



Community Pharmacy Surrey & Sussex

Newsletter

07/03/24

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 CPE to receive nationally significant news and guidance on national contracts.

LPC News



Pharmacy Pressures Survey 2024: Please take part

Community Pharmacy England has launched its third annual Pressures Survey, and CPSS is asking local pharmacy business owners and staff members to please respond.

The situation is now critical for community pharmacy owners and teams in Surrey and Sussex and we know this is severely impacting on workloads, stress levels, patients, and businesses. The 2024 Pharmacy Pressures Survey aims to find out more about this and other areas such as medicines supply issues, workforce challenges, and the recently launched Pharmacy First service.

Alongside Community Pharmacy England, CPSS is putting every effort into making policy makers aware of the serious issues in our sector and urging them to take action to ease the pressures. This year's survey will provide important information to support this.

The survey results will be critical to help highlight to both Government and the NHS how difficult things now are for community pharmacies. Community Pharmacy England will be using the results both in negotiations and in national media work. They and CPSS will also use these in conversations with MPs.

Once again there are two separate surveys, one for pharmacy business owners/head office representatives, and the other for pharmacy teams. The

surveys are as short as possible, taking around **10-15 minutes** to complete. They will be open until **23.59 on Tuesday 2nd April**.

- **Online link:** [Survey for Pharmacy business owners/head office representatives](#) or [Click here to view/download a copy of the questions.](#)
- **Online link:** [Survey for Pharmacy teams](#) or [Click here to view/download a copy of the questions.](#)

Community Pharmacy England has asked us to pass on their thanks for your continued support in completing these surveys, particularly at this very busy time.



Check Your Health Day - Burgess Hill

On Saturday 2nd March, Burgess Hill Town Council hosted a 'Check Your Health' day at a local hall allowing Burgess Hill residents to get their blood pressure and blood glucose levels tested.

Community Pharmacy Surrey and Sussex along with our local pharmacy team from S.C. Williams Pharmacy attended the event to conduct the blood pressure checks. We did a total of 46 blood pressure checks, 8 of which were found to be high and referred for ABPMs. Of the 46 we found that 2 residents presented with very high blood pressure and were referred to A&E.

This highlighted the importance of having this event as many of the residents explained they would not have had their blood pressure checked otherwise and

majority of those found to have high blood pressure had not had their blood pressure checked for almost a year.

The event also gave us the opportunity to discuss some healthy lifestyle interventions and provide advice on how to check blood pressure and what the numbers mean.

A huge thank you to our pharmacy team for supporting this successful event!



Hailsham Community College Careers Fair

Community Pharmacy Surrey and Sussex along with the NHS England South East Workforce, Training and Education Directorate and NHS Sussex team attended the Hailsham Community College careers fair on Friday 1st March.

This was a great opportunity to discuss a career in community pharmacy with students from all different year groups. The students showed a keen interest in community pharmacy and we were able to provide advice, insights and offer resources for the students to further explore a career in pharmacy.

We had positive feedback from the college highlighting that the students had some great chats and enjoyed the event!

Local Services



East Sussex and West Sussex CGL webinar: an update and evaluation results of the MAT core service

On Monday 4th March Community Pharmacy Surrey and Sussex along with Change Grow Live (CGL) hosted a webinar to discuss the upcoming changes to the MAT core service specification, due to go live 1st April 2024.

We were joined by guest speakers Kulvinder Singh Dosanjh Medicines Management Pharmacist CGL and Tina Fowler Pharmacy Liaison Lead CGL who shared the evaluation results of the MAT core service, notified contractors of the changed fee structure, training requirements and offered a chance for any questions.

Kulvinder gave us a great overview of the service as well as the important updates. A huge thank you to our guest speakers and thank you to all attendees for joining us.

If you were unable to make the event, please feel free to watch the webinar on demand [here](#).

The slides from the webinar can be downloaded [here](#).



