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NORTHANTS AND MK LPC NEWS



Public Health

In the month that our Public Health campaigns were unveiled I thought that it would be timely to contemplate the accent of the NHS. We know that over one million people visit pharmacies every day for a range of things: to buy products, ask for advice, dispense medicines. That's an enormous opportunity to promote health across communities.

Of course, we know that that pharmacy teams already have a great track record in promoting health and preventing disease. Over 9,000 pharmacies in England supported Smoke Free this year,

Lack of Pharmacy awareness? is there a lack of knowledge locally about community pharmacy? We cannot keep doing the same things over and over .

handing out Quit Cards and using this as an opportunity to talk to people about their smoking habits. They are well known for providing emergency hormonal contraception and chlamydia screening. Increasing numbers of pharmacists are also being commissioned to administer flu jabs. They help people to manage their health conditions by optimising the use of medicines and by providing healthy lifestyle advice.

But there's an opportunity for pharmacy to play an even bigger role in the prevention agenda – but only if we are willing to adapt and accept change to achieve different outcomes. Is your Community pharmacy demonstrating their added value?

Catch 22

Many community pharmacies say they simply don't have the funding to increase their workforce sufficiently to provide advanced services. Consider the added challenges faced by the Essential Small Pharmacies (LPS) in Milton Keynes. This month they have been reviewing and negotiating their NHSE contracts and contemplating the future direction of their businesses. The demise of the ESPLPS scheme in March resulted in changes in the funding arrangements.

It's a catch 22. Do you invest to build your services so you become more attractive in the commissioning landscape or do you wait until the commissioning landscape changes and then respond to that?

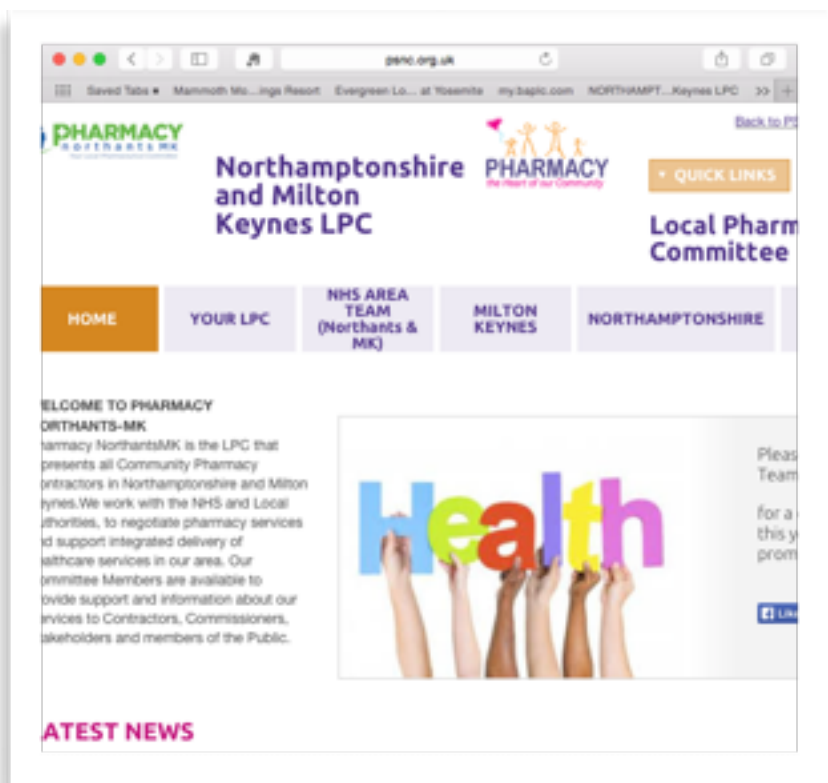
I have found out this month that there is no easy answer. There are different models across the country, areas where pharmacists have said, as we have said in our locality about a Minor Ailments Service, "this is important, I want to do this for me and my staff and my community, I will endeavour to start the ball rolling," and there are others who will wait until the marketplace changes and then respond. The example being the whisper of a Nationally commissioned service.

LPC's have struggled to maintain existing pharmacy services never mind get new services commissioned. Your LPC is committed to increasing awareness and knowledge and developing key partnerships locally. To leverage our entry into the local health economy we have secured a MEGS grant. This education and training will build our capacity as your representatives to build relationships with our commissioners and the Health and Wellbeing Boards.

Community pharmacy can bring passion



Professor Kevin Fenton, pictured above, is Public Health England National Director for health and Wellbeing. he oversees PHE's national prevention programmes including screening for cancer and other conditions, Health Checks, national health marketing campaigns, public mental health and wellbeing programmes.



