



# NORTHANTS AND MK LPC NEWS



## Health and Care Review

Now the new government has been formed, why not remind yourself of the new health pledges made in the latest Health and Care Briefing. These briefings contain useful background information to help you understand what is happening in the wider health and care environment which may impact on community pharmacy. [Click here](#) to read more.

Following Earl Howe's move out of the Department of Health and the loss of the Liberal Democrat members of government, Alistair Burt has been appointed Minister of State. He will take on responsibilities such as mental health and the primary care brief which includes pharmacy.

Earl Howe was a front bench health team member for many years and was supportive of community pharmacy agreeing the implementation of the NMS.

## The vote for change

Following consultation with all our members and giving you all the opportunity to participate in the vote, I am pleased to be able to announce that the LPC Constitution 2014 has been accepted. Thank you to all 60 members who voted with a unanimous verdict. The updated version includes provisions to enable collaborative working with other LPC's, preparation of annual budget, support for contracting vehicles (Ltd Co.), replacement of 8% rule for determining certain places on the LPC with proportionality, information sharing with NHSE and improvements to the election process. The amendments were all approved by Northamptonshire and Milton Keynes LPC and we trust that you will agree in voting to adopt them you have enabled us to improve support and representation of all the contractors represented.

## Survey Monkey

I would hazard a guess that many of our contractors are not very sure what the LPC is all about. We want to change that and plan to deploy our secret weapon against apathy very soon! We have subscribed to Survey Monkey which is a very economical way of gathering and processing your feedback. Using one of the amendments in the newly adopted Constitution we are able to utilise economy of strength and have collaborated on this project with our neighbours, Hertfordshire LPC. The answers you provide us with will be vital in enabling us to drive change.

In the meantime, don't be shy. Are you breaking new ground for pharmacy services? I would love to hear about how pharmacists and their teams are using their skills to deliver high quality healthcare in their local communities. Please get in touch with [Anne-Marie](#) and share your experiences of using initiative to have a really positive impact on your business and relationships with patients. If invites are not forthcoming I will be coming to visit you anyway! Have you got tips, that you would be willing to share with your colleagues on Repeat Dispensing or maybe you are an Independent Prescriber and trialling access to patient records. Access to Shared Care Records was one of the five Manifesto Pledges supported by a range of pharmacy organisations including PSNC and Pharmacy Voice. Where patients agree; we believe that community pharmacies should be able to access and update full patient records so they can improve safety and help patients to get the most from their medicines and to improve their health. Were you involved in the SCR pilot and could share your experiences with us? Pick up the phone and tell me!

*Speak to us and  
we'll listen*



The LPC is here to help and advise pharmacy contractors in all NHS matters and to improve pharmaceutical services to the population in our locality. Our aim is to reflect and put forward the professional views and aspirations of all pharmacists providing NHS pharmaceutical services in Northamptonshire and MK



CPPE are running an all day confidence in consultation skills event . They can train up to 24 people and still have spaces left. Not only will you learn about the theory of consultation skills in an interactive way but you will be able to practice new knowledge and skills on patient actors. This is a unique opportunity that pharmacy professionals rarely get!

Consultation skills is a foundation skill that many have never had formal training on and can dramatically effect patient outcomes.

#### [Confidence in consultation skills \(full day event\)](#)

- Booking reference: 43850
- workshop date: 14/06/2015
- workshop time: 10:30 - 16.30
- Holiday Inn Northampton
- 
- Bedford Road, Northampton
- NN4 7YF
- 01604 622777

## Pharmacy facts

- Community pharmacists query almost two million prescriptions each year, resolving 43,800 incidents that could potentially result in serious harm.
- Britain's 13,000 community pharmacies are visited by members of the public 2 billion times each year, and nine in ten of us visit a pharmacy at least once a year.
- 96% of the population can get to a pharmacy within 20 minutes by walking or using public transport. Deprived areas, where the public health challenge is pronounced, have a higher than average number of community pharmacies per head of population.
- 84% of adults visit a pharmacy every year.
- There are 1.6 million visits to a pharmacy every day.

