



Daily Update

Tuesday 23rd February 2021

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

In today's update: pharmacies and GPs collaborate through NHSmail; payment timetable and deadline tracker; Review Steering Group engagement session.

IT case study: Community pharmacies and GP practices co-working with NHSmail

Community pharmacy contractors and GP practice staff in Widnes are collaborating more than ever after digitising their communications through a local NHSmail initiative.

Widnes Primary Care Network (PCN) engaged with GP practices in the area to create a list of GP practice staff NHSmail addresses for local pharmacies to use. The GP practices provided shared NHSmail mailbox addresses wherever possible; those are particularly helpful where GP practice staff need to be contacted but individual staff may be unavailable, e.g. because they are on leave.

The LPC for the area, Community Pharmacy Halton, St Helens and Knowsley, Mid Mersey Local Medical Committee and the medicines management team at NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group supported the initiative.

[Find out more](#)

Payment timetable and deadline tracker

PSNC has created a payment timetable and deadline tracker to assist community pharmacy contractors with checking and claiming payments for services including the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2020/21 Part 2, Pandemic Delivery Service, GP Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS), Discharge Medicines Service, COVID-19 vaccinations and Hepatitis C testing service.

The guide, which has been updated to show recent extensions to claiming deadlines, summarises how and when the different payments will be made.

[View our Payment timetable and deadline tracker webpage](#)

Review Steering Group engagement session

The community pharmacy Review Steering Group (RSG), which is taking forward work following the independent review into contractor representation and support, is inviting community pharmacy contractors to join a 'Your Representation, Your Say' event on **Tuesday 9th March at 7.30pm**.

The event will outline the work of the RSG to date and next steps, and give contractors the opportunity to put their views forward. Feedback from the meeting will shape how the RSG engages with contractors over the coming months. Registration is via [the RSG website](#).

The RSG will also run a session at [PSNC's meeting of LPCs](#) on 17th March.

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. How do I provide the Discharge Medicines Service (DMS) if I haven't got access to an IT system to make my clinical records?

The DMS service requirements say appropriate records must be made in the PMR or other suitable system, which could include PharmOutcomes, other IT systems or paper records. Additionally, [summary information](#) needs to be reported to the [NHSBSA](#) as part of the contractor's claim via the [MYS portal](#). As with other MYS claims, it will be possible for the data to be manually inputted into MYS in order to make the claim.

A DMS worksheet is available from our [main DMS webpage](#) which can be used to make clinical records, including the necessary information which needs to be reported to the [NHSBSA](#). Using this worksheet and annotating the patient's PMR, so all staff know they have had a DMS referral, will allow the service to be provided in line with the contractual requirements, where IT system functionality to make such records is not available to the pharmacy.

Q. How has the NHS worked with pharmacy IT system suppliers to help them prepare their systems for the DMS?

In October 2020, PSNC, NHSE&I and NHS Digital invited pharmacy IT suppliers to a briefing on the service and sought their agreement to work with the NHSBSA to develop an Application Programming Interface (API), so data from any DMS modules they developed could be transferred to MYS, in the same way as flu vaccination and CPCS data within the Sonar and PharmOutcomes clinical systems. At that time, none of the suppliers could start work on the API due to other priority work they were undertaking, so that work is ongoing.

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

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