Our website is updated regularly. July Tablet Press has been added this week as well as everything you need for the Public Health campaigns.

our website at <http://psnc.org.uk/northamptonshire-and-milton-keynes-lpc/northampton/>

At the present time there are differences between Northamptonshire and other areas in the management of bank holiday cover. John Hooper has written to all pharmacies in June to identify their Christmas preferences. This will enable the Area Team to assign rotas in line with other areas and in so doing apply consistency. A more robust approach will enable all bank holidays to be identified into 2016 and so sufficient coverage achieved. With regard to Boxing Day 2015, contractors are entitled to apply to NHSE Area Team to amend Core Hours.



Boxing Day 2015 falls on a Saturday, with Monday 28th December designated as the official bank holiday. As Saturday 26th is not a designated bank holiday, please be aware that community pharmacies will be expected to open for the usual contractually agreed opening hours on this day.



Summary Care access to be rolled out to community pharmacies across England in new plans announced at the end of June. This follows a successful proof of concept trial of community pharmacy access to the NHS Summary Care Record.

NHS England has commissioned the Health and Social Care Information Centre to support all community pharmacies in England to implement access to SCR.

In the Area Team Bulletin in June, Pharmacists are reminded to ensure that they and their staff clearly understand the difference between marking a prescription as ‘not dispensed’ and ‘returning it to the Spine.’

WHEN would you mark a prescription item as ‘not dispensed’ ?

If you decide that you will not be issuing the prescription to the patient for a particular reason.

If the patient tells you that they do not require the item/ prescription, now or in the future on that particular issue.

If a prescription is marked as ‘not dispensed’, it can’t be dispensed by any other pharmacy and the GP can’t cancel it. The item/s will not be removed from the patient’s record and will still show on the prescribing system.

WHEN would you ‘return a prescription to the Spine’?

If you are out of stock of a particular item and the patient wishes to get their prescription elsewhere. It is not possible to return just one item; so even when there is more than one item on a prescription, the whole prescription must be ‘ returned to the Spine’ and a dispensing token printed off for the patient to take to another EPS Release 2 pharmacy for dispensing.

Temazepam

As of 1st June 2015 prescriptions for Temazepam must fully comply with the prescription writing requirements for Schedule 3 controlled drugs. Prescriptions for Temazepam **MUST** now contain the following information : dose; form; strength (where appropriate); total quantity of the preparation in both words and figures. More information can be found in Tablet Press which is under the Archive tab on our website



The pharmacist should inform the practice if the patient says they will never need a certain item on the prescription so that the practice can investigate and remove from template

If the patient changes their nomination and you have already downloaded a prescription or issue for the patient. The alternative pharmacy will request that you return the prescription to the Spine to allow them to dispense the prescription to the patient.

When a prescription site tries to cancel an item or the whole prescription and the prescription is 'with dispenser'. The prescribing site will get a message telling them which pharmacy the prescription is with. The prescribing site will then contact you to request that you return the prescription to Spine, where it will then be cancelled. The patient's medication record will be updated accordingly at the prescribing site.

Returning a prescription to the Spine can be considered the same as handing back a paper prescription to the patient to be dispensed elsewhere.

DISPENSE NOTIFICATIONS must only be sent when the electronic prescription items have been collected or delivered.

Stop Smoking Services in Northamptonshire

Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) and NHFT (our local community health Trust) are currently reviewing our approach to Stop Smoking Services around the County. A key part of which is the NRT *prescribing* and *prescribing plus support* contracts we have with our local pharmacy providers.

Over the next six months, we will be renewing our contacts with you, both directly and through your LPC, to help us consider future options as we work to strengthen and grow the services offered.

The NRT prescribing contracts that you have with NCC have been reissued. Although largely reflecting past arrangements, there will be a small number of changes, notably:

- A limit of 4 quit attempts for an individual in any 12 month period;
- Ensuring that any customers presenting with an FP10 prescription only are directed to support services within the pharmacy or to another provider of stop smoking support at NHFT or within the "Level 2" provider network;
- An Autumn review to consider whether to move from reimbursement of drugs at cost rather than NHS Tariff prices;

You should all by now have received a letter and the NCC NRT Reimbursement contract. Please note, these only come into force when you have signed up to the NHFT Dispensing/Dispensing and Support contracts (issued in April). It is therefore important to sign up to and return those contracts to NHFT to secure ongoing reimbursement of NRT costs from NCC. There is a period of grace, through to August 1st 2015 by when you must have signed up to the relevant contracts to secure ongoing payments.