*MURs can make a huge difference to a patient's management of their long term illness*



*Aim to increase the quantity without compromising on quality*

*A successful MUR does not have to find a problem!*



## Antibiotic Guardians

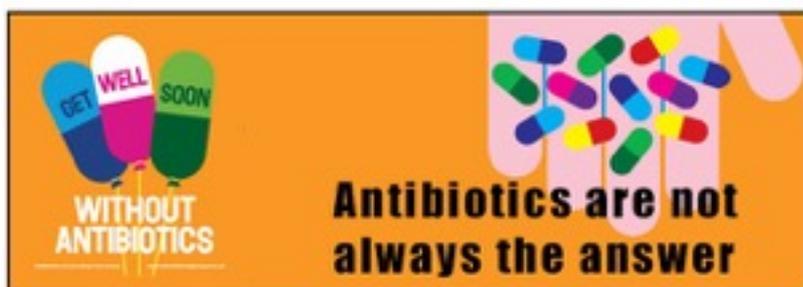
Naomi Fleming is keen to increase our awareness of bacterial resistance and to raise awareness of this valuable and finite resource. Community pharmacy plays an important role in both limiting antibiotic resistance and educating patients about antibiotic side effects.

The ways in which we can do this are as follows:

- Referring patients who attend pharmacy for advice appropriately, to the correct service and addressing patients expectations from this referral.
- Guiding patients to the Minor Ailment Scheme.
- Recommending self-help, OTC medicines or health advice.
- Discussing the issues of antibiotic resistance and side effects when the opportunity arises.
- Advising the patient on the correct way to take antibiotics when prescribed.
- Advising patients on interactions with other medication, food, vitamins etc.
- Advising patient's on side effects of antibiotic treatment, in particular the symptoms of c.diff.
- Referrals back to prescribers due to issues arising from interactions or side effects.

When an antibiotic is prescribed, the pharmacy team should always advise and consider using the FRAIS mnemonic : **F**inish the course, **R**egular intervals, **AC/CC/PC**, **I**nteractions, **S**ide effects

It is important that all pharmacists are aware of the common adverse effects of antibiotics. An important one to be aware of is the risk of antibiotic-associated diarrhoea that could be caused by Clostridium difficile. Pharmacists should be familiar with the symptoms of this infection, the antibiotics more commonly associated with it and management. Antibiotics associated with this infection are often referred to as the 4 C's- ciprofloxacin (quinolones), co-amoxiclav (penicillins), clindamycin and cephalosporins (3rd generation).it is important that patients with diarrhoea that could be due to C difficile following antibiotic treatment are not sold or advised to take anti-spasmodics, e.g. loperamide.



Dr Naomi Fleming is a Pharmacist in Advanced-Microbiology and Infectious diseases at Kettering General Hospital NHSFT. She believes that tackling antibiotic resistance requires an integrated approach and that pharmacists have a crucial role to play.

### *Tips for your CPD entry on Antibiotic awareness*

*Reflect on the key issues surrounding antibiotic resistance*

*Plan what you could do to raise awareness of antibiotic resistance (tip...target all adults during November's health Promotion Programme)*

*Act by celebrating European Antibiotic Awareness Day in your pharmacy on 18th November 2015*

*Evaluate your positive impact on preventing antibiotic resistance. Intercepting prescriptions perhaps*



## Endorsing and Submission Good Practice Workshop: avoid errors Are you unsure of how to endorse and submit your prescriptions correctly? Are you guilty of over-endorsing your prescriptions because you're not quite sure of what to include? Do you find the Drug Tariff difficult to understand?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions then sign up to PSNC’s Webinar next month, on **Tuesday June 30th at 7:30pm**, where our in-house Drug Tariff experts will talk you through the dos and don’ts of endorsing and submitting your prescriptions.

Work through our series of prescription examples before the event to test yours and your pharmacy team’s knowledge then log in to our workshop to learn how to endorse and sort the examples correctly. Through a series of sample prescriptions seen by the PSNC Pricing Audit Centre the team will show you how to avoid common errors, as well as giving top tips and answering your endorsement and pricing related questions.

