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Changes are afoot

As you all know we will be re-branding the LPC to become Community Pharmacy Devon, in line with other LPCs across the country and of course, Community Pharmacy England. The new branding which is in line with Community Pharmacy England will be launched very soon, hopefully by the 1st July 2023 but if not, very shortly afterwards!

Following our nomination and elections processes, we have just received confirmation of the CCA membership for the new term, and are delighted to announce the following LPC members as we stand currently including both the independents and the AIMp members.

Membership with effect from 1st July 2023

<p>CCA Members Mike Charlton, (Boots) Andrew Jones (Well) Ciaran McCaul (Boots) Matt Robinson, (Boots) Robert Nsenda (Well) Vacancy</p>	<p>Independents Ron Kirk (Poolearth) Sian Retallick (Poolearth) Jackie Lewis (Lewis Pharmacy)</p> <hr/> <p>AIMp Rachel Fergie (Day Lewis)</p>
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We are really excited to be working with our new committee as we move on through the next few years.

However, I would also like to take this opportunity of thanking the outgoing committee members, namely Andrew Howitt, David Bearman, and Ali Hayes; who have worked tirelessly representing community pharmacy contractors over the past years. We wish them all the best for the future and whatever adventures they have lined up!

Pharmacy Quality Scheme 2023-24 Published

This year's PQS launched on **1st June 2023** and consists of one gateway criterion (NMS) and three domains.

To qualify for payment, contractors must **meet the gateway criterion by the end of 31 December 2023**.

You can then claim payment during the **declaration period, between 9am on 5 February 2024 and 11.59pm on 1 March 2024**.

Contractors will also be able to claim an aspiration payment. **This must be claimed between 9:00 on 4 September 2023 to 23:59 on 29 September 2023**. The aspiration payment is optional for pharmacy contractors and not claiming it will not impact on the pharmacy contractor's ability to claim payment for PQS 2023/24.

Further detail can be found in the [June 2023 Drug Tariff](#) and [NHS England Pharmacy Quality Scheme Guidance 2023/24](#). The Community Pharmacy England website also has a section on PQS. <https://cpe.org.uk/quality-and-regulations/pharmacy-quality-scheme/>

Gateway Criteria - New Medicines Service

By the **end of 31 December 2023**, pharmacy contractors must meet the gateway criterion to qualify for a PQS 2023/24 payment.

Contractors will not be required to make a declaration for this gateway criterion as the automatic verification assessment of whether a contractor has met the NMS gateway criterion will be confirmed against the NHSBSA's payment data for NMS.

Contractors must have delivered a minimum of 15 NMS between 1 April 2023 and by the end of 31st December 2023 and have claimed for these by 5 January 2024. Any claims for NMS submitted to the NHSBSA after 5 January 2024 will not be considered for the PQS gateway.

Any pharmacies that fail to have claimed for 15 NMS by 5 January 2024 will not have met this gateway requirement and will not be able to submit a declaration for the quality domains during the declaration period.

Discharge medicines service (DMS)

Don't miss out on our forthcoming DMS masterclasses, coming soon to a venue near you!

As you know the Discharge Medicines Service (DMS) is an ESSENTIAL service and is evidenced to improve patient care and safety; also potentially reducing the risk of readmission to hospital due to medication.

The Royal Devon University Healthcare Foundation (formerly the RD&E) and the Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust are gearing up to routinely refer patients from high-risk categories into the community pharmacy DMS.

We're hosting two evenings in early July. One in Exeter; for all pharmacies in the RDU Hospital footprint. The second one will be held in Torquay for all pharmacies in the Torbay and South Devon Trust Hospital footprint. The aim in both cases to bring together pharmacists and technicians from hospital, mental health, community and primary care around the discharge process. However, you can attend either event if one of the dates is more convenient than the other.

This will be a great opportunity to understand what the local hospital referral criteria are, meet colleagues from other sectors and discuss how, as a collective you might work together to enhance patient safety around the discharge process. We have a number of guest speakers lined up for each event.

These events are in high demand, so book now to avoid disappointment. All members of the pharmacy team involved with DMS are welcome.

In the meantime continue to check PharmOutcomes regularly for any referrals being sent out by one of the Acute Trusts.

Dates are:

Wednesday 5th July to be held at the Livermead House Hotel in Torquay.

Wednesday 12th July to be held at the Exeter Court Hotel at Kennford, Exeter

For more information and links to book can be found [here](#). Food available from 6.30 pm for a 7.15 pm start of the workshop. See the attached flyer

Terms of Service - Action Required

URGENT ACTION: NHS Profile Manager.

Ahead of the 30th June 2023 deadline, we would like to remind contractors to update their NHS Profile Manager to ensure that your pharmacy's NHS website and Directory of Services (DoS) profile information is kept up to date as a Terms of Service requirement.

