

# Pharmacy Bulletin

29<sup>th</sup> October 2015

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

## **1. CPAF questionnaire – needs to be submitted by Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

**Please note that this is a national campaign and there is no flexibility to change the closing date of Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> 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. NHS Mail**

Please note we are again urging all pharmacies to ensure they have an operational NHS Mail account. NHS mail has the potential to support clinical communication and offers a range of benefits to enhance communication with key health partners. We know there are barriers for pharmacies particularly regarding adherence to information governance requirements, but we will be happy to support pharmacies in meeting these requirements and point out the key benefit of the NHS mail service is its security, which means it can be used for transmission of patient information between health professionals. It is becoming more and more important that patient identifiable information can be shared and transmitted to health partners. The sharing of MUR information and hospital discharge communications are good example of how having an NHS mail account can simplify operational processes. With the roll-out of access to Summary Care Records starting pharmacies will have to have a secure communication network in place in order to use so we are encouraging pharmacies to think ahead and be ready.

### **3. 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.

### **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 16<sup>th</sup> 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. Midazolam prefilled syringes advice (attached)**

Please see attached document for guidance.

### **6. Event for Community Pharmacists who support care homes in the Plymouth City Council area (flyer attached)**

A flyer is attached for a free training event on 12<sup>th</sup> November for those community pharmacists who support care homes. Please see attached, if interested.

### **7. Vaccines update**

Please use link to read latest update. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vaccine-update-issue-235-october-2015>

**8. 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 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](mailto: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](mailto:england.pharmacydevonandcornwall@nhs.net) or [england.bnsssg-pharmacy@nhs.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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<br>Somerset BA22 8HR      | 01935<br>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/>