

Pharmacy Bulletin

4th December 2014

Welcome to this week's edition

1. Prescription requests

We need to remind all pharmacies yet again that those of you who are requesting prescriptions on behalf of your customers need to check with them their prescription needs before making a request for a prescription from the GP surgery.

We are still receiving reports from GP practices and patients that this is not happening and unwanted/not needed drugs are still being dispensed. Obviously this has financial consequences on an already stretched to the limit NHS budget. Once again can we please ask you to ensure that this stops happening. We will now be following up all reported incidents with individual pharmacies/pharmacists.

2. Changes to Christmas/ New Year rotas

We apologise but we are unable to send a final copy of the Christmas/New Year rotas as we are still getting late notifications for opening hours / amendments.

We will arrange to e-mail a full set of the rotas nearer to Christmas but in the meantime have arranged for up to date rotas to be available on our web site shortly showing the changes below:-

Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day

Cornwall – Saltash pharmacy open from 12.00-13.00 on Boxing Day

Cornwall – Sainsbury's Truro open from 10.00-17.00 on New Year's Day

Cornwall – Boots Helston should read 40 Meneage Street not 38 Meneage Street

Supplementary opening hours

Boots Bideford was showing the wrong address. Now corrected to 2 High Street, Bideford EX39 2AA

Cornwall Opening Hours directory (Now version 4, December 2014)

Boots, Liskeard now open from 10.00-16.00 on Sunday's

Superdrug, Redruth now open from 09.00-18.00 Monday to Friday instead of closing at 17.30

Please note it is a contractual issue to display your opening times and where services can be obtained when your pharmacy is closed.

3. NHS England Area Pharmacy team web site

Please use the link <http://www.england.nhs.uk/south/dcis-at/pharmacies> to access any of the following documents you may need:-

- Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day pharmacy rotas
- Supplementary Opening Hours for November, December and January
- Cornwall pharmacies opening hours directory – version 4 December 2014 (*available shortly*)
- MUR guidance
- Blank templates for NMS and MUR returns for each quarter of 2014-15
- Forms for requesting changes to Core or Supplementary hours
- Blank unplanned closure template (*please use to report to the Area Team if your pharmacy has to close suddenly*)
- Web links to the Devon and Cornwall Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments (PNAs)
- Significant Incident reporting form
- Serious Difficulty application form
- Contact Details
- Log for 100 hour pharmacies

4. Preventing harm from the use of methadone (2 attachments)

We have received the following information from the CQC:-

The clinical subgroup of the controlled drugs national group has produced a new newsletter and supporting information covering the "Safer Use of Controlled Drugs - Preventing harms from the use of methadone". The newsletter and supporting information aims to provide better guidance for health care professionals handling controlled drugs. Please see attached documents for more information.

5. EHC Training Event – Cornwall Pharmacies Only

A Training Evening has been arranged at Wheal Martyn, Carthew, St Austell on 9th December 2014 at 7.00pm - 9.30pm. There will be a Buffet at 7.00pm and training will commence at 7.30pm. For those who have put their names down for this event, please email paulene.proctor@cornwall.nhs.uk to confirm attendance a.s.a.p. If you wish to book a place for the evening please call Paula Proctor on 01752 315027 or use the email address shown.

If you have any articles you would like us to include in the weekly E-Communication then please let us know.

Janet, James, Sally, Kath & Stacey

Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Area Team – Pharmacy
NHS England
Peninsula House
Kingsmill Road
Tamar View Industrial Estate
Saltash PL12 6LE

Generic e-mail address england.pharmacydevonandcornwall@nhs.net

