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Newsletter

16/10/2024

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:

- \* Tackling Health Inequalities – Hangleton and Knoll community event
- \* Lateral Flow Device Service
- \* Pharmacy First threshold changes
- \* Pharmacy First promotional materials
- \* CPSS webinar - Supporting understanding and confidence in Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and autoimmune hepatitis (AIH) - 12th November  
7.00pm to 8.00pm
- \* CPSS Webinar: Genomics Informed Medicines Optimisation: Introduction for Community Pharmacists 7th of November 7pm to 8pm
- \* The Early Intervention Community Sleep Support (EICSS) study
- \* Research request from NHSE prescriptions team - NHS App

LPC News



## Tackling Health Inequalities – Hangleton and Knoll community event

We attended a fantastic community event 'Being well in the west' on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October in Brighton, Marie Hockley Community Pharmacy Surrey and Sussex, Janet Rittman Brighton and Hove Public Health and Tina Fowler Pharmacy Liaison CGL supported promoting community pharmacy services, alcohol awareness, Pharmacy First, patient health advice and signposting.

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## Local Services



## Lateral Flow Device Service

If your pharmacy is signed up to provide the Lateral Flow Device Service. Just a reminder that CPE have resources to help pharmacy owners and teams promote the Lateral Flow Device (LFD) service to people aged 85 and over, as well as care home residents.

- **Seniors 85+:** Pharmacy teams are encouraged to proactively speak with these individuals and their carers about keeping a box of LFD test kits at home. Pharmacies can attach small promotional flyers to prescription bags as a reminder to check their test kit supply.
- **Care Home Residents:** Residents aged 70 and over, those with high BMI, diabetes, or heart failure, are also eligible to receive free LFD test kits. Care home staff, however, can only access the service if they meet the [criteria](#) themselves. Pharmacies can email or send letters to care homes, informing them about the availability of the LFD test kits.

Pharmacy teams can download small flyers and the template email/letter to support these promotional activities via the links below.

[Promoting the service to people who are 85 years or over](#)

[Promoting the service to care homes](#)

Pharmacies should ensure that they are referring to the latest version of the eligibility risk factors to confirm a patient's eligibility found [here](#). Note the additional cohorts of 85 years and over or care home residents are unlikely to have received a letter confirming their eligibility for free LFD tests but this can be checked via their age and/or residential status.

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## Pharmacy First threshold changes

Achieving the thresholds for the monthly Pharmacy First payment has been an ongoing matter of great concern for pharmacy owners and Community Pharmacy England. Ministers have now decided that they intend to amend the thresholds for the rest of the year, in light of the concerns that CPE have raised.

The revised thresholds will be:

Month	Number of clinical pathway consultations
November 2024	20
December 2024	20
January 2025	25
February 2025	25
March 2025	30



## Pharmacy First promotional materials

CPE have developed a range of materials including posters, social media assets and

an animation which pharmacy owners can use to promote the service to patients. The CPE shared folder (link below) allows you to download the latest versions of the following resources:

- Posters for display within pharmacies and for more general use (e.g. in general practice waiting rooms);
- Social media tiles and suggested social media posts about Pharmacy First;
- Videos and digital screen graphics;
- Small flyers about Pharmacy First; and
- Template local press release for Pharmacy First launch.

Download here: [Pharmacy First promotional resources](#).

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## Training



### **CPSS webinar - Supporting understanding and confidence in Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and autoimmune hepatitis (AIH) - 12th November 7.00pm to 8.00pm**

The IBD consultant pharmacist, Fiona Rees, from University Hospitals Sussex is providing training to support understanding and confidence in Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and autoimmune hepatitis (AIH), so please join us on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024 7-8pm. This is open to all members of the pharmacy team.

Sign up to the event [here](#).



**CPSS Webinar: Genomics Informed Medicines Optimisation:  
Introduction for Community Pharmacists 7th of November 7pm to  
8pm**

Lucy Galloway, Consultant Pharmacist Genomic Medicine from the NHS South East Genomic Medicine Service will discuss genomics for community pharmacy. The webinar will cover:

What is Genomics and how is this impacting the use of medicines in the NHS?

Introduction to the NHS Genomic Medicines Service and Strategy for Pharmacogenomics in England.

Horizon scanning, future opportunities for pharmacists, and where to go for further information.

Sign up [here](#).

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## Newsletters

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



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Additionally you may be interested in.....



## **The Early Intervention Community Sleep Support (EICSS) study**

You are invited to be part of an innovative initiative that aims to improve access to sleep health services through community pharmacies. The Early Intervention Community Sleep Support (EICSS) project has demonstrated promising results in its feasibility study, and the British Society of Pharmacy Sleep Services are now looking to scale up this important work.

Key findings from our initial study include:

1. Sustained patient engagement: 85% of patients accepted sleep screening when offered.
2. Effective triage: 62% of screened patients met the threshold for Home Sleep Apnoea Testing (HSAT).
3. Valuable referrals: 39% of patients referred to sleep clinics were diagnosed with Obstructive Sleep Apnoea.
4. Potential to reduce GP workload: The service provided an alternative pathway for patients seeking sleep-related advice.

By joining this initiative, you will:

- Expand your pharmacy's service offerings
- Contribute to early detection of sleep disorders
- Potentially improve patient outcomes

- Be at the forefront of innovative community pharmacy practice

They are seeking pharmacy contractors who are passionate about improving sleep health in their communities. Training and support will be provided to ensure successful implementation of the service. To learn more about this opportunity and how you can participate, please contact Adrian Zacher [hello@bspss.org](mailto:hello@bspss.org).

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### **Research request from NHSE prescriptions team - NHS App**

The NHS England App team is looking for pharmacies to take part in research that will help them understand the number of queries they receive from patients asking for updates about their prescriptions. This research will help inform the app team about ways they can make the app provide a better user experience and support pharmacy staff.

For this research, they would be asking you to record the number of queries you get from patients about the status of a prescription.

They will provide you with a template you can use to complete this task. They need you to print the template and ask all staff in your pharmacy to complete it throughout the week. To complete it, they will need your team to make a tally every time a patient has a query about the status of their prescription, there are separate rows for queries that are in person and queries by email or phone. It would be helpful if you could do this for a full week, starting on a Monday.

At the end of the template, there will be two short questions for you to answer.



If you are interested in taking part in the research or would like to hear more, please contact one of their researchers by emailing:

[england.prescriptionsresearch@nhs.net](mailto:england.prescriptionsresearch@nhs.net)

Please include the name of your pharmacy, as well as the **post code** and **ODS code** for your pharmacy in your email.

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