

# Pharmacy Bulletin

18 September 2015

Welcome to this week's edition of the South (South West) Pharmacy Bulletin.

## **1. Pharmacy Smart cards for Cornwall users only**

Due to the high level of requests being sent to specific staff within the Cornwall RA Team, from now on all users are requested to email [CITS.Servicedesk@Cornwall.NHS.UK](mailto:CITS.Servicedesk@Cornwall.NHS.UK) with any requests or problems related to Smartcards. Please give as much information as possible regarding your contact details and your request or problem. Your call will be logged and you will be given a call reference number.

If you have an **urgent** problem please phone Cornwall IT Service Desk on **01209 881717** and your call will be directed to a member of the RA Team.

### **Locked Smart cards**

The Cornwall RA Team are about to embark on a project to ensure all Pharmacies have nominated staff with the authority to unlock smart cards for their pharmacy. Each Pharmacy will be contacted in due course, a visit will be arranged to show the nominated users how to manage smart cards for their Pharmacy.

## **2. new Advanced Seasonal Influenza service**

We are very pleased to announce the requirements for the new Advanced Seasonal Influenza service have now been published. The aim of the seasonal influenza vaccination programme is to protect those who are most at risk of serious illness or death should they develop influenza, by offering protection against the most prevalent strains of influenza virus.

The Community Pharmacy Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Advanced Service (flu vaccination service) will support NHS England, on behalf of Public Health England (PHE) in providing an effective vaccination programme in England and it aims:

- to sustain uptake of flu vaccine by building the capacity of community pharmacies as an alternative to general practice;
- to provide more opportunities and improve convenience for eligible patients to access flu vaccinations; and
- to reduce variation and provide consistent levels of population coverage of community pharmacy flu vaccination across England by providing a national framework.

The Service Specification and Directions describes the requirements for provision of the service **and it should be read and understood by all pharmacists providing the service**. The amendments to the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) Directions 2013 (the Directions) provide the legal basis for provision of the service. A consolidated version of the Directions is available on the PSNC website. <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/weekly-national-flu-reports>

The national Patient Group Direction, is legally authorised by a national Patient Group Direction (PGD). This PGD has been used to create the national PGD for the flu vaccination service. It has been

authorised by NHS England for use by community pharmacists providing the Advanced Service; it cannot be used to authorise administration of flu vaccines under any other NHS or private services.

A copy of the Service specification for the flu vaccination Advanced Service can be found at PSNC together with a comprehensive guidance document

[Briefing 053/15: Guidance on the Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Advanced Service](#)

This guidance provides a very helpful checklist which contractors can print out and work through to ensure they have everything they need in place to successfully provide the service, including the process for completing your CPPE Declaration of Competence.

Once contractors are fully ready to provide the service, they must notify NHS England of their intention to begin providing the service by completing a notification form on the NHS BSA website <https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=144189625416>

Data transfer to GP practices is being facilitated by using PharmOutcomes, pharmacies will need to log onto the system and complete data entry fields necessary to use this service. Your local LPC will be able to help you should you encounter any problems with using this system along with the PharmOutcomes helpdesk. Please note Pharmoutcomes should be used for all password resets.

Should you need more information your local pharmaceutical committee or the pharmacy contracting team are here to help.

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