

***Tel: 01392 719604 Newsletter Issue No: 162 November 2023*** Email: admin@cpdevon.org.uk

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**Seasonal Flu Vaccination Service – Resources - Did you Know????**

Community Pharmacy England have produced new resources for pharmacy owners to promote the Flu Vaccination Service to their patients. A variety of resources are available including letters, posters, flyers and social media template tweets and tiles. These can also be accessed via their flu hub page at cpe.org.uk/flu under the ‘Promoting the service to patients’ section. <https://cpe.org.uk/national-pharmacy-services/advanced-services/flu-vaccination-service/>

**Reminder!**

Pharmacy Teams are reminded that they must ensure the correct flu vaccines are being used for each patient cohort as confirmed in the annual flu letter for the 23/24 season and that this is being recorded accurately in the patient’s clinical record for the NHS Flu Vaccination Service.

This [poster](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1176901/UKHSA-12621-flu-poster-A3-2023-to-2024-season.pdf) summarises the recommended vaccines for each eligible group and may be helpful for pharmacy teams.

Patients Aged 65 Years & Over - NHS England have issued a reminder, [(see here](https://files.constantcontact.com/85dafa33701/6cdf4530-27d1-4a29-a698-7f81388289f4.pdf)), on the correct vaccine products for patients aged 65 and over. This cohort should be offered adjuvanted quadrivalent influenza vaccine (aQIV) or recombinant quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIVr), with cell-based quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIVc) only recommended where aQIV and QIVr are not available. Please take care to prevent data input errors and when recording vaccination, choose carefully from the vaccine “pick list” as this defaults to alphabetical order regardless of eligibility criteria.

Thank You – just under 44,000 flu jabs have been given to local residents and so far you have administered the most flu vaccinations in the South West region. Well done to everyone involved and please keep up this great work.

**Help Us Help You – ‘Earlier Diagnosis – Lung Cancer Symptoms’ Campaign**

NHS England is currently re-running ‘Help Us, Help You’ national cancer campaign activity to tackle barriers to timely presentation. The latest phase focuses on lung cancer symptoms.

The campaign is running on TV, online, radio, community press, social media and search engines, and aims to increase the knowledge that a cough for three weeks or more could be a sign of cancer, and anyone with this symptom should contact their GP practice.

Further resources, are available to download via the [Campaign Resource Centre](https://campaignresources.dhsc.gov.uk/campaigns/help-us-help-you-cancer/lung-cancer-symptoms/posters-a3-and-a4/)**. Please note this is not a mandatory campaign.**

• [Campaign Toolkit](https://campaignresources.dhsc.gov.uk/campaigns/help-us-help-you-cancer/lung-cancer-symptoms/communications-toolkit/) • [Social Media Copy and Assets](https://campaignresources.dhsc.gov.uk/campaigns/help-us-help-you-cancer/lung-cancer-symptoms/social-assets-and-post-copy/) • [Posters](https://campaignresources.dhsc.gov.uk/campaigns/help-us-help-you-cancer/lung-cancer-symptoms/posters-a3-and-a4/)

**Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF) - Full Questionnaire**

All community pharmacies in England were asked to complete 10 screening questions for the NHS England Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF). Some pharmacies may also soon be selected to complete the full CPAF questionnaire.
The full questionnaire will be available on the Manage Your Service (MYS) website from 6th November to midnight of 3rd December 2023. [Find out more](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=db99a56ca2&e=b94513f3f5)

**Important National Supply Update for ADHD Medication**

There is a national supply shortage of the medication prescribed to help manage ADHD symptoms. Which medicines are affected by the shortage?

