



**WELCOME TO OUR
NORTHANTS AND MK
NEWSLETTER**



NO SMOKING DAY



**PHARMACY
MANIFESTO**

NORTHANTS AND MK LPC NEWS



Welcome to our 2nd edition and standby for a busy March . We need your help to make the national Emergency Supply Audit a success.Information about the process and the details were communicated via email in February and you were allocated a period for audit.The information is also on our website which is updated frequently .Please take a moment to browse if you have not done so recently.Contact Anne-Marie if additional clarification is required.



Carl Djerassi, the chemist widely considered the father of the birth control pill, has died aged 91.

Djerassi died of complications of cancer in his San Francisco home, Stanford University spokesman Dan Stober said. He was 91.

Djerassi, a professor emeritus of chemistry at Stanford, was most famous for leading a research team in Mexico City that in 1951 developed norethindrone, a synthetic molecule that became a key component of the first birth control pill.

“The pill,” as it came to be known, radically transformed sexual practices and women’s lives.

Scientist who created birth control pill dies



Don't quit quitting

Public Health England’s Quit Cards have been produced to be used as conversation starters. A guide on how pharmacy teams can best approach smokers using the Quit Cards can be downloaded below:

[Pharmacy Guide – Page 1](#)

[Pharmacy Guide – Page 2](#)

If you have not yet ordered your Quit Cards, you can order them from Monday 16th February using the dedicated pharmacy order line: 0300 123 1019. The order line will be open Monday to Friday, from 8am to 6pm, until 26th March 2015 or whilst stocks last.



New manifesto unites the community pharmacy sector

- 1 Encourage patients to think ‘pharmacy first’, and use pharmacy to help relieve pressure on GPs and emergency departments
- 2 Improve patient choice and healthcare by making it easier to commission pharmacy services and backing more national services
- 3 Help improve the public’s health, recognising the accessibility and support community pharmacy can provide
- 4 Enable patients, especially those with long term conditions, to get more from their medicines through better use of community pharmacy
- 5 Help pharmacies to get access to the records, information and support they need to provide more effective and safer care to patient. Rob Darracott, chief executive of Pharmacy Voice explained why the time was right for a sector-wide manifesto: “As the general election approaches, we believe that the role and value of community pharmacy needs to be raised.



Specials are special-order unlicensed medicines made to meet the needs of an individual patient. Unlicensed medicines may be prescribed in clinical situations where it is judged that, on the basis of available evidence, unlicensed use is in the best interest of the patient. The guidance includes several important considerations for prescribers when deciding to prescribe a Special. The guiding principles are based on good practice and highlight specific issues to support prescribers in the safe and appropriate use of Specials. A recent oversight proved costly when Urea 25% was ordered as a special. Flexitol, the licensed product could have been used at a saving of £600. The prescribing advisors in our area would much rather receive a call if you require clarification than a bill such as this.

People with diabetes are being fined up to £100 for claiming free prescriptions without a medical exemption certificate. We need your help to stop this.

Everyone in England who uses insulin or takes medication to manage their diabetes is able to claim free prescriptions but they must have a valid medical exemption certificate to do so. This certificate must be renewed every five years.

The NHS Business Services Authority, have recently introduced a far more rigorous checking system than in the past. The poor management and lack of enforcement of the certificates over a long period of time has led to the understandable misconception, from patients and professionals alike, that anyone with diabetes who uses medication or insulin is automatically exempt from prescription charges.

This is not the case. Everybody must have a valid medical exemption certificate and renew this every five years. Diabetes UK say;

“We want to make sure people with diabetes and healthcare professionals know this. On our website we have information for people with diabetes, explaining how to get the certificate and what to do if they have received a fine:

www.diabetes.org.uk/claiming-free-prescriptions

chiefofficer@pharmacynorthamptonshire.co.uk

*Please question the need
for a special*



*Diabetes patients and
free prescriptions*



*Final evaluation
figures for
carers project*



*Alan Chappell of the Carers
project writes;*

‘What a fantastic last week of the evaluation phase- we’ve had 38 new entries on to the system. A special well done to Northants with 15 referrals on the last week.’



CENTRE FOR PHARMACY
POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

educational solutions for the NHS pharmacy workforce
CPPE local information from HJ Berry

We have the following events in the Northampton area that are available to book now on the CPPE website

Wednesday 13th May Palliative Care Focal Point 7.30pm-9pm (43843)

Sunday 14th June Consultation Skills Full day event 10am- 4pm (43850)

Monday 14th September Pain Focal Point 7.30pm-9pm (43853)

All events are available to pharmacists, technicians and pre registration pharmacists, buffet food is available on the evening events from 7pm and food is included on the all day event, come along and meet others in the area and learn more about these exciting topics. All events are at The Northampton Holiday Inn, Bedford Road, NN4 7YF

Book now to avoid disappointment

I look forward to seeing you at an event soon

Hayley

One final thought for you.....

What are you proud of?

I would love to hear all about your success and with your permission, share with your colleagues. Are you engaging

in innovative activities or have you come up with ideas to make the services available improve outcomes? Please do get in touch.

Anne-Marie

