Briefing for GP practices: Foot and eye screening (retinopathy) checks for patients with diabetes

Suggested points to highlight to GP practices about the diabetes quality criterion

- The Pharmacy Quality Scheme, which was introduced in December 2016, is continuing for 2019/20 and community pharmacy contractors are required to meet specific quality criteria as part of the Scheme. One of these focuses on annual foot and eye screening for patients with diabetes.

- From 1st October 2019 until 31st January 2020, we will be asking all patients with diabetes aged 12 years and over if they have had their annual foot and eye screening checks.

- If they haven’t or if they are unsure, we will advise them to speak to the receptionist at their GP practice to find out if and how they can make an appointment.

- We will discourage them from just making an appointment with their GP, as this may then lead to the patient having to attend the GP practice on two occasions if their GP is not the correct person they need to see, and an inappropriate use of a GP appointment.

- If you would prefer for us to advise patients to contact the National Diabetic Eye Screening Programme provider directly to arrange an eye screening check we are able to do that, if you can provide us with their contact details, or if you would prefer that patients are advised to phone the GP practice after a certain time of day and to request to speak to a specific person, we can also do that.

- If you have any questions on this process, please do not hesitate to contact [insert name of pharmacy manager] on [insert phone number]. Further information on the Pharmacy Quality Scheme can be found at: psnc.org.uk/quality.