



# Daily Update

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2020

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

**In today's update: updated COVID-19 SOP; have your say on the future of pharmacy representation; and summer MP engagement.**

## **Updated COVID-19 SOP: volunteers liability clarified and opening hours flexibility removed**

NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) have today issued an updated Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for community pharmacies in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the first update since March, NHSE&I has removed the flexible opening provision that allowed pharmacies to close their doors to the public for up to 2.5 hours a day and clarified the indemnity/liability position of volunteers from the Royal Voluntary Service (RVS).

The updated SOP also includes information on high-risk patients – including shielding patients – detailing when and where a delivery service to shielded patients will be commissioned.

Other amendments bring the SOP in line with the latest information and guidance already available to contractors on, for example, staff risk assessments, social distancing and the use of PPE and face coverings, and cleaning and decontamination of the pharmacy. The updated SOP is a key source of information and guidance for contractors and consolidates information and guidance already available, as well as providing new advice.

[Learn more about the new advice and changes](#)

## **Have your say on the future of pharmacy representation**

In June 2020 Professor David Wright published the findings of his independent review into community pharmacy contractor representation and support. The review looked at the workings of LPCs and PSNC and it set out 33 recommendations for the future.

LPCs and PSNC met in July to discuss the findings of the review, and last night PSNC Chief Executive Simon Dukes held a webinar for contractors to set out some initial responses to the review team's recommendations and to talk about the next steps for the sector.

The webinar talks through four questions that PSNC and LPCs are considering over the summer – we would be delighted to hear from community pharmacy contractors about these as well. To share views, contractors are advised to watch the on-demand webinar.

[Find out more and watch the webinar here](#)

## Summer MP engagement

PSNC has updated its resources to help LPCs and contractors engage with their local MPs during summer recess, including a template letter, press release and guidance for visits/virtual briefing. These are available on the [PSNC website](#).

For any queries relating to MP engagement or local public affairs work, please contact: [commsteam@psnc.org.uk](mailto:commsteam@psnc.org.uk)

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

*Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee*



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