Important note:

We've noticed that a large number of community pharmacies that are signed up to provide the NHS Blood Pressure Checks service have not updated their NHS Profile accordingly. We would urge you to ensure that if you provide this service, update your NHS Profile Manager ASAP. Read more about this requirement on the [Community Pharmacy England website](#).

Hypertension update

The Hypertension Service Specification has been updated. Some of the key changes include Pharmacy Technicians being able to offer the service; the removal of ABPM readings to be over 24 hours – they can now be undertaken in line with NICE guidance, i.e. over the person's waking hours. There are adjustments to the advice related to patients identified with very high BP and adjustments to the advice related to patients identified with very high BP and also following identification of stage 2 hypertension after ABPM.

You can find a summary of the changes on the Community Pharmacy England website.

<https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/hypertension-case-finding-service-updated-service-spec-published/>

As the number of consultations continues to increase for the Hypertension Case Finding Service, a reminder about the clinical results.

Talking about hypertension, When the service was launched there wasn't an IT solution for recording the consultations, however since August 2022 PharmOutcomes has been available to make recording the consultation and sending the details to the GP surgery easier for the pharmacy.

We would encourage all pharmacies to use an IT solution rather than the paper forms originally provided. Please refer to Table 2 on page 25 of the service specification for referral timescales for abnormal results.

If you are using paper forms the following information should be sent:

- Pharmacy name, address and ODS code
- Patient name
- Patient date of birth
- Patient address
- Patient NHS number
- Date of clinic reading
- Clinic reading (systolic/diastolic)
- Date ABPM device fitted*
- ABPM reading (average systolic/diastolic) *

* If appropriate/ performed.

If you are emailing results through to the GP surgery, please take care to email the correct surgery. If you make a mistake, best practice would be to contact the receiving surgery by phone to alert them of the error rather than a further email.

NHS Smoking Cessation Service (SCS) – Updated Specification

The NHS Smoking Service specification has also been updated to allow pharmacy technicians to deliver this service. Key changes in the service specification are highlighted in yellow on the link below.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/PRN00178-community-pharmacy-advanced-service-specification-nhs-scs-v2.pdf>

NHS Funded Community Pharmacy Training Offers

New clinical skills training offer for community pharmacists launched:

NHS England are making available 10,000 module places which will be delivered by CliniSkills until March 2024.

This exciting new training offer will give community pharmacists the opportunity to build on their existing clinical examination and consultation skills – to assess, treat and manage common health problems. This offer is available to community pharmacists, including part-time staff and locums working in community pharmacy.

For more information, visit the Health Education England website: For more information, visit the Health Education England website: <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/pharmacy/community-pharmacy-training> To register visit the [CliniSkills website](#) – CliniSkills | Transforming care training

Cancer and Dental Factsheets for Healthcare Practitioners

Community pharmacies play an important role in reaching the NHS Long Term Plan target to increase the percentage of cancers diagnosed at stage 1 or 2 by 2028. HEE commissioned an evaluation of the free online Let's Communicate Cancer (LCC) course by the British Oncology Pharmacy Association (BOPA). The evaluation found that the course helped to increase the confidence and basic knowledge of community pharmacy colleagues to help cancer patients from early diagnosis to treatment. The evaluation also identified further resources that pharmacists and their teams may find helpful. Based on these findings, the HEE London Pharmacy team collaborated with BOPA to produce a series of cancer factsheets, which can be used either as a standalone resource but also supports the Let's Communicate Cancer course. The first in the series of cancer factsheets aims to refresh the knowledge of common cancer diseases seen in a community setting and focuses on the following areas: Red flag symptoms - what to look out for with cancers in general, Breast cancer, Lung cancer, Prostate cancer, Bowel cancer, Haematological malignancies. Access them here: [Cancer Factsheets For Healthcare Practitioners](#)

Dental symptoms are one of the most common symptom groups for callers to NHS 111, particularly at weekends. Many patients visiting emergency departments could be managed by other services including community pharmacies. The HEE Dental and Pharmacy teams across LaSE have therefore collaborated to produce a series of dental factsheets for community pharmacy. The factsheets are intended to support and refresh knowledge and be used as a learning aid by all patient-facing staff in pharmacy when dealing with common dental presentations, helping community pharmacy teams to manage urgent dental and oral symptoms and to signpost patients to other services where indicated. Access them here:

[Dental Factsheets For Healthcare Practitioners](#)

[Cancer Factsheets For Healthcare Practitioners](#)

Signposting to Free condoms for 13-24 year olds in Plymouth.

There is a new condom distribution scheme in Plymouth; C@SHIP which is now live @ <https://yourship.uk/contraception-pregnancy/condoms/>

Further details for Plymouth pharmacies are attached with this newsletter.

Devon LPC Database

If you would like to be added to the LPC database to receive copies of our newsletters and details of events we are organizing, please let us know by emailing admin@devonlpc.org. We are particularly keen to hear of new pharmacists/locums who have moved to Devon recently.

DEVON LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEE www.devonlpc.org

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