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Newsletter

23/10/2024

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

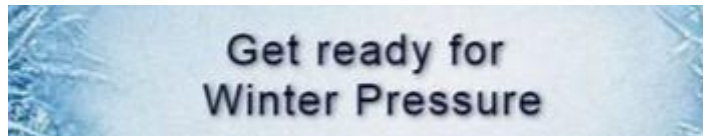
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Expressions of Interest deadline date is the 15th of November 2024

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LPC News



Winter Pressures: Share Your Views

Community Pharmacy England wants to hear views and concerns from pharmacy owners in Surrey and Sussex as we head into winter.

A short survey is now running to better understand how concerned you are about your pharmacy business and how you think that might impact your patients this winter. The community pharmacy sector urgently needs better funding and support, and this is an important chance for you to feed into Community Pharmacy England's work to highlight the desperate situation pharmacy owners are facing. The ten-minute survey, open until 11.59pm on Monday 4th November, can be completed here: [November 2024 Committee Opinion Poll](#).

Please note, this survey link is for independent and non-CCA multiples only, as CCA multiples have been asked to respond via their head offices.

The polling enables pharmacy owners to input directly into the November meeting of the Community Pharmacy England Committee, where they will discuss pressing issues such as the latest on 2024/25 negotiations, monitoring activity for Pharmacy First and flu vaccinations, and workplans for 2025/26. The results of this poll will contribute to the national negotiator's ongoing efforts to raise awareness of pharmacy pressures with politicians and the media, and to push for an increase in

core funding. This information and outcomes from the committee meeting will be published on the Community Pharmacy England website in due course.

CPSS hopes that many local pharmacy owners submit their views to feed directly into Community Pharmacy England's work. [Read more here.](#)



Christmas and New Year Opening Hour changes to supplementary hours

Pharmacy owners who want to change their supplementary opening hours over the Christmas and New Year period are required by their terms of service to notify the relevant ICB via frimleyicb.southeastcommunitypharmacy@nhs.net.

If a pharmacy owner wants to:

- increase supplementary opening hours at the pharmacy, notification of the change must be given to the ICB in advance of the increase but there is no notice period.
- decrease supplementary opening hours at the pharmacy, at least five weeks' notice must be given to the ICB prior to implementing the change.

Pharmacy owners are encouraged to give the ICB as much notice of changes as they can of any changes to supplementary opening hours.

There is a template [notification form](#) for example, Annex 9 – notification of a decrease in the total number of supplementary opening hours – complete as one-off change.

Pharmacy owners have the right to change supplementary opening hours so long as the required notice/notification is given. This is not an application process and there is no requirement for an ICB to approve or grant changes to supplementary opening hours.

Using the [NHS Profile Manager tool](#), pharmacy owners will need to update their opening hours in their NHS website profile and their Directory of Services (DoS) profile, to reflect their changed opening hours.

Local Services



i-Access Drug and Alcohol Services across Surrey - move to EPS

I-Access are planning to go-live on the 18th of November with electronic prescriptions. This will only be for those prescriptions previously generated as Green FP10s and will only be a small proportion of the prescriptions they issue as the majority are instalment prescriptions.

This will mostly be relapse prevention medication such as Acamprosate and Naltrexone. This may also include emergency prescription of OST on single

collection where service users have moved out of area or situations in which the prescriber needs to maintain continuity of care and prevent relapse.



Pharmacy Contraception Service - Appropriate contraceptive choices for pregnancy prevention during treatment with medicines of teratogenic potential.

The management of valproate and topiramate have been a major focus of the ICB Medicines Safety Committees (MSC) across Surrey and Sussex and work continues across the interfaces of care to assure that all our patients of childbearing potential prescribed valproate and topiramate are being managed appropriately and that the systems and processes established are robust.

See information on the Surrey Heartlands PAD: [Profile : Sodium valproate \(with childbearing potential\) - Epilepsy \(res-systems.net\)](#), [Profile : Sodium valproate \(with childbearing potential\) - Mental Health disorders \(res-systems.net\)](#), [Profile : Topiramate - Epilepsy \(res-systems.net\)](#) and [Profile : Topiramate - Migraine \(prevention\) \(res-systems.net\)](#).

It is essential that all staff providing contraception services are aware of the latest guidance and to have an understanding of which contraceptives are appropriate for patients on these medications. The attached documents are useful in highlighting what constitutes 'HIGHLY EFFECTIVE' and 'EFFECTIVE' contraception and also advice on drug interactions with contraception – see below.

- [contraception for pregnancy prevention during treatment with medicines of](#)

[teratogenic potential aide-memoire table-2024.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\).](#)

- Clinical Guidance: Drug Interactions with Hormonal Contraception FSRH CEU Guidance: [Drug Interactions with Hormonal Contraception \(May 2022\) | FSRH.](#)

Please share this with all staff who provide contraceptive services and advice.

Training



NHS Health Check Training – November 8th 09:30 – 15:30

Please sign up to the training day being hosted by Surrey County Council if you would like to learn or refresh your learning around the NHS Health Check service. If you are unable to make this date but would like to be considered for the next training day please contact Will.King@surreycc.gov.uk.

