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Newsletter

29/10/2025

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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- * Pharmacy Contraception and New Medicine Services to go live 29th October!
- * CPSS Top Tips series
- * Overdose Awareness & Naloxone, Nyxoid Training 2025
- * How to initiate sexual health consultations webinar
- * This year's Ask Your Pharmacist Week runs 3–10 November.
- * Certificate in Advanced History Taking and Clinical Assessment
- * Celebrating Pharmacy Technician Day 2025

Prefer to listen? Hear the Newsletter as a Podcast [here](#).



LPC News



Pharmacy Contraception and New Medicine Services to go live 29th October!

NHS England has confirmed in an email sent 27th October 2025 to all pharmacies in England that the expansion of the Pharmacy Contraception Service (PCS) will go live on Wednesday this week (29th October), as had originally been planned.

The planned changes to the New Medicine Service (NMS) will also take place, as planned, on that day.

Further details can be found [here](#).

Local Services



CPSS Top Tips series

The next in our series of top tips for contractors is Discharge Medicine Service (DMS) claiming. The new streamlined process for making claims for the service went live on 6th July 2025 so we have put together a top tips guide to support contractors with claiming which can be found [here](#).

Training



Overdose Awareness & Naloxone, Nyxoid Training 2025

West Sussex Drug & Alcohol Wellbeing Network are hosting online training sessions for our partners to increase awareness of signs and symptoms of an overdose and how to administer Naloxone

Naloxone is a lifesaving medication that has saved lives of thousands of people throughout the globe.

Each session will last for approx. 2 hours. At the end of the session you will be issued with a Naloxone kit and a certificate

Date/Time	
11 th Nov	09.30 - 11.30 am Full
18 th Nov	13.00 - 15.00 pm
02 nd Dec	09.30 - 11.30 am
06 th Jan	09.20 - 11.30 am
22 nd Jan	13.30 - 15.30 pm
10 th Feb	09.30 - 11.30 am
26 th Feb	13.00 - 15.00 pm

To book on to one of these sessions please email WSNaloxone@cgl.org.uk
Spaces are limited for each session

 Drug and Alcohol Wellbeing Network
West Sussex

Overdose Awareness & Naloxone, Nyxoid Training 2025

West Sussex Drug & Alcohol Wellbeing Network are hosting online training sessions for their partners to increase awareness of signs and symptoms of an overdose and how to administer Naloxone.

Dates and times:

11th November 09:30-11:30 (Full)

18th November 13:00-15:00

2nd December 09:30-11:30

6th January 09:30-11:30

22nd January 13:30-15:30

10th February 09:30-11:30

26th February 13:00-15:00

To book a space, please email: WSNaloxone@cgl.org.uk.

Newsletters

To read the New Sussex Primary Care Provider Collaborative Newsletter click [here](#).

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



Additionally you may be interested in.....



How to initiate sexual health consultations Webinar

NPA will be running a webinar for pharmacists **19:30 – 20:30pm on the 04th November 2025.**

Speaker: Dr Jenine Bignall (Consultant in Sexual and Reproductive Health)

- A sensitive sexual health discussion
- Define appropriate boundaries for the discussion
- Highlighting how to recognise safeguarding concerns that may require onward referral

Click [here](#) for event details.

Key Learnings:

1. Building Confidence in Sensitive Conversations
 2. Learn practical communication strategies to start and navigate sexual health discussions with professionalism, empathy, and confidence.
 3. Establishing Clear and Appropriate Boundaries
 4. Understand how to define the scope of sexual health consultations within the pharmacy setting while maintaining trust and professionalism.
 5. Recognising and Acting on Safeguarding Concerns
 6. Identify potential safeguarding issues and know when and how to escalate concerns to protect patient safety and wellbeing.
 7. Creating a Supportive, Inclusive Environment
 8. Discover ways to make your pharmacy a safe, non-judgmental space that encourages open dialogue and supports diverse patient needs.
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This year's [Ask Your Pharmacist Week](#) runs 3–10 November.

This year's theme is **[Ask Your Pharmacist: NHS Services Close to Home](#)** – raising awareness of the NHS Blood Pressure Check, Pharmacy First, flu vaccinations and oral contraception, among other services. You should also feel free to promote locally-commissioned services, if that suits the needs of pharmacy contractors in your patch.

Don't forget to use **#AskYourPharmacist** and please let us know about your successes!

Please get involved and follow the week's activities using **#AskYourPharmacist**, and share with your networks.

Coming soon: The NPA is creating free-of-charge campaign materials, for you to use or adapt as you see fit for local use, [available on their website](#). For more information about how you can take part, contact NPA Head of Communications on s.fishwick@npa.co.uk.



Certificate in Advanced History Taking and Clinical Assessment

Frimley ICB is pleased to announce that they will be able to fully fund a small number of Pharmacists to undertake the Certificate in Advanced History Taking and

Clinical Assessment.

This initiative aims to support and upskill the pharmacy workforce across Primary Care, recognising the vital role pharmacists play in providing accessible, front-line care as the NHS responds to growing demand and an ageing population. The IP qualification, alongside services such as the NHS Pharmacy First scheme and expanding clinical roles, requires pharmacists to develop advanced skills in patient assessment, clinical decision-making, and prescribing.

By upskilling pharmacists, they aim to ensure they can safely and confidently embrace these expanded roles. Additionally, offering these development opportunities supports workforce sustainability by boosting job satisfaction and helping retain talented staff within the sector. Interested pharmacists are encouraged to apply and help shape a sustainable, forward-thinking pharmacy workforce in **Frimley**.

Details of the course on offer and what you are committing to completing can be found via this link: [Certificate in Advanced History Taking and Clinical Assessment](#)

If you are interested in taking up this opportunity, please do complete an expression of interest via this [link](#) before the end of **Friday 14th November**.

All EoIs will be reviewed the following week and you will be notified if you have been successful.

There are course start dates in April 2026, September 2026 and April 2027.



Celebrating Pharmacy Technician Day 2025

On Tuesday 21st October, NHS Sussex were delighted to celebrate Pharmacy Technician Day across Sussex with a fantastic hybrid event held at their ICB offices in Sackville House. The event brought together around 80 pharmacy technician colleagues from across the system, recognising the incredible contribution pharmacy technicians make every day to patient care and the wider healthcare team.

The day featured inspirational presentations from pharmacy technicians, poster displays, awards, and refreshments kindly supported by the APTUK Sussex Branch. These sessions showcased the breadth of skills, innovation, and dedication within our profession, offering valuable insights and inspiration to everyone who attended.

A highlight of the day was the awards ceremony, celebrating the outstanding achievements of pharmacy technicians across Sussex. Awards were presented in three categories — Rising Star, Innovation and Improvement, and Leadership in Action — recognising individuals who demonstrate excellence, creativity, and leadership in their roles.

A huge thank you goes to everyone in the Task and Finish Group who worked so hard to make this event possible, and to all who attended and contributed to its success. Together, we continue to celebrate and champion the skill, professionalism, and impact of pharmacy technicians across Sussex.

Community Pharmacy Surrey & Sussex

Address: CPSS, PO Box 1061A, Surbiton, KT1 9HJ

Tel: 01372 417726 | Email: LPC@communitypharmacyss.co.uk

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