful**

Community pharmacies are well placed to have MECC conversations with their patients and customers. MECC can support signposting, Health Champions and running engaging public health campaigns, NMS, Discharge Medicines Service and helping people to make positive changes to their lifestyle.

Please email lynne.kilner@nhs.net to register.

An example of using MECC is shown below:

ASK – Have you ever thought of stopping or tried to stop before?

ASSIST – State that the best way of stopping smoking is with a combination of medication and specialist support. Discuss benefits and motivations for quitting i.e. personal health/family health, cost.

ACT – If they would like further information on what your Pharmacy and/or the Local Stop Smoking service could offer.

DEVON LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEE www.devonlpc.org

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If you would like us to remove your email address from our database, please email admin@devonlpc.org