Register your interest [click here](#)

Check34 is an IT platform that enables contractors to access, view and interpret the prescription payment data they receive every month from the Pricing Authority. It will enable contractors to monitor their monthly prescription payments as notified on the monthly FP34 Schedule of Payment received from the Pricing Authority. It will also provide the sort of prescription data trend analysis which until now has only been available to larger companies with substantial IT resources.

A unique collaboration with the National Pharmacy Association (NPA) means all NPA members will gain access to the platform without paying a separate subscription fee.

Check34 has been developed by PSNC. The application uses data and processes derived from the prescription audit work that PSNC carries out on behalf of contractors.

Contractors who use Check34 will be able to view trends in a number of key performance indicators (KPIs) for their prescription business and look back at historical payment data. They will also, for the first time, be able to compare their individual performance against collated regional and national data.



## Get ready to deliver Flu 2015/16

The practical training sessions will cover anaphylaxis, basic adult life support and information on the vaccination training programme. These sessions will be supported by a number of online training modules. By the end of the course, participants will be competent in intramuscular, subcutaneous, intradermal and nasal administration.

Training will be held at the following dates and locations:

Sunday 21st June in London and Cardiff

Sunday 12th July in Birmingham

To find out more call Nigel Page on 01727 858687

ext 3395 or email [consultandtreat@npa.co.uk](mailto:consultandtreat@npa.co.uk)

The PSNC's Pricing Audit Centre has examined a bundle of prescriptions from our LPC for December 2014. The check found an underpayment and in accordance with those findings the NHS Prescription Services has made the necessary adjustments to be made to account. Work continues to monitor and identify accuracy issues linked to prescription pricing. There are a number of work streams in place to improve ongoing accuracy and the PSNC will continue to undertake routine pricing checks to monitor the impact of these measures.

Further information on prescription pricing and PSNC checks can be found [here](#)

Why not have a look at NHSBSA hints and tips at [www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/3191.aspx](http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/3191.aspx) and avoid being an error statistic! Of the 118 errors in our bundle of 9,722 checked, 100 were product errors i.e. any error where an incorrect product, manufacturer, strength, flavour or pharmaceutical form was priced.

Remember that from June 1st Midazolam 10mg/ml oral solution 5ml is being removed from Part v111B of the Drug Tariff. Therefore, prescriptions require additional endorsement as listed in Part v111B. For more information visit [psnc.org.uk/specials](http://psnc.org.uk/specials)

*NPA Flu  
vaccination  
dates*



*PSNC's Pricing  
Audit Centre  
checks our LPC  
for December*



## More dates for NPA Flu

The following additional training dates for Flu vaccinations have been added:

Sunday 19th July Manchester

Sunday 16th August Manchester

Sunday 23rd August London

Sunday 6th September Birmingham

Sunday 13th September London

Contact details as before or

<http://www.npa.co.uk/news-views-events/events/vaccination-training-days/>

## Planned Milton Keynes PDG postponed

Plans to reinvigorate the Professional Development Group have had to be postponed. The group were due to meet at Sherwood Place on June 9th. Nikki Woodhall, Senior Medicines Management Technician is working towards a new date and apologises for any inconvenience.

## Breaking news 4/6/15

Patients treated in Mental Health Units smoke three times as much as the general population a Public Health England and NHS survey of 105 care units suggests. Smoking can increase depression and anxiety and reduce the effectiveness of medication by up to 50%, experts warn. PHE wants all mental-health hospitals to be smoke free. The PHE survey suggests 64% of mental health patients are addicted to tobacco-compared with 18% of the general population. Experts say smoking is the main reason mental health patients have a life expectancy that is 10 to 20 years lower.

How can pharmacists reduce the unacceptable inequalities in health experienced by people living with mental health problems ?

I hope that you have enjoyed our Newsletter for June. Special thanks to Naomi Fleming for allowing me to share some of her articles on antibiotic resistance. If you would like to read more please find the whole article in Chemist and Druggist 10.11.12.

**STOP PRESS**



*Nikki Woodhall  
has postponed  
the first MK  
PDG*

Will quitting  
smoking help  
your mental  
health too?



