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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Wednesday 22nd February 2023 |

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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: Letter to the Health Secretary; HRT prescription prepayment certificate; PQS declaration reminder.MPs and Peers call for pharmacy intervention39 MPs and Peers from across the political spectrum have signed letters to the Health Secretary, Steve Barclay MP, raising their growing concern about the pressures facing England’s community pharmacies and the risks this poses to patient care and safety. The letters, which PSNC coordinated, were part of our ongoing work to ensure that the concerns of the sector continue to be heard loudly and clearly within Government, pressing for positive action to relieve the pressure on community pharmacy.**Janet Morrison OBE, Chief Executive of PSNC said:**“We are continuing to press for urgent action by keeping the pressure up both across Parliament and through the national media. I urge the Secretary of State to listen to the worries of his fellow MPs and to step in to save our pharmacies.”[**Read more about the letters to the Health Secretary**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=c8936b0ea5&e=d19e9fd41c)DHSC announces rollout of HRT prescription prepayment certificateThe Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has [**announced**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=abc30c8d11&e=d19e9fd41c) that women in England will be able to access cheaper Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) for menopause through a new Hormone Replacement Therapy prescription prepayment certificate (HRT PPC).Whilst PSNC remains supportive of the Government’s decision to make HRT medicines more accessible to women at a reduced cost, we recognise that the implementation of this new type of PPC will introduce additional workload and financial risks for community pharmacy teams. We have made repeated representations directly to the Minister for Women and the DHSC to make all HRT medicines free-of-charge items (similar to contraceptives) but the Government recognised the issues, the Minister has decided to press ahead with the policy. PSNC will publish further guidance for contractors once the Department has finalised details of the changes.[**Learn more about the HRT PPC**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=6cb1d45243&e=d19e9fd41c) Reminder: Have you made your PQS declaration yet?Community pharmacy contractors have until **11.59pm on Friday 3rd March 2023** to make their Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2022/23 declaration through the  [**Manage Your Service (MYS) porta**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=c7c173e924&e=d19e9fd41c)[**l**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=bae8e0a7ba&e=d19e9fd41c), as the window for claiming this payment will then close. [**Find out more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=183e2f83be&e=d19e9fd41c) |  |
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