

To:
Community Pharmacy Contractors

Cc:
Community Pharmacy National Organisations - AIMp, NPA, CCA, PSNC
Local Pharmaceutical Committees
Heads of Primary Care and Pharmacy Contracting Teams, NHS England
Regional Chief Pharmacists, NHS England
Senior Regional Pharmacy Integration Leads, NHS England
Pharmacy Deans, Health Education England
Pharmacy Integration Programme Regional Leads, Health Education England
Workforce Transformation Leads, Health Education England
Health Education England Pharmacy Data Delivery Group
ICS Pharmacy Leaders

26th July 2022

Dear Colleague,

Re: Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey 2022 – For promotion and engagement

We are writing to notify community pharmacy contractors that they will be asked to complete the NHS Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey 2022 in autumn 2022.

We are giving notice of the survey now so that contractors can plan to have data available in autumn to respond to this essential survey.

The survey, which is developed by Health Education England (HEE), in partnership with NHS England, will provide essential data and evidence to enable the NHS to address community pharmacy workforce planning.

The move to an annual survey recognises the priority the NHS places on the community pharmacy workforce.



Background

We have been working closely on development of the survey with the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee, the Association of Independent Multiple Pharmacies, the Company Chemists' Association and the National Pharmacy Association, all of whom are supportive.

A comprehensive set of survey results will provide the NHS with the data needed to ensure the community pharmacy workforce is visible as part of national and system NHS workforce planning. The comprehensive and robust anonymised data will be used to inform recruitment and retention and workforce wellbeing initiatives.

Plans for 2022

The Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey 2022 will be launched in autumn 2022, and the anonymised data made publicly available in 2023.

This data will provide an up-to-date picture of the size and shape of the community pharmacy workforce (including where pharmacist roles are fulfilled by locum pharmacists) in order to:

1. Guide the overall pharmacy workforce planning and development strategy for the NHS.
2. Inform future investment in education and training for the community pharmacy workforce.
3. Support understanding of the capacity and capability of the workforce in community pharmacy as part of transformation plans being developed by integrated care boards.

Further information

Survey results will be anonymised by the HEE Data Service Team which will be responsible for collecting and processing the data. Access to personal information, such as email addresses or ODS codes (F codes) used by contractors, is restricted to the HEE Data Service Team, in accordance with information governance policy.

To understand the make-up of the community pharmacy workforce, as part of the Inclusive Pharmacy Practice programme, questions regarding four protected characteristics (age, sex, ethnicity, disability) are included in the survey.



We recommend you put plans in place to have data available in autumn to respond to this essential survey.

For general enquiries about the survey, please contact: Pharmacyteam@hee.nhs.uk

We appreciate your input to this important work.

Best regards,



David Webb
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer for England
NHS England



Alan Ryan
Deputy Chief Operating Officer
Health Education England

