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Newsletter

03/10/2025

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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- \* Medicines Supply Tool – Specialist Pharmacy Service

## LPC News



### Pharmacy First Clinical Pathways Update October 2025

From 1st October 2025, the updated Pharmacy First Clinical Pathways have been implemented. To summarise the changes, CPSS have put together slides and a recording.

**These are the changes as highlighted by Community Pharmacy Surrey and Sussex for contractors reference. Please note, it remains the responsibility of all clinicians delivering the service to ensure they have read and understood the changes. This is not an exhaustive list of the changes therefore clinicians will need to read the documents published by NHS England and ensure they are confident in providing the service, are practising safely and in line with the service specification.**

The slides can be found [here](#).

The recording can be found [here](#).



**ICB's across Surrey and Sussex provide a free of charge needlestick injury occupational health service via Heales for community**

## pharmacy

The ICB's have a contract with Heales Medical for Occupational Health, providing support around needlestick injuries for all staff working in primary care on exposure to potential Blood Borne Viruses (BBV), 52 weeks of the year (normal working hours 9am-5pm Monday-Friday, excluding bank holidays). If you need any further information and a poster regarding the service, please contact us at [lpc@communitypharmacys.co.uk](mailto:lpc@communitypharmacys.co.uk).

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## Local Services



### Obesity Pathway Innovation Programme (OPIP)

Sussex and Surrey Heartlands ICB's are preparing to bid for grant funding and are doing a joint market engagement exercise to explore innovative ideas, technologies, and service models that could inform our competition entries and shape future service opportunities in obesity prevention and management in our ICBs.

Details of the engagement exercise and about the project are available on the links

below. The market engagement event it is being held on the **8th and 9th October**.

Prior Information Notice - [Innovation in Obesity Pathways - Market Engagement Opportunity - Find a Tender](#)

[Innovation in weight management: Obesity - ICS](#)

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### **NHS Frimley Community Pharmacy PCN Engagement Lead role - opportunity**

NHS Frimley is inviting expressions of interest from Community Pharmacists based in Surrey Heath PCN to take on the role of Community Pharmacy (CP) Primary Care Network (PCN) Engagement Lead.

The position is currently funded for the remainder of the financial year (31 March 2026) with the ambition to start in role 1st November 2025.

The CP PCN Engagement Lead plays a vital role in strengthening collaboration between community pharmacies, GP practices, and PCNs, building strong local partnerships and supporting the delivery of high-quality healthcare services aligned with national priorities. The focus is on embedding key clinical services such as the Pharmacy First Service, expanding the Blood Pressure Checks Service, and extending access to the Pharmacy Contraception Service.

This work helps to align patient pathways, improve integration of clinical services and ultimately enhance patient outcomes and experience. By enabling community

pharmacies to manage minor health concerns and common conditions, the role also contributes to reducing pressure on GP practices.

To be eligible, you must be able to commit 8 hours per month to fulfil the responsibilities of the role. If employed by a pharmacy, you will need to come to a local agreement to allow release for this time. You will be part of a wider network of CP PCN Engagement Leads within the NHS Frimley geography and will be required to attend monthly network meetings hosted by NHS Frimley. These meetings offer an opportunity to share successes and challenges with your peers, engage with colleagues from the Integrated Care Board (ICB), and receive updates relevant to your work.

**Expressions of interest must be received by Friday 17th October and are made by completing this [MS form](#).**

A more detailed role description is available [here](#).

If you have any questions, please email: [caroline.martinez@nhs.net](mailto:caroline.martinez@nhs.net).

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**Adult Flu: Signing up to the correct PGD**

This year, a national template Patient Group Direction (PGD) provided by the UKHSA has been used by NHS England's regions to create locally authorised PGDs for use in the **[Adult Flu Vaccination Advanced Service](#)**.

