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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Monday 13th December 2021 |

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|  | This newsletter from PSNC is sent on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. It contains important information for those that work in the community pharmacy sector.In this update: Discussions continue on pharmacy pressures; LFD demand; DMS digital guide published.Urgent discussions on pharmacy pressures continueUrgent discussions between PSNC and NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) on how to ease the current pressures on pharmacies are ongoing, following the Prime Minister’s announcement of a significant upscaling of the COVID-19 booster campaign.  Last week PSNC advised contractors that it was [**seeking additional support to ease the pressure on all contractors,**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=d31c698785&e=d19e9fd41c) including those offering COVID-19 vaccinations. This could include through regulatory support, the removal of administrative burdens and changes to the current Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS).  Throughout these discussions PSNC is also continuing to highlight the need for pharmacy to be funded fairly for the increasing levels of advice they are offering to ‘walk-in’ patients.[**Find out more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=e3cc135192&e=d19e9fd41c)Lateral Flow Test demand Contractors are likely to have witnessed a significant increase in demand for Lateral Flow Devices (LFDs) following the Prime Minister’s address to the nation, and as a result of the national media widely reporting problems with ordering home delivery of tests from the NHS website today.   We have been advised by NHS Test and Trace that stock is still available to pharmacies via Alliance Healthcare and that contractors should continue to order one carton of test kits per day (the current tests are ‘DHSC ORIENT GENE test kits’ PIP: 8943995). Sometimes, those seeking test kits may not have a Collect code. However, it is important that these people can still access tests via the anonymous supply route.[**Learn more about the COVID-19 LFD distribution service**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=4ba89a465f&e=d19e9fd41c) DMS digital guide publishedPSNC has published a digital guide to the Discharge Medicines Service (DMS) for community pharmacy contractors. The half-hour guide provides some background on the service and an overview of the service requirements.The guide offers busy contractors, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians an alternative way to ensure they are aware of what is required to provide the service and complements the other information and guidance available on PSNC's [**DMS webpage**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=52e052fafb&e=d19e9fd41c). [**Watch the digital guide**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=74c84cd63f&e=d19e9fd41c) |  |
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| Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee   **Graphical user interface  Description automatically generated** 14 Hosier Lane, London, EC1A 9LQTel: 0203 1220 810 | Email: **info@psnc.org.uk**  |
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