



Daily Update

Thursday 26th 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: Update on measures to address workload pressures; register for RTEC; additions to DND list; medicines recall notices.

Update on measures to address workload pressures during second wave

PSNC has today published an [update on the action points](#) that we have been discussing with the NHS and Government to address contractor workload and staffing pressures during the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We have been highlighting the many operational pressures on pharmacy businesses throughout the pandemic and in recent months we have asked for a range of measures to help community pharmacy teams to better handle them through the second wave of the pandemic. We have been having informal discussions on some of these issues for many months, and we will announce decisions and details to contractors as soon as we are able to.

In particular, PSNC has been seeking several regulatory dispensations which will give pharmacy teams the freedom to prioritise patient facing services and make it easier for contractors to maintain sufficient staffing levels.

Another key dispensation sought relates to the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS). PSNC requested that contractors are given more time to complete Part 2 PQS, but that this does not delay delivery of the associated funding. We know many contractors have already made good progress on meeting the quality criteria but those in areas of a higher COVID-19 prevalence have struggled. The valuable work associated with the scheme should still be completed in due course, as long as access to that vital funding is retained in the agreed timeframe.

[Read more and view PSNC's negotiations action list](#)

Register now to use Real Time Exemption Checking (RTEC)

Real Time Exemption Checking (RTEC) allows pharmacy teams to digitally check if their patients are eligible for free NHS prescriptions because they hold specific exemptions.

RTEC has already been rolled out to PMR systems in around 1,100 pharmacies and further rollouts are scheduled in the next few months in pharmacies that use the Cegedim Pharmacy Manager, EMIS Proscript Connect, Invatech Titan and Positive Solutions PMR systems.

Before RTEC can be activated for an individual pharmacy, the pharmacy contractor must confirm they agree to the terms of the RTEC user agreement. Contractors can now read the RTEC user agreement and confirm their acceptance of it via an RTEC registration form in the NHS Business Services Authority's (NHSBSA) Manage Your Service (MYS) application.

[Learn more about the registration process](#)

27 products added to the Discount Not Deducted (DND) list

Following applications made by PSNC to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA), a further 27 new products will enter the list of 'Drugs for which Discount is Not Deducted' (DND) in Part II of the Drug Tariff from 1st December 2020. These additions follow the [100 products added to the DND list](#) in October 2020.

Ensure Plus Juce liquid, Ikervis 0.1% eye drops 0.3ml unit dose and Setofilm 4mg orodispersible films are among the new products added to the DND list to which the discount deduction scale will no longer apply from December 2020.

[View the list of additions](#)

MHRA medicines recall notices

The Medicines and Healthcare Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has today released some medicines recall notices which community pharmacy teams should be aware of. Please click the links below to see the related updates.

[Betahistine dihydrochloride 8mg and 16mg tablets](#)

[Largactil 50mg/2ml solution for injection](#)

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

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