**Key News and Guidance for LPCs**

 *Week ending 13th June*

**Last week’s news stories:**

**COVID-19 test distribution service – The importance of reporting test results**

Contractors participating in the NHS community pharmacy COVID-19 lateral flow device distribution service (or ‘Pharmacy Collect’) must ensure that people collecting Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test kits understand several key points, including the importance of reporting all test results. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/c-19-test-distribution-service-the-importance-of-reporting-results/**

**RSG webinar for the pharmacy sector on Monday 14th June**

The community pharmacy Review Steering Group (RSG) is inviting the pharmacy sector to a webinar on **Monday the 14th of June, from 7.30-8.45pm. Read more here: https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/reminder-rsg-webinar-for-pharmacy-sector-on-monday-14th-june/**

**Community Pharmacy Patient Safety Group Virtual Conference**

The Community Pharmacy Patient Safety Group is hosting a virtual conference on Wednesday 30th June between 2.00-4.30pm. This conference will consider how community pharmacies adapted to support patient safety during the COVID-19 pandemic, potential learnings from other sectors and actions to support staff wellbeing. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/community-pharmacy-patient-safety-group-conference/**

**HEE workforce survey**

Community pharmacy contractors have until **11.59pm on Friday 18th June** to complete the 2021 Health Education England (HEE) Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey. PSNC encourages all pharmacy contractors to participate in this voluntary survey, as the results will help inform the future planning and funding in relation to the development of the community pharmacy workforce across the NHS in England. The data from the previous workforce survey has also been used to the benefit of contractors by PSNC and LPCs in local and national negotiations on the development of community pharmacy services. Complete the survey here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/just-over-a-week-left-to-complete-the-hee-workforce-survey/**

**Deadline for claiming GP CPCS engagement and setup payment approaching**

Community pharmacy contractors are reminded that to claim the £300 engagement and set up payment for the GP Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (GP CPCS), the activities listed in Annex F of the CPCS service specification **must be completed by 30th June 2021**. Contractors can claim this payment until 11.59pm on the 5th of July 2021 using the NHS Business Services Authority’s Manage Your Service (MYS) platform. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/deadline-approaching-for-claiming-gp-cpcs-engagement-and-set-up-payment/**

**RPS launches Pharmacy Inclusion and Wellbeing Pledge**

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) has launched an Inclusion and Wellbeing Pledge for pharmacy to help make the profession inclusive, create a culture of belonging, and support pharmacy teams’ wellbeing. The pledge was created through discussions with organisations across the profession, including PSNC. Read more here: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/rps-launches-pharmacy-inclusion-and-wellbeing-pledge/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/rps-launches-pharmacy-inclusion-and-wellbeing-pledge/)

**Pharmacy Superintendent recognised by PM for efforts during the pandemic**

Community pharmacist Pete Horrocks recently attended a special reception to thank NHS workers for their efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic at No 10 Downing Street. Mr Horrocks, the Superintendent Pharmacist at Knights Pharmacy, was chosen to represent community pharmacy’s hard work and dedication to supporting their patients and local communities over the past year. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/pharmacy-superintendent-recognised-by-pm-for-efforts-during-pandemic/**

**Presentation of workplan to improve pharmacy representation**

Community pharmacy contractors are strongly encouraged to attend an upcoming event to hear about ongoing work to improve the services provided by PSNC and the LPCs. Following on from an independent review looking at the roles of PSNC and LPCs last year, the Pharmacy Representation Review Steering Group (RSG) has appointed programme management advisors (The Berkeley Partnership) to look at how to make improvements happen. The RSG and the team from Berkeley will share their final programme plan with the sector at a webinar on Monday 14th June, between 7.30-8.45pm. Read more about this story here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/presentation-of-workplan-to-improve-pharmacy-representation/**

**PSNC and MPs continue to highlight the value of pharmacy**

Recently there has been further recognition from MPs for the work community pharmacies are doing to support patients and the wider NHS, as well as the pressures facing the pharmacy workforce. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/psnc-and-mps-continue-to-highlight-the-value-of-pharmacy/**

**Opportunity to join the PPE portal engagement panel**

As part of its continuing work to get feedback from the users of COVID-19 personal protective equipment (PPE) provided via the Government’s PPE portal, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) would like to invite pharmacy teams to join its Pharmacy PPE engagement panel. Read more here: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/pharmacy-teams-opportunity-to-join-the-ppe-portal-engagement-panel/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/pharmacy-teams-opportunity-to-join-the-ppe-portal-engagement-panel/)

**Expiry of SSP012 for Estradot 75 microgram patches**

The Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) for Estradot 75 microgram patches, SSP012, expired **at 23.59pm on Friday 11 June 2021. Read more here: https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/contractor-notice-expiry-of-ssp012-for-estradot-75-microgram-patches/**

**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, face coverings 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.