

Community Pharmacy Bulletin



17 July 2020



NHS England and NHS Improvement – South West

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Coming Up

	July	August	September
Week 1	Review nhs.uk and DoS pages to ensure they reflect intended opening for August Bank Holiday		Declaration of emergency requiring the flexible provision of Pharmaceutical services ceases 1 September 2020
Week 2	Completion of Staff Risk Assessment Declaration ----- PQS Part 1 Declaration opens		
Week 3			

	July	August	September
Week 4	Completion of individual risk assessments at least for staff in at-risk groups ----- Completion of Staff Risk Assessment Declaration ----- Home Delivery Service Extended to 31 July 2020	August Bank Holiday	

Staff Risk Assessment Declaration



At the end of June, NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) requested that individual risk assessments for at least staff in at-risk group (including Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) staff) should be completed within a month. The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) has been authorised to collect information about the progress of community pharmacy contractors over the course of July; similar information is also being requested from the other primary care contractors.

There will be two windows for collection:

- 9am on **9th July** to 11.59pm on **17th July**; and
- 9am on **24th July** to 11.59pm on **31st July**

[Complete the Risk Assessment Declaration](#)

NHSBSA has contacted all pharmacies via NHSmail, but information can also be found on the [NHSBSA website](#).

Contractors are asked to submit a declaration in each window, even if all staff assessments were completed during the first.

If staff are currently out of the business long term (i.e. due to sickness, shielding, furlough) contractors are still required to undertake a risk assessment, based on the employees current circumstances, and will then need to revisit this once they return to work.

We are aware that some contractors are seeking support to do this piece of work as not all contractors have access to Occupational Health (OH) support. As a consequence, on 14 July 2020, we made all Contractors aware that NHS England & NHS Improvement South East and South West regions have existing arrangements in place with OH provider Heales Medical Ltd, in order to support its Performers List function. The purpose of sharing this information was to let you know that for a fee, Heales Medical Ltd is also able to provide risk assessments for Pharmacies.

We expect you to decide for yourselves what is appropriate for your needs, Heales Medical Ltd is an option along with many other occupational health providers to whom you could approach for additional support to provide OH risk assessments services. Contractors may wish to engage an OH provider for more complex high-risk assessments to ensure you have followed-up on high-risk employees.



Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2020/2021

The Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) for 2020/21 will be in two parts. Part 1 recognises the work many pharmacy contractors have already completed as a result of COVID-19 to ensure a safer environment for all staff and people who visit the pharmacy.

It is an Essential Criteria Checklist which includes a list of actions that must all be completed by any contractor wishing to claim a payment of £1,630 for PQS 2020/21 Part 1. Claims can be made via the [NHS Business Services Authority \(NHS BSA\) Manage Your Service website](#) once the contractor has evidence to demonstrate that they meet all of the criteria in Part 1. Full details of the checklist can be found in the [Drug Tariff determination on the NHS BSA website](#).

Completing Part 1 before 29 January 2021 is a prerequisite for claiming Part 2 of the PQS which will be announced in September 2020.

Serious Shortage Protocol for fluoxetine 40mg Capsules

The Serious Shortage Protocol for fluoxetine 40mg capsules which was introduced on 20 May 2020 is being varied to extend the end date, which was previously 20 July 2020.

The end date for this SSP is now Monday 10 August 2020.

If you have any questions regarding the SSPs please contact the NHS Prescription Service:

Email: nhsbsa.prescriptionservices@nhsbsa.nhs.uk

Telephone: 0300 330 1349

Textphone: 18001 0300 330 1349

To access the latest information about SSPs (including supporting guidance), please visit: <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/serious-shortage-protocols-ssps>.

Clinical guidance for HCPs on immunisations for COVID-19

Please see attached clinical guidance for Healthcare Professionals regarding immunisations during Covid-19. This document (page 6) confirms the recommended PPE for administering all vaccines, is gloves, apron, fluid resistant (type IIR) surgical mask and eye protection.

Gloves and aprons are single use. Between vaccination of individuals they should be disposed of and hand hygiene performed. Fluid resistant (type IIR) surgical facemasks and eye protection can be subject to single session use, as outlined in the guidance linked below. Re-usable eye and face protection is acceptable if decontaminated between single or single sessional use, according to the manufacturer's instructions or local infection control policy.

