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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Monday 20th June 2022 |

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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: 'FS' endorsement for free supply of C-19 trial treatments; webinars on IP training and pre-reg trainee funding; reminder to renew Smartcards.Use of ‘FS’ endorsement for free supply of COVID-19 trial treatmentsThe Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has published guidance to enable free supply of certain COVID-19 trial medicines to patients participating in either the HEAL-COVID or the STIMULATE-ICP clinical trial platforms. The guidance aimed at prescribers and community pharmacy teams explains the correct use of the ‘FS’ endorsement on NHS prescriptions (FP10 or EPS) requesting these supplies. The trial medicines are usually supplied directly to eligible participants by the clinical trial team. However, because some participants in these trials will be required to take the drugs for up to 12 months and the treatments are being used outside their normal licensed indications, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) have advised that GPs should prescribe the trial medicines to patients using a FP10 prescription form or the EPS service. These arrangements will remain in place until 31 March 2023.[**Find out more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=6cd69d074e&e=d19e9fd41c)Upcoming HEE webinarsHealth Education England (HEE) is hosting the following webinars that may be of interest to those working in the community pharmacy sector. **IP training for pharmacists**This HEE webinar will provide an update on the Independent Prescribing (IP) for pharmacists training offer that they are developing for Autumn 2022. The webinar will be held on Microsoft Teams and attendees can choose to attend on **Tuesday 5th July, between 6-8pm, or Thursday 7th July, between 10am-12 noon**.[**Register here**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=6090bb1c33&e=d19e9fd41c)**Funding to support pre-reg trainee pharmacy technicians**HEE has announced that they have secured funding to further support growth of the pharmacy technician workforce in 2022/23. This support is through expansion of pre-registration trainee pharmacy technician (PTPT) training capacity in community pharmacy or as part of a cross-sector integrated apprenticeship programme.HEE will be holding two 90-minute webinars on **Monday 27th June 2022 at 10-11.30am and 7-8.30pm**.[**Register for the webinar**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=7856824f05&e=d19e9fd41c)Is your Smartcard due for renewal soon?Community pharmacy team members are encouraged to check the expiry date of their NHS Smartcards and if the expiry date is approaching, ensure they renew it in advance of the expiry date.A large number of Smartcards are due to pass their expiry date in June 2022, and if a Smartcard passes its expiry date without renewal, additional steps will be needed to get the Smartcard working again.[**Read more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=fe443343f9&e=d19e9fd41c) |  |
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