



Daily Update

Friday 26th February 2021

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

In today's update: CEO's blog; Community Pharmacy News; extension to SSP08; price concessions final update; medicine supply notifications.

CEO's February blog

In this month's blog, PSNC's CEO Simon Dukes talks about the wide range of community pharmacy services, calling for the NHS to show more support for this critical part of primary care.

He is disappointed that, as yet, only a trickle of patients are being referred from NHS 111 and GPs. Simon comments that NHS community pharmacies want to be able to continue to offer the informal face-to-face healthcare advice and clinical services that so many people want from them - but they need the support of the NHS to do so.

[Read Simon's blog](#)

February Community Pharmacy News (CPN)

In the latest issue of CPN, PSNC provides further information on its two as of yet unresolved funding bids and the ongoing negotiations with HM Government. Other key articles include a new Government plan for healthcare, the call for new pharmacy COVID-19 vaccination sites, and guidance on dispensing controlled drugs.

[Read February's CPN](#)

Further extension to SSP08

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has provided an update on the Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) for Salazopyrin® EN-Tabs 500mg (SSP08).

SSP08 for Salazopyrin® EN-Tabs 500mg was previously expected to expire on 22nd January 2021 but the end date has been further extended to **8th March 2021**

[Read more about the extension to SSP08](#)

February price concessions final update

DHSC has today granted the final set of price concessions for February 2021.

[See the full list of price concessions](#)

Medicine supply notifications

Community pharmacy teams should note that DHSC has issued Medicine Supply Notifications for the following products:

- [Colestid \(colestipol\) orange and plain 5g granules sachets](#)
- [Desmopressin \(DDAVP\) 0.01% w/v \(100 micrograms/ml\) intranasal solution](#)
- [Morphine Sulphate granules for oral suspension \(MST Continus\)](#)
- [Sancuso \(granisetron\) 3.1mg/24 hours transdermal patches](#)

Have you seen our latest FAQs?

PSNC's website has a large number of answers to queries posed by pharmacy contractors, their teams, and LPCs; these are updated on a regular basis. Recent additions include:

Q. How many referrals for the Discharge Medicines Service (DMS) will most pharmacies receive?

The number of referrals will inevitably vary from pharmacy to pharmacy, even when the service is fully mature, as the patient profile of individual pharmacies and the likelihood of their patients being admitted to hospital and then being referred to the DMS at discharge will vary. At the commencement of the service in early 2021, not all hospitals are yet ready to make referrals to the service, so some pharmacies will not start to receive referrals on a regular basis until local Trusts have engaged with the service. Both these factors make it difficult to accurately model the likely number of referrals that an average pharmacy will receive, once the service has fully matured, but our current best estimate is around 12 referrals per year.

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

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