Sussex ICB Palliative Care service – reminder quarterly stock check claim form due

Thank you for delivering the EOLC LCS and for your commitment to ensuring prompt and reliable access to palliative medicines for our patients. The quarterly stock check form is now due to be submitted. Reminder that the return of stock reporting information on a quarterly basis is a requirement of the LCS and that failure to return your stock reporting information by the deadline may lead to a suspension of payment for any activities undertaken as part of this LCS until such time the required audit(s) is received.

Please return your quarterly stock check form for quarter 4 (form found [here](#)) to sxicb.mot-admin@nhs.net by 15th March 2024.



Discharge Medicine Service (DMS)

DMS became an essential part of the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework in February 2021. We wrote out to our Surrey contractors at the

beginning of February 2024 advising that they can expect to see an increase in referrals for this service. This is due to the fact the **Ashford and St Peters and Royal Surrey Foundation Trusts** recently procured a joint PharmOutcomes license enabling them to send DMS referrals into community pharmacy.

Whilst our pharmacy teams will be familiar with this service already, we, along with our hospital colleagues put together a 'refresher video' for the service.

Please feel free to watch the refresher video on the Discharge Medicine Service [here](#).

Slides for the video can be found [here](#).



NHS Pharmacy Contraception Service

Local Product Choice Recommendations for Community Pharmacies in Surrey Heartlands

The Pharmacy Contraception service from the 1st December 2023 incorporates initiation and repeat supplies of contraception. To support initiation within community pharmacy the Surrey Heartlands ICB Formulary can be found [here](#).



NHSBSA extends Pharmacy First submission deadline after technical issue

The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) has confirmed that the deadline for pharmacy owners to make their claims for February Pharmacy First consultations has been extended **until 5pm on Friday 15th March 2024**.

This is an extended deadline for February only (this includes any consultations completed on 31st January 2024) and it follows an issue with Pharmacy First claims appearing incorrectly in the NHSBSA Manage Your Service (MYS) portal. NHSBSA has advised that the issue is now resolved; however as always pharmacy owners should check their submission carefully before submitting.

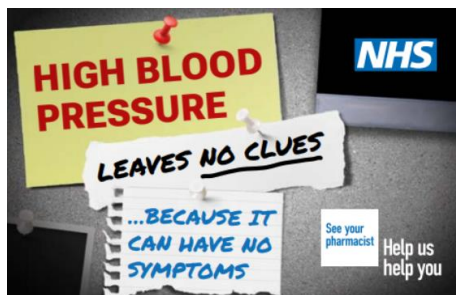
[Read more, including NHSBSA guidance.](#)

Newsletters



To read the latest edition of Surrey Heartlands Medicines Safety Matters click [here](#).

Additionally you may be interested in.....



TV campaign to encourage blood pressure checks in community pharmacy

Primary care teams are encouraged to support a new campaign to help detect the estimated 4.2 million people in England with undiagnosed hypertension [using free](#)

[resources on the Campaign Resource Centre website including printed pharmacy toolkits, social media assets, digital screens and a communications toolkit.](#)

High blood pressure (hypertension) is the single biggest treatable risk factor for cardiovascular disease including heart attacks, strokes and dementia. However high blood pressure usually has no symptoms, which is why from 11 March, a TV campaign will encourage those aged 40 and over, to get a free blood pressure check [at the nearest participating pharmacy.](#)



Register for CPE Data Security and Protection Toolkit (2023/24) Workshop

CPE will be holding a webinar on **Wednesday 20th March at 7pm** to help community pharmacy owners to complete the [Data Security and Protection Toolkit for 2023/24.](#)

During the webinar, representatives from Community Pharmacy England and the NHS DSPTK team will discuss the Toolkit questions, talk delegates through the available guidance materials and answer questions about making the declaration.

[Read more and register to join.](#)

Follow us on social



[**LPC@communitypharmacys.co.uk**](mailto:LPC@communitypharmacys.co.uk)

Address: CPSS, PO Box 1061A, Surbiton, KT1 9HJ

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