



Welcome to the March 2022 edition of the Devon LPC Newsletter

It is very hard to believe that almost two years has passed since the pandemic swept in and we all had to change ways of working and the impact on all our lives is still being felt.

Community pharmacy team members have been on the frontline to support patients since the first day, and the Devon LPC committee members and Secretariat team would like to thank you all and emphasise how proud you should all be on the contribution you have made to the care of your local communities and patients.

We'd like you to tell us about your own successes and achievements, of your pharmacists and team members so that we can share them with our wider audiences and stakeholders.

Please send us your good news stories and where you and your team have made a real difference to patient care. We will send you a £20 book voucher for every story published. **Don't be shy, let your star(s) shine out!**

PSNC's Pharmacy Advice Audit 2022 – deadline extended to 11th March 2022 – please complete ASAP to make sure we have as much data as possible.

Thank you to everyone who has already taken part, we would love our participation rate to reach 100%, we are just under 60% currently. However, this has been a sterling effort by you all and much appreciated. If you can have a last push one day this week, that would be AMAZING! [Access the survey and resources here.](#)

Flu vaccination:

Devon pharmacies have delivered a staggering 124,242 flu jabs since the start of the season. We'd like to express our thanks to all of you for this achievement and for supporting Devon patients to keep safe and well.

New! Flu Vaccination Service 2022-23

NHSEI has published the flu vaccination reimbursement letter for the 2022-23 season. The letter provides information on the flu vaccines which will be reimbursable under the 2022-23 Community Pharmacy Seasonal Influenza Advanced Service, for the two cohorts (65 years and over and at-risk adults aged 18-64).

- Cohorts that were eligible in the 2021/22 season but that are not included in the cohorts for 2022/23 are: those aged 50 to 64 years
- Secondary school children in Years 7 to 11 (i.e. between 11 and 15 years of age)

The aim of the NHS flu vaccination programme for the 2022/23 season is to demonstrate a 100% offer and to achieve at least the uptake levels of 2021/22 for each cohort. Find out [more.](#)

Devon LPC New Address and Telephone Number

The LPC left Deer Park, Kennford which we had been working from for over 21 years on Friday 4th March 2022 as the lease on the premises expires this year. We haven't moved far away just down into Kennford on the A38. Our new address is: Room 16, Partridge House, A38, Kennford, EXETER EX6 7TW. The telephone number has also changed to 01392 719604.

[Deadline Tracker Resource](#)

The latest Devon community deadline tracker - a list of activities, tasks and workloads needing to be completed, whilst also providing a reminder of imminent deadlines coming up. The tracker is uploaded to the [Deadline Tracker Resource](#) page on the website, so that the pharmacy teams have a one-stop place to refer to.

New! Smoking Cessation Service

The new NHSEI commissioned Smoking Cessation Service (SCS) will officially commence on 10th March 2022. Community pharmacy contractors are now able to register to provide the service on the NHS Business Services Authority's (NHSBSA) Manage Your Service (MYS) portal. As it is an Advanced Service, pharmacy teams can choose whether to provide the service or not. The NHS Smoking Cessation Service in community pharmacy will allow NHS Trusts to refer patients to a pharmacy of their choice so they can receive continuing treatment, advice and support with their attempt to quit smoking when they are discharged from hospital. The service must be provided by a pharmacist, who will have to complete the NCSCT training (section 3 of the service specification) before providing the service. Pharmacies will need to have a CO monitor and disposable mouthpieces that meets the specification in Appendix A of the specification. Not all NHS Trusts / hospitals will immediately start to make referrals to the service,

The service is the second of the two new Advanced services to be introduced this financial year (the first being the Hypertension case-finding service) as one of the agreed outcomes from negotiations for [Year 3 of the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework](#).

[Read more about the service and view resources to support contractors](#)

Better Health Quit Campaign

FREE! To support the delivery of the mandatory Health Campaign during March, Virtual Outcomes has launched a new module. The module objectives are:

- To understand the background behind the campaign and how community pharmacy can support it
- To understand what the three key benefits are of quitting smoking
- To understand what resources are available to you to support customers wanting to quit smoking

The module is only 10 mins long. This online training is provided free of charge to all community pharmacies in Devon and is funded by Devon LPC to help pharmacies meet their requirement to deliver services and support health promotion activities throughout the year.