 **Methylphenidate**

• Equasym XL® 10, 20, and 30mg capsules

• Xaggitin XL® 18 and 36mg prolonged-release tablets

• Concerta XL® 54mg prolonged-release tablets

• Xenidate XL® 27mg prolonged-release tablets

**Lisdexamphetamine**

• Elvanse® 20, 30, 40, 50, 60 and 70mg capsules

• Elvanse® Adult 30, 50 and 70mg capsules

**Guanfacine**

• Intuniv® 1, 2, 3 and 4mg prolonged-release tablets

**Atomoxetine**

**• Atomoxetine 10mg capsules**

**• Atomoxetine 25mg capsules**

**• Atomoxetine 40mg capsules**

**• Atomoxetine 60mg capsules**

Other ADHD products remain available. They may not be suitable for everyone and may not be able to meet the increases in demand. Unfortunately, there may be unavoidable gaps in treatment. treatment. The shortage is currently expected to last until December 2023, however there is no definite date for when new supplies will become available.

**Key Community Pharmacy Actions and Advice for Managing this Situation**

Be aware patients may be advised by their prescriber to use their remaining supply sparingly and to consider a drug holiday if appropriate if further supplies cannot be sourced. : it is not advised to abruptly stop or start guanfacine m/r (Intuniv®). Patients affected have been informed of the issue and know they may need to visit multiple pharmacies to source a supply. Please remember that these drugs can’t be swapped for alternatives without taking into account varying bioavailability and licensing differences.

**NOTE**

There is some Devon-wide guidance available here: <https://onedevon.org.uk/our-work/services-and-support/medicines-and-treatments/national-supply-shortage-of-medicines-for-adhd/>

**Interactive and Immersive Pharmacy Careers 360 Videos**

The NHS England Technology Enhanced Learning team has developed ‘Pharmacy a Day in the Life’ the first interactive and immersive series of pharmacy VR360 career videos for 14-to-18-year-old learners.  The videos provide an opportunity to learn about different careers options and pathways by allowing an inside view of the day to day working world of pharmacy teams.

The videos have been developed with support from professionals at the Simulation Centre Canterbury Christ Church University, Greenlight Pharmacy (Euston), Barts Health NHS Trust Healthcare Horizons team, Inspiring Futures and East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust.

The interactive videos were launched on World Pharmacists’ Day in September this year and feature scenarios based on real life including pharmacy roles within the community, a hospital, and a GP setting.

The videos have been tested by students from UTC Sheffield Olympic Legacy Park, a school dedicated to educating young people in Computing, Sport Science, Health & Social Sciences and are accessible via an internet browser and to download on a VR headset or mobile phone.

**How to access Pharmacy: A Day in the Life**

**Promotional videos**

Video 1 - <https://player.vimeo.com/video/867212333>

Video 2 - [https://player.vimeo.com/video/867213939](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fprotect-eu.mimecast.com%2Fs%2F-_9NCBPjoIZ82YKsWlWJJ%3Fdomain%3Dplayer.vimeo.com&data=05%7C01%7Cdelphine.abbott2%40nhs.net%7Cf3385943cc5848da9aeb08dbbdc246f6%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C1%7C638312414348990175%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xB5CzOgmg65ygqLMI%2BEz%2BR1krwIyTnylQ8IHF0s7aIQ%3D&reserved=0)

Video 3 - [https://player.vimeo.com/video/867214319](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fprotect-eu.mimecast.com%2Fs%2FStJiCDQlNf63G4AIk96vT%3Fdomain%3Dplayer.vimeo.com&data=05%7C01%7Cdelphine.abbott2%40nhs.net%7Cf3385943cc5848da9aeb08dbbdc246f6%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C1%7C638312414348990175%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IU%2FXO2yDl1P7Ina7j6XVVKTP49yuiqvk7afPRHvQ1xk%3D&reserved=0)

Video 4 - [https://player.vimeo.com/video/867220955](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fprotect-eu.mimecast.com%2Fs%2FOqT0CE0mOFApXExTBDQiL%3Fdomain%3Dplayer.vimeo.com&data=05%7C01%7Cdelphine.abbott2%40nhs.net%7Cf3385943cc5848da9aeb08dbbdc246f6%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C1%7C638312414348990175%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=q4FxGEARjb3c%2B99qienHObyqcm8s3CUnDm02yzissFQ%3D&reserved=0)

