



# Daily Update

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

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

**In today's update: face coverings become mandatory in shops tomorrow; mental health training survey; pharmacist education and training reform.**

## Face coverings in shops mandatory from tomorrow

Wearing face coverings will be made mandatory in shops (including pharmacies) and supermarkets from tomorrow (Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July), although children under 11 and those with certain disabilities will be exempt. The liability for wearing a face covering will lie with the individual, not the retailer.

A Government statement indicated that 'should an individual without an exemption refuse to wear a face covering, a shop can refuse them entry and can call the police if people refuse to comply, the police have the formal enforcement powers and can issue a fine'.

PSNC has previously provided guidance to contractors on the [use of facemasks and face coverings](#).

In order to help reinforce this message with the public, new [posters](#) and [social media statics](#) about the mandatory wearing of face coverings have been added to Public Health England's Campaign Resource Centre.

We are also aware of a [poster created by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society](#).

## Updates from Health Education England (HEE)

### Mental health training survey

HEE has launched a survey to explore current provision of mental health training opportunities for student, pre-registration and foundation pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.

The HEE Mental Health Training Programme Director is looking to take practical steps forward in promoting mental health pharmacy practice - across all pharmacy practice settings (including community) - and would like to hear about your education and training plans, and how they may have been affected by the pandemic.

If you are in an education/training role, or a managerial role that includes student, pre-registration and/or foundation pharmacy professionals, then HEE would like to hear from you by the end of the day on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

## [Complete HEE's mental health training survey](#)

### Pharmacist education and training reform

HEE has announced that the planned reform of pharmacist education will be accelerated to help mitigate impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on training of pre-registration pharmacists.

In partnership with key stakeholders, HEE is establishing an Interim Foundation Pharmacist Programme to help provisionally registered pharmacists transition to full GPhC registration and beyond. The first phase of the reform and the purpose of the interim foundation programme is to provide provisionally registered pharmacists with the foundation training support they need.

Further information will be issued in due course, but you can [read the HEE and NHSE&I letter describing the plans for pharmacist education and training reform here](#).

Have you seen our latest COVID-19 related FAQs?

PSNC's COVID-19 hub has an [FAQs page](#) with a large number of answers to queries posed by pharmacy contractors, their teams and LPCs; these are being updated on a regular basis. Recent additions include:

#### **Q. Where can I find information on how to operate my pharmacy in relation to COVID-19?**

A COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedure and guidance to support community pharmacy teams can be found on the [NHSE&I website](#). Please note that this document is subject to frequent changes and updates, so please ensure you are always referring to the most up to date version and are also referring to the separate updates for additional information.

#### **Q. Where can I find a poster to display in my window to prevent symptomatic patients from entering the pharmacy?**

A poster can be found on the [Public Health England \(PHE\) Campaign Resource Centre website](#) to display at the entry points to your pharmacy. Please note that this poster is subject to frequent changes and updates, so please ensure you are always displaying the most up to date version.

[Find answers to more of your questions here](#)

Keep up-to-date on COVID-19 with our hub page: [psnc.org.uk/coronavirus](https://psnc.org.uk/coronavirus)

*Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee*



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14 Hosier Lane, London, EC1A 9LQ  
Tel: 0203 1220 810 | Email: [info@psnc.org.uk](mailto:info@psnc.org.uk)