Rajwinder Gangotra is Service Development Relationship Manager at Northamptonshire County Council and intends to keep you updated via regular contributions to our newsletter on all developments in their Stop Smoking Services.

rgangotra@northamptonshire.gov.uk

if you wish to speak to your NHFT area Stop Smoking Service contacts directly, they are:

wendy.hansford-ward@nhft.nhs.uk

Northants Sth and for Northants Nth use

charlotte.goodwin@nhft.nhs.uk

Carolynne Freeman, Vice Chair and myself, Anne-Marie King, Chief Officer, met with Jordan Sounder, Clinical Lead Nurse of Compass. We discussed our future working contract and our aspirations to not only retain services but to improve them. Jordan is particularly interested in finding out about access and assessment of the needle exchange scheme. I have drafted a very short Survey Monkey to help with this. The questions will be around ease of access and signposting and hopefully I can get this out to you all soon. Contact details can be found on our website

jordan.soondar@compass-uk.org

We share the common goal of getting the draft contract, which will be based on the pre-existing contract with CRI (the previous provider) signed off by the end of July. The draft will be taken to both the Compass Clinical governance framework and the LPC for ratification. This newsletter will be used as an information platform and also to share Compass' best practice guidelines. If you have any ideas from your experiences then perhaps you could share them here with colleagues? To set the ball rolling, how many of you would use a separate crushing device for different strengths of buprenorphine?

Health Education Thames Valley

Administrators from HETV will be making phone calls to community pharmacies in MK over the next month to agree the contact names and emails to receive the community pharmacy workforce survey which will be sent out in September. Andrea Hollister, Head of School of Pharmacy appreciates your help with this and hopes for a smooth acquisition of information without too many concerns.

Community Pharmacy / Hospital referrals project

As you know Nikki Woodhall is keen to reinvigorate the PDG. It has been proposed that the re-launch meeting could incorporate an awareness event of Transfer of care - supporting patients on discharge and keeping patients safe as they transition between care providers. The model has already been successfully employed and will help community pharmacists achieve the 70% level for targeted MUR's. Pharmoutcomes has been used as the IT system of choice to enable the sharing of information between providers. Feedback provided and data collection would be used for evaluation of the service and to measure its impact on patient outcomes (like hospital readmission rates).

Milton Keynes



Compass

NHS

Health Education Thames Valley

Oxford Academic Health Science Network



Tuesday 14th July at 7.30pm the NPA is delivering a webinar on common dispensing errors and how to avoid. It is FREE OF CHARGE and available to all contractors. Hosted by Leyla Hannbeck, Head of Pharmacy services at the NPA and Glyn Walduck, Head of Claims at the NPA this webinar will help you to identify and manage risks, explain error reporting requirements, and much more. Register your place <http://www.npa.co.uk/News-Views-Events/Events/>



The CPPE Focal Point topic for next semester is Parkinson's Disease and Sarah Hounsell plans to run this event on the following evenings in early 2016:

- Wed 27 Jan 2016, at The Holiday Inn, High Wycombe
- Wed 03 Feb 2016, at Acorn House, Milton Keynes
- Mon 08 Feb 2016, at Oxford Spires Four Pillars Hotel

All three events will run from 7.00pm until 9.00pm, with a buffet and refreshments served at 7.00pm

A vote of thanks from myself and from Louise Shaw to our pharmacies who stepped up to the plate and welcomed the Carers' Outreach Team during Carers' week in June. I received some lovely feedback and valuable conversations were started. It was said of Thursfield's, "the success of the day was largely due to the friendly and open atmosphere and the clear personal touch that this pharmacy gives to its customers- the pharmacist and manager make it their business to know customers, even going to great lengths to introduce their customers to me." Dipesh at Lloyds in Meadow Lane, Raunds has also gone the extra mile and has welcomed Louise back for further information. I hope this positive outcome will encourage others in the future to get involved and share experiences.

“Thursfield's in Kettering were brilliant”



All drugs costing more than £20 that the NHS issues to patients will have their price written on them in a drive to encourage people to complete the full course of medication. From next year, those medicines will also carry the words “funded by the UK taxpayer” to remind people that the NHS, which is cash-strapped and facing increasing demand, has finite resources.

Research shows that between 30% and 50% of patients do not take the drugs they have been prescribed in the way doctors or nurses intended or as indicated by the instructions.

The health secretary, [Jeremy Hunt](#), unveiled the move on Wednesday in a speech about the need for people to demonstrate much more personal responsibility for their health in order to reduce their chances of becoming ill and to reduce the strain on the NHS. Pharmacy Voice believes that although this may seem superficially attractive, there is little evidence that it will have the desired effect, and there may be unintended negative consequences. The value of a medicine to an individual is about a good deal more than the price. Research shows that some patients, particularly older people, could be deterred from taking the medicines they need.



I hope that you have found July’s Northants and MK LPC News useful. I would love to receive your feedback either by email or via the feedback page under Publications on the website.

chiefofficer@northamptonshire.co.uk

<http://psnc.org.uk/northamptonshire-and-milton-keynes-lpc/northampton/>

STOP PRESS



*An effective way
of tackling waste
or the wrong
focus?*