Video 5 - [https://player.vimeo.com/video/867221059](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fprotect-eu.mimecast.com%2Fs%2FgEKbCGMontyAXv4uYKwno%3Fdomain%3Dplayer.vimeo.com&data=05%7C01%7Cdelphine.abbott2%40nhs.net%7Cf3385943cc5848da9aeb08dbbdc246f6%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C1%7C638312414348990175%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4jkVHbOCbJnntaB%2B4ygODgTijSj1rU4%2FuIPIOAFeyV4%3D&reserved=0)

The videos can be accessed on a headset or browser:

1.       Create an account via <https://healthcarehorizons.thinkific.com/>

2.       Click the following link to access the pharmacy course. [https://healthcarehorizons.thinkific.com/collections/courses](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fprotect-eu.mimecast.com%2Fs%2FOq4fCz7yPhP4V5qSgy-1d%3Fdomain%3Dhealthcarehorizons.thinkific.com&data=05%7C01%7Cdelphine.abbott2%40nhs.net%7Cf3385943cc5848da9aeb08dbbdc246f6%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C1%7C638312414348990175%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6SXUNIodVxKF41QhxQluw7aNilSgiqmKg%2BOrQuSLqAw%3D&reserved=0)

**The 2023 Workforce Survey**

The 2023 Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey, conducted by North of England Commissioning Support Unit (NECS) on behalf of NHS England, opened on 23rd October 2023.

Completion of the survey **is a mandatory requirement for all pharmacy owners**.

The NHSBSA sent an email to pharmacy owners containing a link to the survey on 23rd October 2023. You can also access the survey via the following link:

[**Access the 2023 workforce survey**](https://necs.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/nhse-community-pharmacy-workforce-survey-2023)

In some cases, e.g. Company Chemists’ Association member companies and other multiple pharmacy groups, head offices will complete the survey centrally. If you are not sure whether the survey will be completed centrally, please ask your head office for guidance.

**The survey is open for eight weeks and will close on Sunday 17th December 2023.**

Further details are included on the CPE [Workforce survey webpage](https://cpe.org.uk/quality-and-regulations/annual-workforce-survey/).

**IETP Reform**

NHS England Workforce, Training and Education have published their [latest update](https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/pharmacy/transforming-pharmacy-education-training/initial-education-training-pharmacists-reform-programme/implementing-foundation-pharmacist) relating to the implementation of the new standards and learning outcomes in the Foundation Training Year from 2025. This includes key details of:

* How all training posts must be entered into, and recruited through, the National Recruitment Scheme (Oriel) website
* An overview of key timelines and deadlines for using the National Recruitment Scheme (Oriel) system
* The planned requirements for training sites relating to Designated Prescribing Practitioners and access to a prescribing learning environment
* Multi-sector rotations, and when they will become compulsory in the foundation training year

You can access the relevant presentation as a [narrated presentation](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mEtEfPUhf_Y) on the NHS England Workforce, Training and Education YouTube Channel. A summary is also available on [their website](https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/pharmacy/transforming-pharmacy-education-training/initial-education-training-pharmacists-reform-programme/implementing-foundation-pharmacist).

Further details of updates relating to the implementation of the new standards and learning outcomes will be shared as they are published.

**PQS Respiratory Referral**

The PharmOutcomes page for logging respiratory referrals as part of the respiratory PQS domains is live (<https://pharmoutcomes.org/pharmoutcomes/services/home>). You can use this template to record and notify GP practices for those patients needing referral for review of their inhaled therapies. Note that this is a local PharmOutcomes page for use in Devon pharmacies only to support the delivery of this domain. If you have any queries regarding the service page or need further support, please contact us on admin@cpdevon.org.uk



**Devon Community Pharmacies only**

As part of the locally commissioned contract held by the Devon County Council Public Health team with Community Pharmacies for the delivery of Needle and Syringe Provision, there is an expectation that each Community Pharmacy attend annual update training sessions.

The latest round of training hosted by Public Health Devon and Orion Medical Supplies was held online 21/09/2023 (the recording is 25mins in duration).