The link required to access the latest training is: <https://www.virtualoutcomes.co.uk/pharmacy-training>

Local Service Training Update:

Calling all Devon pharmacies commissioned to provide Supervised Consumption and Needle and Syringe Exchange by Devon County Council.

An update virtual training session will now be taking place on 29th March 2022 18:00-19:30. Please find a link below where you can register for this event:

[Supervised Consumption & NSP Update Training – 29th March 2022](#)

(Once registered, the meeting invite will be forwarded in due course to the contact details provided via the registration form).

The aim is to improve the experience of both your patients and yourselves as Pharmacists, and work collaboratively with Together to develop services that meet the needs of the service users. It will also be an opportunity to put questions to Together's Community Service Manager (Joni Nash) and the Director of Clinical Services for EDP (Paloma Kiley).

Attendance at this training is referenced in the contracts for these programmes, whilst the session will be recorded for you to watch at an alternative time, we encourage you to attend the session as it will enable you to engage in the activities and have any questions answered on the day.

Hypertension workshop supporting the case finding advanced service

BMS/ Pfizer Alliance are holding a clinical education session on Wednesday 16th March 19:30pm – 20:30pm for community Pharmacists

This webinar will focus on the detection of hypertension and AF and how it fits with the advanced service '**Hypertension case finding service**'.

It is a chance for Pharmacists to upskill themselves in hypertension and understand how this can link to the service being offered. The webinar aims to cover clinical aspects as well as some of the patient pathway/ referral routes.



The webinar will be led by Chaandni Sharma – Lead PCN Pharmacist Surrey. She will talk about detecting hypertension and AF and how PCN work links with the Community Pharmacy Hypertension Case Finding Service.

Join via Zoom:

Topic: Hypertension and Atrial Fibrillation Case Finding a Community Approach.

Time: Mar 16, 2022 07:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83862335574?pwd=WTFWV0JUVFFTd0VKbmJDdnhCdllWZz09>

Meeting ID: 838 6233 5574 Passcode: 785019

If you experience any difficulties connecting, please contact: Smarah Hussain (BMS), Mobile: 07392195626. Email: Smarah.Hussain@bms.com

Foundation Training Year – feedback from recent webinar

The recording of the RPS/HEE Foundation Training Year e-Portfolio Multi-source feedback tool webinar on 19th February has been uploaded to the RPS website: <https://www.rpharms.com/development/trainee-pharmacists/hee-webinars>

Also on this page:

- RPS post registration foundation e-portfolio webinar:
 - Navigating the e-portfolio
- Foundation Trainee Pharmacist e-Portfolio Webinars:
- Learning needs analysis and personal development plan
 - 13-week progress review

Genomics in Pharmacy

We have been asked by HEE to circulate information about the Genomics in Pharmacy survey.

As you may be aware, as part of the NHS Long Term Plan, genomics is moving into routine NHS care. Seven Genomic Medicine Service Alliances and Genomic Laboratory Hubs have been established across England, with the core focus of ensuing equity of access to genomic testing for eligible patients across the country.

The survey is aimed at **all pharmacy colleagues, in all pharmacy workplaces** – including those working in NHS hospitals, PCNs and other primary care structures, as well as those who work for independent pharmacies or multiples, and other settings

Genomics is going to affect all areas of pharmacy and this survey will be fundamental in the development workforce and training plans going forwards. The results of the survey will be used to develop a baseline of current genomics knowledge across the pharmacy workforce, and guide training and education plans over the coming months and years.

The survey can be completed online at <https://poll.hee.nhs.uk/s/GenomicsInPharmacy/> and can be completed by anyone working in the pharmacy.

This survey should take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete, is anonymous, and will help HEE with genomics education and training plans for pharmacy colleagues.

IP Training

Health Education England (HEE) is inviting community pharmacy contractors to a meeting to discuss training of pharmacists to become Independent Prescribers (IP).

Working with NHS England and NHS Improvement, HEE previously supported a first phase of IP training for community pharmacists from January to March 2022 and is working to secure a further rounded of funded training from Autumn 2022.

The online meeting will help inform future independent prescriber training offers by ensuring it is aligned with the needs of the pharmacy workforce. During the session, contractors will have the chance to discuss key challenges and be given information about funding and timelines from the team at HEE.

