



Daily Update

Monday 2nd November 2020

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

In today's update: expected COVID-19 restrictions; CEO Blog; accessing DHSC flu vac stock.

COVID-19: Expected national restrictions from 5th November

A second national lockdown for England is expected to come into effect on Thursday 5th November to help control the spread of COVID-19. The Prime Minister has announced that the lockdown will last until Wednesday 2nd December, and that during that time people should leave their homes only for specific purposes, including for work (if it cannot be done from home), exercise, shopping for basic necessities, or for any medical reason.

PSNC is working with the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) following the Prime Minister's announcement to urgently review the current support in place for both patients and community pharmacy contractors. This includes reviewing the provisions within the COVID-19 SOP for community pharmacy.

The [Pandemic Delivery Service](#) ended in most parts of the country at the end of July, but there were several extensions of the service in specific local outbreak areas. The service isn't currently active, but following the announcement of the new national lockdown, it is possible that the Government will reintroduce the service at short notice.

We will update contractors as and when there is any news: both on the PSNC website and in this daily email.

PSNC CEO Blog

In this month's blog, PSNC Chief Executive Simon Dukes reflects on the impressive work community pharmacy teams have put in this year and the need for this to be recognised by Government.

[Read the October 2020 CEO Blog](#)

Guidance published on accessing DHSC flu vac stock

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has published guidance on how community pharmacies will be able to access supplies of flu vaccines procured centrally by the Government.

As previously communicated, the stock procured by DHSC will start to be delivered in November and supplies will also be received in December.

The Department has worked with PSNC to develop a process for accessing the stock, giving consideration to the supply route via which pharmacies normally receive their flu vaccines and seeking to limit the impact on the business as usual supply chains. In developing the process, DHSC has also needed to protect and mitigate the risks of unintended use, as the stock procurement is a taxpayer funded programme.

[Full details on the use and ordering of this stock](#)

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

Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee



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