

Newsletter for community pharmacies providing substance use services

June 2024

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Welcome

to the first edition of our quarterly Humankind national newsletter for community pharmacies providing substance use services. It will provide national and service level updates impacting pharmacies, services and people using our services.

Collaboration

Substance use services and community pharmacies are working together to help provide an effective service to people using substances. Humankind and our people value your continuous support. Please stay in touch with the service in your area (details below) to ensure good communication and the best outcomes for the people we work with.

Guidance

Community pharmacy: delivering substance misuse services guidance was published on 24 January 2024.

The guidance outlines good practice for services delivered by community pharmacies in England to people who use and misuse, or are dependent on, drugs and alcohol.

It aims to:

- assist the commissioning and delivery of high quality, safe and effective care that can engage more people in drug and alcohol treatment
- reduce harms associated with drug and alcohol use, including deaths from accidental overdose ¹

¹ Community pharmacy: delivering substance misuse services guidance was published on 24 January 2024

Stay in touch (see your local service details below)

Good communication between substance use services and community pharmacies is essential to achieve the best possible treatment outcome for people using our services.

You should usually inform the prescriber within one working day if you have concerns about:

- a person's missed attendance (missed doses during a titration period, missing 3 consecutive doses of opioid substitute medication, sporadic attendance, unusual non-attendance)
- changes in a person's presentation (such as intoxication)
- any safeguarding issues ¹

Please let the substance service in your area know if you have a preferred contact number you would like them to use to contact you.



Alerts

Supply shortage of Methadone 5mg tablets was extended to October 2024. We are in regular contact with manufacturer and unlicensed imports of Methadone 5mg tablets may be sourced (lead times vary).

More information is available on Community Pharmacy England website:

<https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-methadone-5mg-tablets/>



Training

Humankind is starting to roll out training (virtual events locally and nationally) for community pharmacies providing substance use services and community pharmacies who would like to come on board. Please watch the space and communications channels (ICB correspondence, PharmOutcomes

Incidents and learning

A person on Methadone liquid prescription was given a double dose of Methadone. Checks had not been completed against the prescription by the pharmacy colleague as the prescription appeared to have been misplaced. Pharmacy colleague 'thought' that it was a correct dose and no confirmation was sought from the service to ensure that the dose dispensed was correct. Person on prescription contacted the service to report the higher dose taken and necessary harm-reduction and mitigation measures were put in place.

Methadone is a synthetic opioid agonist, which means it acts on the opioid receptors in the brain (the same receptors that other opioids such as heroin act on). Although it occupies and activates these opioid receptors, it does so more slowly than heroin. Methadone is safe as prescribed, but if the incorrect dose is taken or mixed with other substances may cause accidental respiratory depression and eventually death.

Good practices/ feedback

Thank you to all community pharmacies supporting our people. It is great to hear how people feel about their community pharmacies, interactions and patient-healthcare professional relationship with pharmacy colleagues.

"My prescription had not been delivered to the pharmacy, but the pharmacist rang the service and made sure my medication could to be dispensed that day."

"My pharmacy is great! They try to get my medication ready earlier so I can pick up before I start my work and I am not stressing out that I may miss my dose if I need to stay at work longer."



Service Updates



Contact Details

Tel: **01226 779066**

5-6 Burleigh Ct, Burleigh St, Barnsley S70 1XY

Satellite Hub: Dearne Enterprise Centre, 1 Bamburgh Lane, Goldthorpe, S63 9PG

Satellite Hub: McLintocks Building, Crookes Street, Barnsley S70 6BX



Contact Details

Tel: **01274 296023**

info@newvisionbradford.org.uk

Buvidal in New Vision Bradford

New Vision Bradford went live with our Buvidal pathway this month and successfully administered first Buvidal (buprenorphine prolonged-release injection) in April 2024. It was a great experience for the person using our service and workforce involved. We are very excited about the Buvidal pathway and have a great working relationship with our community pharmacy based in Bradford district.

Buvidal treatment may not be a good treatment option for some people using our services. This person shared a feedback about positive impact Buvidal treatment has on the person's recovery journey.



Contact Details

Tel: **01422 415550.**

Basement House, 10 Carlton St, Halifax HX1 2AL

Alternatively if a pharmacy is struggling to get through they could email our dispensing team (pharmacy@calderdalerecoverysteps.org.uk)



Contact Details

Tel: **0800 233 5444**

Longbridge House, Bideford Medical Centre Abbotsham Road, Bideford, Devon, EX39 3AF

Service Updates



Recovery Steps
Cumbria

Contact Details

Tel: **01946 350020**

21b Lowther St, Whitehaven CA28 7DG
1st Floor Stocklund House, Castle Street, Carlisle CA3 8SY
92-96 Duke Street, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria LA14 1RD
6 Finkle Street, Workington, Cumbria CA14 2AY



HAGA
action on alcohol

Contact Details

Tel: **020 8800 6999**

590 Seven Sisters Rd, London N15 6HR



FORWARD
LEEDS
INSPIRING CHANGE

Contact Details

Tel: **07394 563556**

KIRGATE 74 Kirkgate, Leeds LS2 7DJ

Tel: **07394 563555**

ARMLEY COURT 3 Armley Court Armley Road LS12 2LB

Tel: **07936 360184**

IRFORD HOUSE, Irford House, Seacroft Cresnet, Leeds Ls14 6Pa

Needle and Syringe Programme (NSP) supplier change

In April 2024 the way the NSP service is delivered in Leeds changed and we moved to Orion Medical for the provision of equipment. Please could all providers register for webshop ordering. We sent more information about on PharmOutcomes so please check and contact us if you have any questions.

Please also refer to PharmOutcomes for NSP SLAs updates.



Service Updates

Contact Details

Tel: **0114 321 4652**

Portland House, 243 Shalesmoor, Moorfields, Sheffield S3 8UG

Naloxone services for community pharmacies

We launched naloxone services (Take Home Naloxone (THN) and Emergency Naloxone Administration Programme (ENAP)) available from community pharmacies in Sheffield in April 2024.

Subsequent training sessions will be provided. Please contact barbara.zub@humankindcharity.org.uk for more information if you would like to provide those services and watch for communication from Community Pharmacy South Yorkshire (CPSY).



Contact Details

Tel: **0191 917 1160**

Unit 19, Cookson House, B1344, South Shields NE33 1TL



Contact Details

Tel: **08000 14 14 80**

5 The Applegarth, Northallerton, DL7 8NT



Contact Details

Tel: **03000 266 666**

81 – 88 Whinney Hill, Durham, DH1 3BQ



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