

# Community Pharmacy Newsletter

A special bulletin for pharmacy teams providing services in the Devon area

## In this quarter's Community Pharmacy brief

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## Welcome to our special newsletter

This newsletter has been published as an addition to our national newsletter which you received through Community Pharmacy Devon (CPD) with the latest addition available at

[https://www.waythrough.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Waythrough\\_Community\\_Pharmacy\\_Newsletter-June-2025.pdf](https://www.waythrough.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Waythrough_Community_Pharmacy_Newsletter-June-2025.pdf).

In the newsletter we outline a new training date in North Devon and some key points we have discussed recently with CPD. We have also published a **factsheet** to support responding to missed doses. We will aim to produce some more factsheets which we will launch at our training event in North Devon.

## A big thank-you from all the team at Together Devon

The team at Together Devon would like to say a big “thank-you” to all the community pharmacy teams.

We appreciate it is a difficult and challenging time for community pharmacy and we hope that by continuing to work closely together we can support all the people who use our services and make lives better for many individuals across Devon.

## THANK-YOU!

## Hold the date – Pharmacy Training event in North Devon

We are pleased to announce some face-to-face pharmacy training at our North Devon Hub on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025 between 19:00 and 21:00 in Barnstable at our North Devon Hub

Delivered by our Director of Pharmacy (Graham Parsons) we will explore the basics of substance use and its treatment and pharmacy provision supported through some case studies.

If you would like to attend this session then please contact Laura MacLean at [laura.maclean@waythrough.org.uk](mailto:laura.maclean@waythrough.org.uk).

Due to capacity of the room, the event will be limited to 2 pharmacy colleagues per pharmacy but if you would like more to attend then please send us their names (up to 4 per pharmacy) and we will keep them on a reservice list and let them know a week before the event if spaces are available.

We look forward to welcoming you to our North Devon Hub in September 2025.

**What do you need to do?**  
Please discuss the training with your team and contact our co-ordinator if you would like to attend.

### **Missed Opioid Substitution Treatment (OST) doses and how to respond**

Occasionally people prescribed OST will miss a dose or a series of doses. To ensure the safety of the people we prescribe for, it is important that missed doses are responded to appropriately.

To support this, we have created a factsheet to support this process including definitions for specific queries and contact details which we hope will support pharmacy colleagues (*Factsheet: How do I respond if a person prescribed Opioid Substitution Treatment (OST) misses a dose*).

**What do you need to do?**  
Please ensure all your team members know when to contact our service and which route to use.

**Please also read the attached factsheet and share with your teams.**

### **Dispensing FP10MDA (blue) prescriptions that are not supervised**

The following communication has been prepared with the support of Community Pharmacy Devon (CPD)

This is a reminder that **FP10MDA prescriptions must be dispensed in a timely manner**, in accordance with the same professional and regulatory standards that apply to all other FP10 prescription forms.

Pharmacies are expected to ensure that:

- **Supplies are made without undue delay** once the prescription becomes valid.
- **All regulatory and legal requirements** for controlled drugs are upheld, including appropriate record keeping, patient safety, and clinical governance.

While you may not be signed up to supervise a patient who has received a FP10MDA you cannot refuse the prescription.

Together Devon will contact pharmacies prior to starting any instalment prescription and to establish whether a space is available for a patient on a supervised consumption prescription.

If a patient presents with an FP10MDA with supervised written on the prescription it is with the terms of service to support the patient to be able to obtain this – this could be done via signposting to the nearest location.

**What do you need to do?**

Please ensure that all pharmacy staff are aware of this requirement and that internal processes support the prompt and safe supply of medicines under FP10MDA forms.

**Supplying methadone oral solution in separate bottles**

It is best practice to ensure that individual bottles are supplied when dispensing methadone oral solution 1mg/1ml.

The payment of this Packaged Dose or PD fee is based on the contactor's endorsement whether or not the "separate containers" are requested by the prescriber or not. A PD fee(s) may also be claimed on an FP10 (green) prescription and via EPS if the pharmacy system has this functionality. For further details please refer to [FP10-MDA-Factsheet CPN 0220.pdf](#)

While Together Devon does not instruct this on our prescriptions currently, we will be moving to change our prescriptions over the next 3 to 6 months to cover this. In the interim, we would ask pharmacists to provide methadone oral solution 1mg/1ml in separate bottles.

If this creates problems with CD storage, particularly if an instruction is present on the prescription, then please discuss this with the prescriber and the person prescribed methadone oral solution 1mg/1ml.

**What do you need to do?**

Please discuss this with your team and contact your local service if you need to discuss.

**Contact details:**

If you have any comments about this newsletter or would like something included in future editions then please contact Barbara Zub ([barbara.zub@humankindcharity.org.uk](mailto:barbara.zub@humankindcharity.org.uk))

Please ensure this newsletter is shared with all pharmacy staff within your team.