

Pharmacy Bulletin

23rd October 2015

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

1. CPAF questionnaire – needs to be submitted by Sunday 1st November

Please note that this is a national campaign and there is no flexibility to change the closing date of Sunday 1st November. If this shortened on line questionnaire (taking about 30 minutes) is not completed then pharmacies will need to complete the whole CPAF questionnaire (as in previous years) and will probably be selected for a visit.

You will not be able to access this through PharmOutcomes but will need one of the links as mentioned below.

If you have not done so already please use the link

<http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/PrescriptionServices/5028.aspx> to access the page on the Business Services Authority web site where there is a link to the questionnaire (<https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=144369549239>) and a link to guidance.

Please note further comment from the BSA:-

We have just about managed to get email addresses for all the pharmacy contractors but we have found that some of these addresses have since been updated and so we have not reached the correct pharmacy when sending out the link to the questionnaire. If your pharmacy is having difficulty accessing the questionnaire or have not received an email containing the link to the questionnaire, please can you use the generic link which is hosted on the NHSBSA website <http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/PrescriptionServices/5028.aspx> This is another route available to complete the questionnaire.

2. Advanced Flu Service

Congratulations and thanks to all those pharmacies who are participating in the 2015/16 Advanced Flu Service. We have noticed varying degrees of success across the South (South West) area and would like to urge those of you who have not yet started to provide this service to get on board and do so.

We are aware that many pharmacies are worried about damaging their relationship with neighbouring GP practices if they participate. We would like to assure pharmacies that we will be very happy to take up any issues on the pharmacy's behalf and speak to GP practices to explain why pharmacies are expected to take part in this service and to smooth the way if needs be.

We have received some concerns from practices regarding pharmacies providing the flu service to patients that normally receive their jab from the GP practice. We would remind pharmacy teams that the overall aim of commissioning the seasonal flu vaccination service through community pharmacy is to improve the uptake overall, but particularly in the At Risk groups, pregnant women and informal carers These are groups that historically GP practices find

more difficult to reach. We appreciate that at the end of the day patients are perfectly entitled to choose where they would like to receive this service.

The PSNC website has an excellent suite of resources and information about the service.

<http://psnc.org.uk/services-commissioning/advanced-services/flu-vaccination-service/>

If you have any concerns/questions regarding this service then please do not hesitate to contact us.

3. Noro virus advice letter (attached)

Attached is the pre-season Noro virus advice letter for community pharmacies. This is one of a collection of letters to various agencies prepared by Public Health England, endorsed by local authorities and sent out each year. Please read for guidance.

4. Public Health Campaigns – Breast Cancer and Stoptober (evaluation forms attached)

In consultation with the LPCs we have now granted an extension for returning the evaluation forms for the above campaigns. Blank evaluation forms are attached in respect of the Breast Cancer for over 70s campaign and Stoptober. Please note the closing date will be **Monday 16th November**. If you have already submitted a form in respect of the Breast Cancer campaign you do not need to submit anything further.

As this is a contractual requirement if we do not receive an evaluation form or a form saying you have not taken part in either campaign from your pharmacy by this date then a breach notice will be issued.

5. Specialist addictions services

Addaction in Cornwall and RISE in Devon, are going to be switching clients from methadone liquid 1mg/ml to Physeptone® sugar free liquid 1mg/ml. This will **not** be a sudden change but gradually phased in over several months. We will be discussing this with clients at their next scheduled prescribing reviews and start to make changes after this. It is a cost-saving exercise but also to try and standardise historic prescribing practices and want to raise awareness of this amongst our community pharmacy colleagues.

6. NHS England Pharmacy team Generic mail box and Web site address have changed – please keep a note!

The NHS England pharmacy web site link has just been updated to cover the south west area. Please use <http://www.england.nhs.uk/south/our-work/pharm-info/sw-pharm/> to access.

We are currently updating the information that is held there.

We have now merged our two generic e-mail addresses into one for all pharmacies in the South West to access. The new address is england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net so please use this to contact us. If you do send any e-mails to our previous e-mail boxes, ie england.pharmacydevonandcornwall@nhs.net or england.bnsssg-pharmacy@nhs.net your e-mail will currently be forwarded to the new box. In time though these two boxes will be closed.

If you have any articles you would like us to include in the weekly E-Communication then please send to our generic mail box england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net

In addition if you know of any colleagues who would like to receive a copy of the E-Communication each week please send an e-mail with their name, place of work and e-mail address to our generic mail box england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net and we will add them to our distribution list.

	Address	Telephone
David Ward	NHS England - South (South West)	01935 381978
Sarah Lillington	Wynford House	01275 547119
Reception	Lufton Way	01935 384000
Fax	Yeovil Somerset BA22 8HR	01935 385080/384191
	Address	Telephone
Janet Newport	NHS England - South (South West)	01138248777
Sally Dutton	Peninsula House	01138248797
Kath Hughes	Kingsmill Road	01138248784
Stacey Burch	Tamar View Industrial Estate	01138248801
Reception	Saltash PL12 6LE	01752 679250
Fax		01752 841696

The web site "NHS England South (South West) Community pharmacy" can be found using the link: <http://www.england.nhs.uk/south/our-work/pharm-info/sw-pharm/>