[NHS Health Check Training - Friday 8th November 09:30 - 15:30 Tickets, Fri 8 Nov 2024 at 09:30 | Eventbrite.](#)



Hypertensive Case Finding Training webinar Wednesday 13th November at 7pm-8pm

This training webinar is designed to support colleagues to fully embed the hypertensive case finding service, explore opportunities to increase service delivery presented by our guest Speakers Alison Warren (Consultant Pharmacist Cardiology FRPharmS, FFRPS, BPharm, DipClinPharm, MSc, PharmIP. University Hospitals Sussex (Brighton) and Sussex Integrated Care Board) and Mike Okorie (Consultant Physician and Associate Medical Director for Medicines Safety & Prescribing; Professor of Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics and Head, Department of Medical Education, BSMS; RCP Regional Specialty Adviser for Clinical Pharmacology in Kent, Surrey & Sussex)

The aim of this webinar is to support pharmacy colleagues to deliver the NHS Community Pharmacy Blood Pressure Check service and will include:

- Why identifying and managing hypertension is key CVD prevention priority
- Measuring the blood pressure - clinic, ambulatory and home blood pressure monitoring
- Opportunities of the community pharmacy hypertension case finding programme
- How are we doing in Sussex and how can you help?
- Q&A

Please submit your questions by Thursday 7th to

LPC@communitypharmacys.co.uk. To sign up click [here](#).



Identifying signs of violence against women online training session Tuesday 27th November 7pm-9pm

This Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) training is designed specifically for the Community Pharmacy setting, addressing the unique role that pharmacy professionals play in identifying and supporting victims of abuse.

The session aims to build a comprehensive understanding of VAWG, emphasising the broader societal issues that perpetuate violence, such as sexism, misogyny, and patriarchy. Through tailored case studies, participants will explore scenarios relevant to their daily work environment, equipping them with the skills to recognise and respond effectively to signs of abuse, harm or violence against women or girls.

The training will delve into the systemic nature of gender inequality highlighting how male entitlement and societal structures contribute to VAWG. By understanding the wider context, pharmacy staff can see the bigger picture—how these forms of violence are both a cause and a consequence of entrenched gender biases—and how their involvement can have a far-reaching impact on society.

Additionally, participants will learn how to adopt anti-victim blaming practices, ensuring that victims feel believed and supported in their interactions with pharmacy professionals. Through this training, pharmacy teams will be empowered to continue making a real difference, offering compassionate, informed care in their

community.

This can be documented as CPD for GPhC revalidation. To sign up click [here](#).

Newsletters

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



Additionally you may be interested in.....



Recruitment of Trainee Pharmacists via Oriel: Information and support for community pharmacy and employers in the South East region

To support you in preparation for 2026/27 foundation training, the NHS England WT&E South East pharmacy team are hosting three online webinars in November 2024 to discuss what this means for you as employers. The focus of these webinars will be on the recruitment of trainees via the Oriel National Recruitment Scheme.

Thursday 7th November 6:30pm to 8pm, [Join the meeting now](#), Meeting ID: 333 621 414 223, Passcode: YmKQ2Z

Tuesday 19th November 6:30pm to 8pm, [Join the meeting now](#), Meeting ID: 389 675 865 211, Passcode: kLnBeL

Wednesday 27th November 1pm to 2pm, [Join the meeting now](#), Meeting ID: 327 482 786 73, Passcode: mTAK9o



Exciting opportunity to join the Pharmacy Technician Professional Advisory Forum

Expressions of Interest deadline date is the 15th of November 2024

The NHS England Office of the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer Pharmacy Technician Professional Advisory Forum's purpose is to seek the expertise of experienced pharmacy technicians across all areas of practice to advise on the development of pharmacy technician professional practice in support of patient care and medicines optimisation.

It provides a forum for the Office of the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer to directly engage with pharmacy technicians in leadership positions to seek opinion and build engagement, with the aim of becoming more inclusive of pharmacy technician expertise and opinion. The forum acts in an advisory capacity utilising individual expertise and pharmacy technician professional views to inform relevant teams in NHS England on pharmacy technician professional practice covering legislation, education and training, professional standards, scope of practice and

implementation.

Description of role: To ensure the contribution of appropriate expertise and experience, and as part of their commitment to Inclusive Pharmacy Practice, the Office of the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer would like to recruit one additional member, who is currently practising as a pharmacy technician, and has relevant leadership experience that can contribute to the Pharmacy Technician Professional Advisory Forum.

If you have any questions regarding this Group, please contact Claire Dearden Chief Pharmaceutical Officer's and NHS Specialist Pharmacy Service National Pharmacy Technician Fellow Clairedearden@nhs.net. For more information and how to apply click [here](#).



Surrey Heartlands ICB – Fortisip Compact Protein stock update

As of 21st October 2024 Mocha, Strawberry, Berries, Peach/Mango and Cool Red Fruit flavours of Fortisip Compact Protein are out of stock or very low stock to wholesalers, with anticipated resupply dates for 4-11th November.

The table below shows the out-of-stock flavours and suggested alternatives dependent on patients' needs and abilities to reconstitute a supplement from

powder.

Out of stock product	Powdered shake alternative	200ml ready to drink alternative	Compact alternative
Fortisip Compact Protein Mocha	AYMES Shake Compact Vanilla	Fortisip Plant Based Mocha	Altraplen Compact Daily Hazel Chocolate - 1 x 250ml bottle per day
Fortisip Compact Protein Cool Red Fruits	AYMES Shake Compact Strawberry	Altraplen Energy Strawberry	Altraplen Compact Daily Strawberry or AYMES Actagain 600 strawberry - 1 x 250ml bottle per day
Fortisip Compact Protein Strawberry	AYMES Shake Compact Strawberry	Altraplen Energy Strawberry	Altraplen Compact Daily Strawberry or AYMES Actagain 600 strawberry - 1 x 250ml bottle per day
Fortisip Compact Protein Berries	AYMES Shake Compact Strawberry	Altraplen Energy Strawberry	Altraplen Compact Daily Strawberry or AYMES Actagain 600 strawberry - 1 x 250ml bottle per day
Fortisip Compact Protein Peach/Mango	AYMES Shake Compact Banana or Strawberry	Fortisip Plant Based Mango/Peach	Altraplen Compact Daily Strawberry or AYMES Actagain 600 banana or strawberry - 1 x 250ml bottle per day

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