



Daily Update

Friday 16th October 2020

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

In today's update: PPE portal reminder; disallowed EPS items; PSNC on Radio 4.

Reminder: All C-19 PPE now available FoC via portal

Pharmacy contractors are reminded that the Government's PPE portal can now be used by community pharmacies to obtain all the COVID-19 personal protective equipment (PPE) they need; the supplies will be provided free of charge.

Not all contractors have registered on the portal, meaning many pharmacy teams could be missing out on the offer of free of charge PPE supplies: PSNC encourages contractors to register on the portal as soon as possible.

[Find out more about the PPE portal](#)

Disallowed EPS items submitted for payment in July 2020

In July 2020 (the most recently priced dispensing month), a total of 490 items issued via Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) were returned as disallowed by the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA). The NHSBSA has shared with PSNC a list of the top 10 disallowed prescription items submitted for payment via EPS in the dispensing month of July 2020.

[Click here to view the list](#)

PSNC talks about flu vaccination supply on BBC Radio 4

Alastair Buxton, PSNC's Director of NHS Services, appeared on BBC Radio 4's You and Yours programme today (16 October) to discuss the flu vaccination season.

Alastair spoke about the demand community pharmacies have seen for flu vaccinations this season. He also gave some insight into phased orders of vaccinations and explained why some pharmacies are out of stock at this time of year.

The programme heard from some patients who had struggled to access the flu vaccination so far, and also featured a contribution from the Royal College of General Practitioners.

You can listen to the programme on-demand [here](#). The flu segment begins at 01:10 and Alastair can be heard from 05:54.

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. If a patient was previously eligible for a flu vaccine but is currently no longer in a risk group, can they still receive a vaccine?

A. Some patients may have been eligible for a vaccine under the Flu Vaccination Service during previous flu seasons whilst in an at-risk group but may no longer be in that group. Examples could include women who were pregnant during the last flu season but are no longer pregnant or patients who were taking regular inhaled steroids during last flu season but are no longer taking them.

Providing that these patients are not in any other risk group as detailed in the service specification, they would not be eligible for a flu vaccination this year under the Flu Vaccination Service.

Keep up-to-date on COVID-19 with our hub page: 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