The public health team were pleased to see representation from a small number of Community Pharmacies. For those Pharmacies unable to attend on the evening all Community Pharmacies contracted to deliver Needle and Syringe Provision need to watch the [recording](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdevoncc-my.sharepoint.com%2F%3Av%3A%2Fg%2Fpersonal%2Frichard_merrifield_devon_gov_uk%2FEeEH_hE83zlJlnmmpXkhLHkBZQKiRx-lpxdUbxVxVw8SGA&data=05%7C01%7CCarissa.Punter%40devon.gov.uk%7C0ce08caa5510454370ad08dbbb649c6c%7C8da13783cb68443fbb4b997f77fd5bfb%7C0%7C0%7C638309813303617558%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TynR%2FKC6zge%2FbqXeu93WdtaRR6fvwpMp997ZIcF4X0w%3D&reserved=0)of the update training (you’ll find the link to the video on the Messages section of Pharmoutcomes) and view the [associated slides](https://devon.communitypharmacy.org.uk/locally-commissioned-services/commissioned-services/) before **10th December 2023**. To ensure compliance with the contract, pharmacy teams will be asked to confirm that they have watched the recording by indicating this on the backing data form for Q3 in Mid-January.

**Key Messages from Devon Public Health**

• We are moving to a single use kit dispensing model from 1st October 2023. We encourage you to continue to request customers returned their used sharps to help reduce volume of drug litter finds in communities, but ask that you don't deny people access to clean equipment if they have not returned their sharps to you.

• Please continue to dispense the existing stocks you have available- Orion will make changes to the ordering form from 1st October to assist with the switch to the new model.

• Public Health will be working with the Local Pharmacy Committee to address lack or limited capacity for supervised consumption clients- though the majority of Community Pharmacies indicated that they have capacity to receive more customers.

**Training for counter staff**

Orion Medical Supplies recommend that Counter Staff complete the online booklet [NSP Booklet - Orion Medical Supplies](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Forionmedical.co.uk%2Fnsp-booklet%2F&data=05%7C01%7CCarissa.Punter%40devon.gov.uk%7C0ce08caa5510454370ad08dbbb649c6c%7C8da13783cb68443fbb4b997f77fd5bfb%7C0%7C0%7C638309813303617558%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=wgLqKhO%2BS%2FSGwqbr5N6olnPEK7S%2Fs6PnM1C6PCwxRak%3D&reserved=0) – the password for accessing this can be obtained by contacting Gareth Partlett (Gareth@orionmedical.co.uk) we will look to develop additional training resources for counter staff in line with your feedback.

If you have any requests for future training topics associated with supervised consumption, needle and syringe provision or work linked to the National Drug Strategy please email publichealth-mailbox@devon.gov.uk

**Patient Nominations – Reminder for pharmacy teams**

•    Patients are entitled to take decisions about where they want their prescriptions to be dispensed; therefore, if a patient prefers to use a particular pharmacy, their preference should be respected.
•    Under EPS, community pharmacy teams are reminded that they must follow the four guiding principles of nomination: <https://cpe.org.uk/nomcore>
•    Distance selling pharmacies are reminded that they must make their services available to patients across the whole of England (at a patient’s request), not just in particular areas.

**IP Pathfinder Programme**

A ‘[Pathfinder](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/independent-prescribing-in-community-pharmacy-the-pathfinder-programme/)’ programme is being launched across England to test different models of providing this service with the aim of developing a commissioning framework for the future.

Letters requesting Expressions of Interest have been sent out to all pharmacies – check your NHS Shared Mail address if you have not already seen it.

To help answer any questions, CPD and NHS Devon will run an informal information and Q&A session on **Monday 30th October 2023 from 19:15-20:15**. [Click here to join the meeting](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3Ameeting_YmQwYmY5Y2EtYTkyZS00MWJmLWI3ZDMtZjc2MDAwYjM0YjNl%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2237c354b2-85b0-47f5-b222-07b48d774ee3%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%228453608f-eee0-47d9-bc7c-baeb3c0c6566%22%7d)

**Mental health wellbeing for our pharmacy teams**

We have put together some information about the resources that are available both nationally and locally that can be accessed by all members of the pharmacy teams if required.

