**Key News and Guidance for LPCs**

*Week ending 8th November*

**General/COVID**

**Pandemic Delivery Service restarts across England**

Due to the new national restrictions across England, [**new advice has been issued to people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19) (those previously referred to as shielded patients). Subsequently, the Pandemic Delivery Service has been restarted from 5 November until 3 December 2020. Read more here: <https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/pandemic-delivery-service-restarts-across-england/>

**PSNC discussing pharmacy involvement in COVID vaccinations**

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) have entered urgent negotiations with PSNC about the role that the community pharmacy sector can play in delivering a COVID-19 vaccination programme. Read more here: <https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/psnc-discussing-pharmacy-involvement-in-covid-vaccinations/>

**Guidance published on accessing DHSC flu vaccine stock**

On 2 November, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) published guidance on how community pharmacies will be able to access supplies of flu vaccines procured centrally by the Government. Read more here: <https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/guidance-published-on-accessing-dhsc-flu-vac-stock/>

**October edition of CPN magazine is out**

The October 2020 edition of PSNC’s Community Pharmacy News is now available. Download or read it here: <https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/october-edition-of-cpn-magazine-is-out/>

**Regs**

[**Regs explainer #4: Updating DoS profiles**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/regs-explainer-4-updating-dos-profiles/)

[**Regs explainer #5: Health campaigns**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/regs-explainer-5-health-campaigns/)

[**Regs explainer #6: EPS access**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/regs-explainer-6-eps-access/)

[**Regs explainer #7: Pandemic Treatment Protocols**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/regs-explainer-7-pandemic-treatment-protocols/)

[**Regs explainer #8: Flexible provision of flu or coronavirus vaccinations**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/regs-explainer-8-flexible-provision-of-flu-or-coronavirus-vaccinations/)

[**Regs explainer #9: CAS alert sign-up**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/regs-explainer-9-cas-alert-sign-up/)

[**Regs explainer #10: Commencement notices and contractors entering administration**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/regs-explainer-10-commencement-notices-and-contractors-entering-administration/)

[**Regs explainer #11: NHSE&I inspections and access to electronic information**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/regs-explainer-11-nhsei-inspections-and-access-to-electronic-information/)

[**Regs explainer #12: Facilitating remote access to pharmacy services**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/regs-explainer-12-facilitating-remote-access-to-pharmacy-services/)

[**Regs explainer #13: HLP requirements**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/regs-explainer-13-hlp-requirements/)

[**Regs explainer #14: Consultation rooms and remote consultations**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/regs-explainer-14-consultation-rooms-and-remote-consultations/)

**COVID-19 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**](https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/primary-care/) **webpage 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.