We are aware that PSNC have provided early guidance for community pharmacy contractors to help with planning for the 2020/21 NHS Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Advanced Service. National negotiations regarding the pharmacy flu vaccination service are ongoing and we will confirm any agreed changes as soon as possible.

Employing a provisionally-registered pharmacist guidance

The General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) has written to pharmacy owners and superintendents to share [guidance about employing provisionally-registered pharmacists](#).

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the ability of trainees completing the pharmacist pre-registration scheme in 2020 to finish their training as planned, and to sit the registration assessment as originally scheduled.

Pending successful completion of the rescheduled assessment, the GPhC governing council has agreed a policy for registering pharmacists on a provisional basis.

The policy sets out that current pre-registration trainees who meet the criteria for provisional registration are able to be provisionally-registered as a pharmacist, with certain restrictions, from 1 August 2020. The guidance sets out what employers and superintendents must do, if they plan to employ a pharmacist who is provisionally registered.

COVID-19 Primary Care Outbreak Reporting

As you will be aware NHS providers are required to accurately report any local outbreaks of CoViD-19. To support this approach on 9th July 2020 we sent you details of the outbreak reporting process along with a reporting template for you to use.

If you are reporting an incident/outbreak please can you ensure that you include your F code when returning the form to us. You should also send the reporting template to your Local Representative Committee who will be able to offer support.

Reporting Supply Issues Linked to Quota Restrictions to PSNC

Community pharmacy teams are reminded that they can now report supply issues linked to drug quota restrictions to PSNC via a [simple online form](#). Your reports will help support our representation of these issues to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), the Healthcare Distribution Association (HDA) and the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI).

PSNC's Dispensing and Supply Team has been supporting DHSC in its work to monitor the unprecedented demand for medicines since the COVID-19 outbreak and address supply issues where possible. We will use the reports submitted via the quota reporting form to evidence the range of issues affecting pharmacies and their patients as part of the wider discussions with DHSC, HDA and ABPI about drug quota allocations.

[Find out more about PSNC's work to address supply problems.](#)

Enjoy Summer Safely: New Campaign Launch

This campaign aims to help the public begin to get back to the things they have missed whilst following Covid-19 safety guidelines. Resources for this campaign, as well as the NHS Test and Trace, Stay Alert to Stay Safe, Symptoms and Return to School campaigns can be found on the [Public Health England Campaign Resource Centre](#).

Devon, Cornwall and Somerset contractors

The South West and West of England Academic Health Science Networks are inviting community pharmacists in Devon, Cornwall and Somerset to a webinar entitled 'Making the most of eRD' on Thursday 23 July from 7-8pm. The link for registration is:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/making-the-most-of-electronic-repeat-dispensing-part-5-tickets-110123075082>

Useful Information



NHS England & Improvement – South West Region Community Pharmacy Contract Management Team contact information:

Team Member	Telephone	Address
Jenny Collins	07979 308749	For Devon, Cornwall, Isles of Scilly, Somerset and Dorset:
Michele Toy	07568 431890	NHS England and Improvement – South West Peninsula House Kingsmill Road Tamar View Industrial Estate Saltash, PL12 6LE
Les Riggs	07730 371074	
Sarah Lillington	07920 834445	
Kath Hughes	07730 374739	<i>Please note all our offices are currently closed, please do not send post and use email wherever possible</i>
Stacey Burch	07730 391418	Email: england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net
Sharon Greaves	07900 715295	For Bristol, North Somerset, South Glos, Bath & North East Somerset, Gloucestershire, Swindon & Wiltshire
Melissa Kendall-Milnes	07730 381340	NHS England and Improvement – South West Sanger House, 5220 Valiant Court Gloucester Business Park, Brockworth Gloucester, GL3 4FE
Sharon Hodges	07702 411295	Or
Tracey Howes	07730 380479	NHS England and Improvement – South West Jenner House, Avon Way Langley Park Chippenham, SN15 1GG
Joy Weeks	07702 407459	
Chris Yengel	07769 963478	<i>Please note all our offices are currently closed, please do not send post and use email wherever possible</i>

		Email: england.bgs-w-pharmacy@nhs.net
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Websites

Please see our websites for more information and any blank templates, forms and documents:

[Cornwall & Isles of Scilly, Devon, Bristol, Dorset, North Somerset, Somerset and South Gloucestershire](#)

[BaNES, Gloucestershire, Swindon or Wiltshire](#)