We particularly wanted to draw your attention to the Employee Assistance programme commissioned by NHS Devon ICB and which is available to all pharmacy team members. A poster is included with the printed version of this newsletter that can be displayed in the dispensary etc,

You can find out more details on our [website here](https://devon.communitypharmacy.org.uk/pharmacy-resources/document-library-n-z/wellbeing-of-pharmacists-and-pharmacy-staff/).

**Employee Assistance Programme**

One Devon has opened up their Employee Assistance Programme to all members of the Primary Care in Devon which includes community pharmacy.

Whether you’re facing problems at work or at home, you can access impartial, confidential

advice from qualified counsellors for many different issues, including:

*Anxiety | Bereavement | Stress | Depression | Workplace Issues | Trauma |Relationships | Finances | Family Difficulties*

The telephone helpline is available 24/7, 365 days a year is completely confidential and free to anyone needing mental health support. To access the service, call **03303 800658**\* (or 0800 023 9324 free from any standard UK landline or mobile phone). If you call, just tell the person who answers the phone that you are from Primary Care Devon. \* Calls charged at local rates

A wide offering of resources is also available and includes downloadable self-help workbooks, debt advice and more. Visit [**vivup.co.uk**](https://vivup.co.uk/users/sign_in)**.** A poster for your use is attached to this newsletter.

**Pharmacy blood pressure check service finder tool for the public and patients**

A new service finder on the NHS website (NHS.UK) allows healthcare professionals and patients to search for and [find a pharmacy that offers free blood pressure checks.](https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/prescriptions-and-pharmacies/find-a-pharmacy-that-offers-free-blood-pressure-checks/)

The tool explains who is eligible to go to a pharmacy to get their blood pressure checked and can be searched using a postcode, with the nearest pharmacy listed first.

Blood pressure conditions pages on the NHS website have also been updated to signpost to the blood pressure pharmacy finder.

**All pharmacy contractors offering the service should ensure that their pharmacy profile on** [**NHS Profile Manager**](https://www.nhs.uk/our-policies/profile-editor-login/)**is up to date and indicates that they provide the service.**This will ensure that all pharmacies which offer the service located nearest the postcode provided will be listed.

**NHS Service finder for healthcare professionals**

The NHS Service Finder gives health and care professionals a fast way to access accurate, real-time information to help signpost patients to available services. This information includes non-public telephone numbers and instructions about who is eligible for services and how to refer a patient. Maps and directions to the services are also available, and you can email service information directly to your patient.

It will shortly be expanded to include the ability to search for pharmacies providing NHS Community Pharmacy Blood Pressure Check and NHS Pharmacy Contraception Services and is an excellent tool for signposting but is only as good as the information it contains.

If you have not yet registered yourself to access the Service Finder, it is very straightforward if you have an NHS email address. <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/nhs-service-finder>

 **Biosimilar Insulins**

Biosimilar Insulins have been added to the Devon Formulary. Use this link to find out about biosimilars : [Information (devonformularyguidance.nhs.uk)](https://southwest.devonformularyguidance.nhs.uk/formulary/information) and see the newly added insulins Trurapi and Admelog here: [6.1.1 Insulins (devonformularyguidance.nhs.uk)](https://southwest.devonformularyguidance.nhs.uk/formulary/chapters/6.-endocrine/6-1-drugs-used-in-diabetes/6-1-1-insulins)

**DEVON LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEE www.devon.communitypharmacy.org.uk**

**Chief Officer Sue Taylor** **sue@cpdevon.org.uk**

**Business Support Kathryn Jones (Mondays & Tuesdays)** **kathryn@cpdevon.org.uk**

**Service Engagement Leah Wolf** **leah@cpdevon.org.uk**

**Director of Strategy David Bearman** **david.bearman@nhs.net**

**Business Support Sascha Snowman (Wednesdays & Thursdays)** **Sascha@cpdevon.org.uk**

**Project Pharmacist Kelly Holman** **kelly@cpdevon.org.uk**

**Devon LPC Secretariat, Room 16, Partridge House, A38, Kennford, Exeter EX6 7TW**

**Telephone: 01392 719604** **admin@cpdevon.org.uk**

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