Ahead of all eligible adults being able to access an NHS flu vaccination from the 1st October 2025, we want to remind pharmacy owners to make sure they are using the correct regionally authorised PGD for the region in which their pharmacy is

based, as well as ensuring the Authorising Manager declaration has been completed.

[Learn more and download copies of the regional PGDs.](#)

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### **Reminder - Requests to provide the seasonal influenza vaccinations at locations other than the pharmacy premises (off-site)**

The [Community pharmacy advanced service specifications – seasonal influenza vaccination](#) for adults and children include a requirement that pharmacies seek consent from the commissioner if they wish to carry out vaccinations at a location off the pharmacy premises (e.g. patient's home, care home, long-stay residential facility or community venue).

If your pharmacy intends to provide flu vaccinations at locations other than the pharmacy premises, please complete and submit the following [Online form](#).

Confirmation of consent to vaccinate off-site will be emailed back to your NHS pharmacy generic email address.

Commissioner consent to vaccinate off-site does not negate the need for the Pharmacy to work collaboratively with local partners in the set-up of off-site services.

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## Training



### **CPPE Weight Management Workshop - Last chance to book!**

CPPE look forward to welcoming you to the first of a new style of face-to-face workshop hosted by CPPE.

**Weight management: Prescribing perspectives** is the new programme for pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and trainee pharmacists providing, or planning to provide, weight management medicines. Follow a real consultation case, complete a targeted self-assessment, and take part in interactive workshop with peer networking.

You'll be welcomed with light refreshments and an opportunity to network and be part of a supportive learning community.

Choose an event to **book now** via this link: [Weight management - prescribing perspectives : CPPE](#).

**Guildford - 14th October 2025 (Last chance!)**

**Arundel - 2nd November 2025**

**Cooden Beach - 3rd February 2026**

**Eastbourne - 25th March 2026**

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## Newsletters

To read the latest edition of the Frimley ICB Prescribing Newsletter click [here](#).



To read the latest edition of the Surrey Wide ICB Safeguarding Newsletter click [here](#).

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

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Additionally you may be interested in.....



### **Surrey Heartlands ICB - LKN and Kidney Care UK patient webinar**

The LKN & Kidney Care UK are hosting its last online education webinar (for 2025) on the **7th October** for people in Surrey Heartlands and London living with CKD 1-3.

The webinar is free and covers: what CKD means, causes, maintaining kidney health, treatments, peoples' experiences, and a chance to ask questions to our expert panel (e.g. nephrologist, GP, dietitian, pharmacist and/or a nurse).

The focus is on early-stage CKD, and it is not suitable for those with advanced CKD (stages 4 or 5) or if they have already started dialysis or working towards transplant.

Patients can register directly through the links on the web page here:

[www.kidneycareuk.org/know-your-kidneys](http://www.kidneycareuk.org/know-your-kidneys)

For pharmacies a PDF poster [here](#) could be printed and shared with patients.

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## Surrey Heartlands

### **Surrey Heartlands National Pharmacy Technician Day Event 2025 - Tuesday 21st October**

Tuesday 21st October marks National Pharmacy Technician Day, and this year the Surrey Heartlands system will be holding an **in-person** celebration at the ICB office in Woking (Block E, Dukes Court, Dukes Street, Woking, GU21 5BH) between 11am and 2:30pm.

Please register using the following link: [REGISTRATION NOW OPEN](#).

This will be an opportunity to celebrate the profession and to share and learn about the opportunities for the Pharmacy Technician workforce both locally and nationally; meeting colleagues from across our system.

