

This daily update contains important information for community pharmacy teams about the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In today's update: DMS commenced today; update on Advice Audit; Wellbeing Workshop on Wednesday; COVID vaccination programme next steps; GPhC update on pharmacy supply of COVID-19 tests.

DMS commenced today

Today saw the start of NHS Trust referrals to community pharmacies in England under the NHS Discharge Medicines Service (DMS).

This service builds on the work that the Academic Health Science Networks (AHSN) have undertaken with NHS Trusts, Local Pharmaceutical Committees and pharmacy contractors over recent years, as part of the Transfer of Care Around Medicines (TCAM) programme.

AdditionalDMSresourcepublishedResources to support the rollout of the service within pharmacies are available on our DMSwebpageand today, an additional resource – a DMS worksheet – has been published. Theworksheet can be used by pharmacy contractors where they do not yet have access to an ITsystem to support the creation of full clinical records for the service.

Read more about the commencement of DMS

Update on the PSNC Pharmacy Advice Audit

Thank you to all the pharmacies that took part in the 2021 PSNC Pharmacy Advice Audit. The response has been fantastic with over 50% of pharmacies across England engaging in the audit. This evidence will be vital in the ongoing negotiations relating to the pharmacy contract and the vital role each community pharmacy plays in delivering care for their local community.

Richard Brown, who led the audit for PSNC, said: "This is a great achievement and I would like to extend my gratitude to all the pharmacies who took part, along with the Head Offices who prioritised this important piece of work as part of their delivery schedules. I would also like to acknowledge the work the LPCs undertook to promote the audit and the support they offered their contractors to encourage completion. Without everyone getting behind the audit it would not have been nearly as successful".

Work is now underway to analyse the data and prepare the report for the PSNC.

PSNC to host Pharmacist Support Wellbeing Workshops

PSNC will be hosting the first of two Wellbeing Workshops from Pharmacist Support at **7.30pm on Wednesday**.

Attendees can expect an event packed with information and tools to help better manage stress and everyday pressures, specifically tailored to the pharmacy workforce's needs. The free online workshop lasts around an hour and involves interactive activities for attendees as well as learning.

Click here to learn more and book your place

Next steps in delivering the COVID vaccination programme

The Primary Care COVID Vaccination Programme Team is inviting community pharmacy teams to join a webinar on **Wednesday 17th February, 6.15pm–7.15pm**. The webinar will discuss the next steps in the COVID vaccination roll out and there will also be an opportunity for Q&A.

Please register here and a joining link will be sent to you shortly before the webinar is due to start.

GPhC update on supply of COVID-19 tests from pharmacies

The General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) has updated its position on the provision of rapid/ point of care /near-person antibody tests for COVID-19 from community pharmacies. In light of updated Public Health England (PHE) guidance, the GPhC is no longer asking community pharmacies not to supply these types of test, but it does expect any pharmacy owner or pharmacy professional to carefully consider the PHE guidance and other relevant guidance when deciding whether it is appropriate to offer any type of COVID-19 test.

Read the GPhC update in full

Keep up-to-date on COVID-19 with our hub page: psnc.org.uk/coronavirus

