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Newsletter

05/09/2024

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.

Quick Glance In This Edition:

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- * Change in heparin prescribing by University Hospitals Sussex.
- * Pancreatic Cancer UK webinar for GPs and pharmacists - 18th September, 6pm to 7pm.
- * End of Life Training Webinar September 23rd 7.30pm to 8.30pm.
- * NHS Sussex Annual General Meeting – 25th September.
- * Pharmacy Technician Day Tuesday 15th October.
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- * Reminder - Look-alike, sound-alike (LASA) medicines.
- * Survey on reviewing the Controlled Drug Regulations 2013.

LPC News



Are you ready to support individuals being released early from prison.

NHSE have created guidance for GP practices and Pharmacies to ensure they are ready to support individuals being released early from prison as part of the initiative to help tackle prison pressures. The guidance can be found [here](#).



Change in heparin prescribing by University Hospitals Sussex

Note UHSx will be standardising its Low Molecular Weight Heparin (LMWH) prescribing by transitioning from dalteparin (Fragmin) to enoxaparin (Inhixa) across the hospital sites starting Wednesday, 4th September.

Community pharmacies may observe a change in prescriptions reflecting enoxaparin (Inhixa) instead of dalteparin (Fragmin). This switch aims to align prescribing practices across Sussex and achieve cost savings.

Training



Pancreatic Cancer UK webinar for GPs and pharmacists - 18th September, 6pm to 7pm

In light of the ongoing intermittent shortages of Pancreatic Enzyme Replacement Therapy (PERT) Pancreatic Cancer UK is hosting a webinar for GPs and pharmacists on 18th September, 6pm to 7pm.

PERT is essential for people with pancreatic cancer, neuroendocrine cancer, pancreatitis and cystic fibrosis. The webinar, will provide healthcare professionals with accurate expert guidance to support patients during this challenging time.

Find out more and register here: [PERT shortage guidance for GPs and pharmacists](#).



End of Life Training Webinar September 23rd 7.30pm to 8.30pm

NHS Frimley will be supporting community pharmacies with supporting individuals

at the end of their life.

The end of Life care training is on **September 23rd from 7:30-8:30pm** and will be led by Palliative Care Consultant Cate Seaton-Jones from Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice. The aim of this session is to empower you with the knowledge and tools to support patients at the end of their life and their carers.

Please see joining link below and invite attached to bookmark the event in your diary.

Microsoft Teams

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 330 849 993 997

Passcode: pXk9bV

Newsletters

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



Additionally you may be interested in.....

You are invited...

NHS
Sussex

Join NHS Sussex for our
Annual General Meeting



Wednesday 25 September 2024
From 3.30 – 5pm



Virtual meeting

www.sussex.ics.nhs.uk



NHS Sussex Annual General Meeting – 25th September

NHS Sussex invite you to join them for their Annual General Meeting (AGM) on
Wednesday 25 September from 3.30pm to 5.00pm.

The meeting will be an opportunity to reflect on 2023-24 and to share a summary of the achievements from those 12 months across health and care in Sussex, recognising where improvements have been made and where our areas of focus have been to ensure that our population is receiving the care they need.

It will also be an opportunity to recognise the first year of the Sussex Health and Care system's five-year strategy *Improving Lives Together*, and all that has been achieved with our health and care partners in Sussex to deliver our joint ambition. At the AGM we will also look forward and set out our priorities for this current year and for the future ahead.

If you would like to join us, please confirm your attendance by emailing us at sxib.comms@nhs.net or registering a place on our website: [AGM \(Annual General Meeting\) - Sussex Health & Care \(ics.nhs.uk\)](https://www.sussex.ics.nhs.uk/AGM).

We welcome any questions as part of the meeting, and these can be submitted in advance to sxicb.comms@nhs.net by 18 September. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions as part of the meeting. We very much hope you can join us.

Kind regards

Stephen Lightfoot, Chair and Adam Doyle, Chief Executive officer.



Pharmacy Technician Day Tuesday 15th October

Last year **NHS Sussex** organised a face-to-face celebration for World Pharmacy Technician Day and based on the success of last year they are planning another on **Tuesday 15th October 2024 10am-1pm**. The meeting will be hosted at the Board Room in Sackville House, Lewes but there will be the opportunity of joining remotely if you are unable to attend the day.

Please see this notification as a 'save the date' and in the coming weeks further information around the agenda, pre meeting activities and directions to the event will be sent out.



Frimley ICB – getUBetter app now available

getUBetter is working in partnership with Frimley ICB and the NHS to provide safe digital self-management for all common muscle, bone, and joint, injuries and conditions. It is fully safety-netted, localised to Frimley and covers the entire musculoskeletal (MSK) pathway so patients can access evidence-based, trusted and approved self-management at every stage of their recovery.

The content follows current evidence, alongside clinical experience to provide patients with condition-specific progressive exercises, safety netting questions, support on when and where to seek help, and access to local services & networks.

- Covers 11 MSK pathways
- Has video subtitles and Touch To Speak in 14 languages
- Free for Patients to use
- For anyone over 18s with a new, recurrent or long-term MSK condition.

For more information, please read the FAQs: [FAQs on our Digital Self Management Support Platform \(getubetter.com\)](#)

To provide your patients access to the app, please scan the below QR code, give them this link: [getUBetter - getUBetter App](#) or signpost patients directly to their app store.



For any questions, please contact Jenni@getUBetter.com.



Reminder - Look-alike, sound-alike (LASA) medicines

Look-alike, sound-alike (LASA) medicines are a well-recognised cause of medication errors that are due to orthographic (look-alike) and phonetic (sound-alike) similarities between medicines, which can be confusing. Look-alike medicines appear visually the same with respect to packaging, shape, colour and/or size, while sound-alike medicines are similar in the phonetics of their names, doses and/or strengths.

Pharmacy teams should prospectively design and implement strategies to identify LASA medication errors and build a robust system that intercepts them before they result in patient harm. There are many examples of LASA medicines, and we can continue to learn from these by ensuring medication errors are reported.

Examples of LASA issues that have occurred recently include lorazepam/loprazolam and montelukast/memantine. Further information about LASA medicines can be found on the Community Pharmacy Patient Safety Group [here](#).



Survey on reviewing the Controlled Drug Regulations 2013

The Department of Health and Social Care has committed to reviewing the [Controlled Drugs \(Supervision of Management and Use\) Regulations 2013](#) by March 2025.

As part of this, the Department and Scottish government are inviting you to complete a [short survey](#) to inform the review and analyse how effective the regulations remain. The purpose of this questionnaire is to inform our review of the Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) Regulations 2013 and the framework underpinning the governance and accountability of controlled drugs in England and Scotland.

The survey will be open from Sunday 1st September to Sunday 29th September 2024.

For any questions or queries please contact communitypharmacyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.

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