The event will take place on Thursday 10th March, from 6-8pm. Contractors can register to attend by completing this [short form](#).

GP CPCS shared learning points

The aim of GP CPCS is for GP practices and community pharmacies to work collaboratively to help reduce pressure on GP appointments. This further encourages patients to self-manage their health and promote the use of pharmacies as a first point of contact for minor illness symptoms in the future.

When a GP CPCS referral is made, it is important the patient is contacted within **four** working hours to avoid a delay in response. Failure to do so, can lead to the patient contacting the GP Practice again or accessing out of hours services.

To further facilitate a smooth referral process for the patient, GP practices and community pharmacies are asked to ensure the following:

Email address and re-escalation details

- A generic NHS email address is used for sending or receiving GP CPCS referrals
- All relevant staff at the GP practice and pharmacy have access to their generic NHS email account (a personal NHS email address will be required to do this)
- The generic NHS email account is checked throughout the day. A minimum of three times a day is recommend
- Re-escalation details (e.g., direct telephone phone number / NHS email address) are exchanged between the GP practice and pharmacy to facilitate ease of contact for both parties

Referral process

- GP Practices are advised when sending a referral to a pharmacy for the first time, to telephone the pharmacy to confirm receipt of the referral as this may be the first GP CPCS referral they have received.
- Ensure patients are made aware when the pharmacy calls, the number may be withheld. This can help to avoid calls being unanswered.
- If a pharmacy is unable to contact a patient, the GP Practice should be informed by responding to the email the referral was sent from.
- Regular contact between GP practices and pharmacies is recommended to ensure issues are resolved quickly, enabling a smooth referral process for the patient.

If you should have any queries on GP CPCS or require further support, please contact either:

Devon CCG Medicines Optimisation Team – For GP Practice related queries

D-CCG.medicinesoptimisation@nhs.net Or Devon Local Pharmaceutical Committee – For Pharmacy related queries admin@devonlpc.org

Pharmacy First Relaunch

The pharmacy first set of PGDs for minor illness in Devon has recently been refreshed, with the fusidic acid PGD being replaced by a hydrogen peroxide cream in line with NICE guidance for the treatment of impetigo and a new protocol introduced to allow the supply of hydrocortisone cream for use on the face as well as for insect bites/dermatitis in 1 - 9 year olds. This further enhances the pharmacy offer to patients needing urgent treatment for minor illness over the counter. Unfortunately the latest CCG event for the Pharmacy First

Service will not accredit you to provide treatment under the PGDs - if you or your locum pharmacists are new to the service and wish to accredit, you will need to complete the [CPPE learning package on minor illness](#) as well as the [associated CPPE assessment](#). Providing these services will put your pharmacy in a better position to receive targeted GP CPCS referrals and to provide greater resilience to the NHS primary care system.

Fixed Term Contract Job Opportunity

Do you want to make a difference to community pharmacy and the wider health care system in Devon?

If you have a proactive “can do” attitude and the ability to work closely with colleagues to help ensure that the Devon LPC continues to effectively represent, promote and support community pharmacy contractors and their teams, come and work with us to support the ongoing implementation and embedding of the GP CPCS.

We have the opportunity of a fixed term contract for six months, 16 hours per week, to work with us and the system to support the implementation of GP CPCS. Accountable to the LPC Chief Officer you will be working very closely with the Devon LPC Service Development and Implementation Lead as part of the Devon LPC Secretariat Team.

You will be self-motivated, flexible, adaptable, have excellent organisational skills, the ability to communicate both written and verbally to a wide ranging audience. You will also have a proven track record of stakeholder engagement, service development and effective implementation of services.

The expectation will be that the successful applicant will be able to work with pharmacy contractors, GPs, PCNs, the CCG, NHSEI Implementation Managers and other stakeholders to support the development and delivery of the service to make sure the whole system, including patients, benefit.

You’ll need to be either a registered pharmacist or pharmacy technician with a good knowledge of community pharmacy and the wider NHS. The role will be based on a mix of working virtually and office based; with visits out to practices and pharmacies when needed.

If you think this role is for you, please contact Sue Taylor in the first instance by emailing sue@devonlpc.org or phone 07810885766 to have an informal chat.

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