#### **Event outline**

**This is an in-person ONLY event.**

11:00 – **Welcome**. Overview of system collaboration across Surrey Heartlands  
Rachel Mackay, Head of Pharmacy & Medicines Optimisation & Strategic Pharmacy  
Workforce Lead

11:30 – **“Celebrating Collaborating”** - Discussion session

12:00 – **Launch of the Sussex & Surrey APTUK (Association of Pharmacy  
Technicians UK) Branch**

- Becky Bastable, Pharmacy Technician Lead, Workforce, Training and Education Directorate, NHSE (South East)

12:20 – **Networking time** - opportunity to network and eat lunch (lunch will be provided)

12:50 – **Developing our Pharmacy Technician profession** – Creating Capacity & Upskilling

- Introducing the Pharmacy Professionals Task Matrix & General Practice Pharmacy Technician Career pathway – Ritienne Fenech, Pharmacy Workforce Transformation Programme Lead, Surrey Heartlands ICB
- Developing Community Pharmacy Technicians – using PGDs to enhance service offering – Simran Johal, Community Pharmacy Surrey & Sussex
- Mira Makhecha’s development journey into Educational Supervision, running clinics in Primary Care, Medicines Optimisation and supporting Community Pharmacy service development.

13:40 – **Launch of the Pharmacy Technician podcasts**

- Clare Johns, Lead Pharmacy Technician, Medicines Resource Unit, Surrey Heartlands ICB

14:00 – **Tips and tools on how to move towards a patient facing clinical role running clinics supporting DOAC, hypertension and preliminary SMRs**

- Mira Makhecha, Senior Medicine Management / Optimisation Pharmacy Technician, Surrey Heartlands ICB

14:30 – **Close**

**Lunch will be provided**

**Venue:** Large Meeting Room, Block E, Dukes Court, Dukes Street, Woking, GU21 5BH

**Parking:** Please note the Victoria Way carpark, which is the closest to Dukes Court is temporarily closed. There is plenty of parking at the Victoria Place carpark which is a 10 minute walk to the offices.

## WORLD PHARMACY TECHNICIAN DAY 2025

### Sussex Event – Agenda

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2025 – 09:30 – 13:00  
NHS Sussex, Sackville House, Lewes, BH7 2FZ  
OR  
[Nat PT day 2025 – teams link](#)



09:30 – 10:00	Welcome, refreshments, networking
10:00 – 10:20	Ice breaker – Two truths and a lie
10:20 – 10:40	South East Coast Ambulance Service Pharmacy Technician Paige Birchley, Pharmacy Technician, SECAMB
10:40 – 11:00	Health in Justice – Q & A Session Kirstie Groves, Pharmacy Technician, HMP Lewes
11:00 – 11:30	APTUK updates & Pharmacy Technician Quiz Jenny Stevens (Link with NHS Surrey Heartlands)
11:30 – 11:50	Break, refreshments, poster display
11:50 – 12:10	Role of the Specialist Gastroenterology Pharmacy Technician Angela Packham, Specialist Pharmacy Technician, UHSx
12:10 – 12:15	‘A day in the life of.....’ – Video Pharmacy Technician, UHSx
12:15 – 12:45	Sussex Pharmacy Conference 2026 – interactive session
12:45 – 13:00	Pharmacy Technician Awards – 2025
13:00 – 14:00	Close & refreshments

**Sussex World Pharmacy Technician Day 2025 – 21st October 09:30-13:00**

Please encourage all Pharmacy Technicians in Sussex to either attend part or full

day either online or face to face, a fantastic opportunity to network, learn more about other Pharmacy Technician roles and celebrate together.

**Location:** NHS Sussex, Sackville House, Lewes, BN7 2FZ **OR** available online (Teams) [here](#).

For further details, see [here](#).

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**Specialist  
Pharmacy  
Service**

The first stop  
for professional  
medicines advice

### **Medicines Supply Tool – Specialist Pharmacy Service**

Community pharmacists can sign up to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and NHS England Medicines Supply Tool to support providers to manage and mitigate medicines supply issues. It provides the latest information on supply issues, actions to take, alternatives to use, and expected resolution dates. Content provided by DHSC and MVA team, NHS England.

[Tools – SPS - Specialist Pharmacy Service – The first stop for professional medicines advice.](#)

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#### **Community Pharmacy Surrey & Sussex**

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