

This LPC newsletter is for community pharmacy contractors, managers and team members in Surrey and Sussex. It contains local information and local news items, local diary dates and other local topics to help effectively manage NHS and locally commissioned contracts.

Visit our [Newsletter page](#) for an archive of previous issues. [Sign up to PSNC](#) to receive nationally significant news and guidance on national contracts.

LPC News

Bank Holiday Opening Hours – urgent action needed

NHS England sent an email to all pharmacy contractors on the 19th November asking them to check the spreadsheet attached to the e-mail, detailing the hours that pharmacies have declared they will be open or closed. This information will be used to create posters regarding which pharmacies will be open over the Christmas and New Year holiday period.

These posters will be circulated two weeks prior to the bank holidays to all pharmacies, the public, NHS 111, Out of Hours services and various other NHS organisations.

Please could you ensure that you have checked the spreadsheet and let them know of any amendments no later than COP on Wednesday 1st December 2021. If you need another copy of the e-mail let us know at lpc@communitypharmacyss.co.uk.

Provision of Flu Vaccine to community pharmacy

Do you need further flu vaccines for the 18-64 cohort this season? Some manufacturers e.g. Viatrix are offering stock available for pharmacies to order direct with them. For further information click [here](#). Various wholesalers have also asked contractors to place orders if they require extra stock to enable them to order in appropriately from central supplies – confirm with your main wholesaler. Note if you are part of a multiple group – please check with your Head Office first before placing any orders.

This may also be a good time to ensure you have reached out to local optometry and

dental practice colleagues in your area to highlight the availability of the free NHS-funded flu vaccinations for frontline primary care staff.

To support this, PSNC have included on the flu hub of their website, under the **promoting the service to patients** section, a poster that can be sent to, or printed and provided to, primary care contractors. A link to the poster can be found below.

[Primary care staff flu vaccination poster.](#)

Local Services

Discharge Medicines Service

Reminder Discharge Medicines Service is an essential service the pharmacy must provide. Please could you check PharmOutcomes on an ongoing basis and accept referrals within 72 hours of receiving.

University Hospitals Sussex East (BSHU) DMS Go live date has been delayed and will now go live Monday 29th November. Please look out for any referrals received in PharmOutcomes.

Surrey Assisted Lateral Flow Testing- Date check

1. Check the expiry dates of the stock and confirm back to the LPC that this has been completed and that any expiring stock is segregated, and if Surrey County Council have been contacted.
2. If the pharmacy has expiring stock this can be reported to Ita Johnson at Surrey County Council directly via email to ita.johnston@nhs.net and new stock will be arranged for delivery.

Please complete your date check and confirm back to

Mariehockley@communitypharmacys.co.uk **by 30th November. If you need additional support with this task, please let Marie know.**

Hypertensive case finding service

If your pharmacy is offering the service, please ensure a conversation is scheduled with the GP surgeries to explain the service and when you intend to go live, this will enable joined up working. GP's can refer any patients into the service so it is imperative the

pharmacies and GPs discuss how the signposting process will work in the PCN.

Pharmacy collect LFT kits

Reminder that patients may collect test kits without a 16-digit code, patients should be encouraged to obtain a 16-digit code however supply should not be refused if patients do not have a code.

Training

Healthy Living Champion

It's important to be reminded that training employees no longer needs to be time-consuming and expensive, especially when there's FREE training available.

We have joined forces with Health Education England (HEE) South East and award winning HLP specialists Pharmacy Complete to help you train up to three employees to be health champions with easily accessible training that they can take at their leisure.

There is no cost for this training – it's FREE! [Click here to sign up](#).

Pharmacy Quality Scheme 2021-2022

Gateway Criteria

To qualify for a PQS payment, contractors will have to meet the **THREE** Gateway criteria on the day of their declaration.

For the New Medicine Service (NMS) Gateway criteria – The contractor must have claimed payments for the completion of a minimum of 20 NMS between 1st April 2021 and 5th January 2022.

The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) has published a spreadsheet showing which community pharmacy contractors have currently met the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2021/22 Advanced Services gateway criterion; this spreadsheet will be updated monthly in the lead up to the PQS declaration period.

If contractors are showing as having claimed for 20 or more NMSs (highlighted in green on the spreadsheet) no further action is required to meet the Advanced Services gateway

criterion.

[Check the NHSBSA NMS spreadsheet \(scroll down to the 'New Medicine Service \(NMS\) gateway criterion' section to view the spreadsheet\)](#)

PSNC PQS Action and Evidence Portfolio workbook

This Workbook provides contractors with examples of **suggested** evidence that they can use to confirm they have the necessary evidence ready to make their PQS declaration between 9am on 31st January 2022 and 11.59pm on 25th February 2022.

Click [here](#).

Newsletters

To read the latest edition of the Primary Care Bulletin click [here](#).

To read the November edition of East Surrey Medicines Management Team Update click [here](#).

Additionally you might be interested in.....

Medicinal chemistry use in community pharmacy

My name is Sufyan Khan, and I am a 4th year pharmacy student currently undergoing my research project at the University of Birmingham on how medicinal chemistry is used in community pharmacy through collecting the opinions of community pharmacists on as to how the medicinal chemistry taught in training is used in practice. We would like to hear the opinions of any pharmacist or trainee pharmacist currently working in community pharmacy – please fill in our survey found [here](#). The survey will take approximately 5-10 minutes to complete and further details can be found on the participation information on the front page of the survey.

Stress and burnout survey

I am currently undertaking a study exploring stress and burnout during Covid-19. We have interviewed 20 hospital pharmacists, but only 1 community pharmacist. It will involve a 40-55 minute discussion about your experience of working during Covid-19 and

what support was given/needed. This could be arranged daytime, evening or at a weekend – whenever is most convenient for you. Please read our information sheet for more information <https://calangran.wixsite.com/covid-19> and email me c.a.langran@reading.ac.uk if you would be willing to take part.

Catherine Langran

MPharm ClinDip PGCAP SFHEA MHFA MRPharmS

School Director of Teaching and Learning (Chemistry, Food and Pharmacy)

Associate Professor in Pharmacy Education

University of Reading



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Community Pharmacy Surrey and Sussex

on behalf of East Sussex, West Sussex and Surrey Local Pharmaceutical Committees