**Key News and Guidance for LPCs: COVID-19**

 *Week ending 14th June*

**COVID-19 general updates**

**COVID-19: Updated public information**

Public Health England (PHE) has updated the set of coronavirus (COVID-19) posters for use in pharmacies. These include an updated poster to advise on maintaining a 2m distance from others a poster that should be displayed so it is visible to people seeking to enter the premises, and a poster pharmacies can use if they are working behind closed doors for part of the day. Read more and download the posters here: <https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/covid-19-updated-public-information-posters/>

**Update on the Flu Vaccination Service 2020-21**

Read more here: <https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/update-on-the-flu-vaccination-service-2020-21/>

**COVID-19: NHSE&I issues guidance on minimising spread of infection**

NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) have written to healthcare providers to outline the plans put in place to minimise nosocomial infections (eg COVID-19), including through the NHS Test and Trace programme and the management of outbreaks. Read more: <https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/covid-19-nhsei-issues-guidance-on-minimising-spread-of-infection/>

**Book now for Pharmacy Representation Review webinar**

Professor David Wright is hosting a webinar about his independent review of community pharmacy representation support on Monday 29th June at 7pm. The webinar will give contractors the opportunity to learn more about the findings of Professor Wright’s review – they will hear from him directly and have the chance to question him on his report. Register for the webinar here: <https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/book-now-for-pharmacy-representation-review-webinar/>

**Appendix**

**Remember: Key actions to take during the pandemic**

Contractors and pharmacy teams can take the following actions to ensure they are well prepared:

* Read the [**NHSE&I guidance**](https://psnc.org.uk/the-healthcare-landscape/covid19/contractor-guidance-and-support/) **and implement its recommended actions;**
* Clearly display the [**COVID-19 poster**](https://psnc.org.uk/the-healthcare-landscape/covid19/information-for-the-public/) **at points of entry to your pharmacy;**
* Read your [**business continuity plan**](https://psnc.org.uk/contract-it/essential-service-clinical-governance/emergency-planning/) **and consider whether it needs to be updated to reflect the current and emerging situation;**
* Keep up to date with developments by regularly checking the information on [**COVID-19 on GOV.UK**](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/wuhan-novel-coronavirus)**, the** [**NHSE&I Coronavirus Primary Care webpage**](https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/primary-care/) **and checking your NHSmail shared mailbox on a regular basis for updates from NHSE&I; and**
* Where possible, display the [**public health advice posters**](https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/resources/campaigns/101/resources/5016) **on hand washing etc.**

**Guidance for healthcare professionals**

The key guidance for health professionals is available on the Public Health England (PHE) section of the GOV.UK website:

[**COVID-19: guidance for health professionals (GOV.UK)**](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/wuhan-novel-coronavirus)

NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) published guidance for primary care teams on 27th February 2020. This includes a specific document for community pharmacy teams, which takes the guidance already available on the [GOV.UK website](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/wuhan-novel-coronavirus), but contextualises it for the community pharmacy environment.

[**NHSE&I Coronavirus Primary Care webpage**](https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/primary-care/)

The guidance explains how to deal with patients presenting in the pharmacy with suspected COVID-19 infection and preparations pharmacy contractors can take to deal with such a scenario. All pharmacy contractors should read the guidance and then undertake appropriate preparations for dealing with potentially infected patients.