



Newsletter

14/03/24

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



Codeine Linctus Private Prescriptions

Please be vigilant for forged private prescriptions for codeine linctus across Surrey and Sussex. We have received a couple of reports from contractors in the

area who have been presented with them for dispensing.

Local Services



For Brighton & Hove pharmacies only:

Healthy Living Pharmacies Training Update

A recording of the Delivering effective Alcohol Screening and Brief Intervention Training is now available on Brighton and Hove County Council Learning Zone. Please note this session is only available for GP and Pharmacy teams.

Overview

This alcohol training video will help professionals identify individuals whose drinking might be negatively impacting their health and to be able to deliver simple, structured, brief interventions.

Duration

90 minutes

Assessment

There is a short assessment to complete after watching the video.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Define and explain key messages around alcohol in the context of your role.
- Recognise the importance of brief interventions and of addressing barriers to behaviour change.
- Explain the link between alcohol and a range of health issues and the benefits to drinking within the guidelines.
- Practice using a screening tool.
- Identify when and how to refer to specialist services.
- Practice delivery of a simple brief advice and interventions.
- Know where to get further resources.

Further information

Pharmacy staff working within a Healthy Living Pharmacy can claim £80 for completing this course via PharmOutcomes. For any queries please contact roisin.thurstan@brighton-hove.gov.uk.

To register for a BHCC account please go to <https://learning.brighton-hove.gov.uk> To avoid your request being rejected, please ensure you fully

complete the registration form and in the section “Reason for requesting an account” you must add ‘to access Health Promotion training’.



For Surrey Pharmacies offering NHS Health Checks only - NHS Health Check Training – Friday 26th April

The Public Health Team have organised an [online training day](#) for practice staff and pharmacists who are signed up to the Public Health Agreement for NHS Health Checks.

When: Friday 26th April 09:30-15:30

Where: MS Teams

Click to sign up [here](#).

This session is aimed at those who will be delivering the NHS Health Checks to patients in community pharmacy and other locations. It will include an explanation of the tests that are included in the NHS health check. It will give delegates confidence in assessing risk, communication of risk and suggestion of actions to help patients reduce their risk of CVD and diabetes. This session is also suitable for those who have not delivered NHS Health Checks since the pandemic and wish to refresh their memory before resuming services.

To maximise learning from the day, it is recommended that the OnClick 'Health Check Mentor' e-Learning module is completed prior to attending this session. The e-learning module can be accessed via <https://shop.onclick.co.uk/> using the enrolment code: suEight74£_kt1X.

If you are not already delivering NHS Health Checks please ensure that your pharmacy has made arrangements for point of care testing (POCT) equipment training so that following this training session you're ready to deliver.

If you need more information on this, please email

publichealthclaims@surreycc.gov.uk



Community Pharmacy Surrey & Sussex and NHS Sussex Webinar – helping people with severe mental illness attend physical health checks Tuesday, 19th March 7pm to 8pm

People with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder or other psychosis (severe mental illness) face a shorter life expectancy by an average of 15-20 years, mostly due to deaths from cardiovascular disease, but also from COPD and liver disease. We know that for many people with severe mental illness, their local pharmacist is a familiar and trusted individual who can advise on health matters.

Join our next webinar for a discussion about how you can directly help to improve health outcomes for this vulnerable group of people, by sharing information and reassurance with them about booking and attending an annual physical health check with their GP Practice.

Dr. Lindsay Hadley FRCGP, NHS Sussex lead for physical health checks for people with severe mental illness, will lead the session that will cover why people with severe mental illness have such poor health outcomes and how the health check can make a difference. She will also talk through how to spot signs of worsening mental health and what to do about it.

Book [here](#).

Additionally you may be interested in.....



NHS South East Genomic Medicine Service Alliance invites you to attend their virtual GMSA Spring Festival which will be entirely dedicated to pharmacogenomics! Register for FREE and find out more on the QR code below or click [here](#).

Find out about work that is happening **now** in the NHS to implement pharmacogenomic testing and plans for the **future** in all areas of practice including: secondary care, primary care, mental health.



New Independent Prescribing (IP) supervision resource for prospective Designated Prescribing Practitioners (DPPs), employers and system leaders

NHS England have launched a new multi-professional resource for clinicians considering becoming a DPP and employers and system leaders aiming to support DPP capacity in their workforce, particularly the pharmacy workforce.

The resource consists of a suite of web pages, frameworks, real-life examples and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). It also includes information for prospective DPPs from professions other than pharmacy, wishing to support a pharmacist IP learner.

The resource aims to reduce barriers to the DPP role by ensuring those eligible understand the role, its expectations and where to find advice and training.

The resource can be accessed via the link [here](#).



NHS England - Shortest Effective Course Lengths for antibiotics – amoxicillin - key messages

What is the problem with current courses of antibiotics?

- Unnecessarily long courses of antimicrobials are one of the factors driving antimicrobial resistance and an increased risk of *Clostridioides difficile* infection in at-risk populations.
- Antibiotic course durations have often been based on a seemingly arbitrary and weak evidential basis. With antimicrobial resistance recognised as a global threat to public health, reducing course lengths when the evidence demonstrates that this not only does no harm but is potentially safer for the patient.
- ***“Each additional day of antibiotic therapy is associated with a 4% increase in risk of side effects and a 3% increase in risk of resistance” [Curran J 2022].***

Antimicrobials should only be used when they confer health benefits, in other words when the risk benefit ratio falls in favour of treatment.

For more information read “Key Messages” [here](#).

To download a copy of Antibiotic Course length infograph click [here](#).

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