
PRIMARY CARE NETWORKS

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What Are Primary Care Networks?

What are Primary Care Networks?

A formal structure to allow GP surgeries to work together around a population size of 30 – 50,000 people ('neighbourhood' level)

If a single practice is large enough, they can occasionally form their own network

Practices are not mandated to be a part of a PCN, but will lose out on funding if not

Most PCNs are geographically organised, but this is not always the case and some even span CCG/Local authority boundaries

PCNs seen as a key vehicle for delivering additional services and with additional funding will be expected to deliver additional services (contract 'DES's = Direct Enhanced Service)



The NHS Long Term Plan



Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service

Guidance for 2019/20 in England

April 2019



Additional Roles Reimbursement



CLINICAL
PHARMACISTS



SOCIAL
PRESCRIBERS



PARAMEDICS



PHYSIOTHERAPISTS



PHYSICIANS
ASSOCIATES

Quality Improvement Overlap

Medicines Audits in Pharmacy Quality Scheme are mirrored in the incumbency for Quality Improvement in the new QOF scheme for GP practice

PINCER (Pharmacist-led Information Technology Intervention for Medication Errors) is a GP practice based set of searches, targeting NSAID prescribing, high risk drug monitoring (lithium, methotrexate and amiodarone) and medications prescribed without appropriate gastroprotection, to name a few

Mirrors PQS medicines audits as discussed earlier

A possible topic for conversation with Clinical Directors and PCN Pharmacy leads?



PCN DES



Structured medication reviews and optimisation



Enhanced health in Care Homes



Anticipatory Care



Supporting Early Cancer Diagnosis



Personalised Care



CVD Prevention and Diagnosis



Tackling Neighbourhood Inequalities

Areas of Overlap

Cardiovascular Disease Detection

Medicines Optimisation: Discharges, link around medication reviews

Workforce Capacity

Medicines Safety

Urgent care (low acuity conditions) and capacity

Examples of best practice



Joint WhatsApp groups for queries and comms



Pharmacy hosted IA appointments

NMS referrals



Shared medicines audits



eRD joint strategy



Prescription process agreements

Discussion and Action Planning



1. Are you in the right pharmacy network?



2. How will your network work together?
How will you communicate?



3. How will you decide a leader?



4. What are your next steps?