**Key News and Guidance for LPCs**

*Week ending 11th July*

**Last week’s news stories:**

**3 weeks left to complete CPAF 2021/22**

Community pharmacy contractors are reminded that they have until **midnight on Saturday 24th July 2021** to complete the Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF) screening questionnaire for each of their NHS pharmacies: 3,558 pharmacies have already done so. Contractors yet to complete the questionnaire should read [**PSNC's Briefing on the CPAF screening process for 2021/22**](https://psnc.org.uk/contract-it/psnc-briefings-pharmacy-contract-and-it/psnc-briefing-012-21-cpaf-screening-process-for-2021-22/), as this explains the changes from the last CPAF process and provides guidance on the new questions. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/3-weeks-left-to-complete-cpaf-2021-2022/**

**COVID-19 Costs: claiming period begins**

The six-week period for community pharmacy contractors to claim for the extra costs they incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic began on **Monday 5th July 2021**. Under the [**deal reached between PSNC and HM Government**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/covid-19-costs-psnc-reaches-deal-with-hm-government/), contractors can claim for specific categories of COVID-19 related costs incurred between **1st March 2020 and 31st March 2021** for the delivery of NHS pharmaceutical services using an agreed claim form provided by the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA). Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/covid-19-costs-claiming-period-begins/**

**Deadline extended to claim for the GP CPCS engagement and set-up payment**

The deadline for claiming the £300 engagement and set up payment for the GP Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (GP CPCS) was extended until **11.59pm on Wednesday 7th July 2021**.

**MHRA Class 4 Medicines Defect Information: Tetralysal 300mg Hard Capsules**

Galderma UK would like to notify pharmacy teams of an error identified with regards to specific batches of **Tetralysal 300mg Hard Capsules**, sold and distributed in the UK. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/mhra-class-4-medicines-defect-information-tetralysal-300mg-hard-capsules-pl-10590-0019/**

**PSNC webinar on Dispensing Controlled Drugs**

PSNC will be holding a webinar on Dispensing Controlled Drugs on **Tuesday 27 July at 7pm**. The one-hour webinar aims to provide staff working in community pharmacy settings with information on dispensing, endorsing and submission of Controlled Drug (CD) prescriptions. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/book-now-for-our-dispensing-controlled-drugs-webinar/**

**COVID-19 Costs Claims online contractor workshops**

PSNC will be holding two COVID-19 Cost Claim Workshops for community pharmacy contractors, on **Wednesday 14th July** and **Monday 2nd August at 7.30pm**. These 60-minute online events aim to help contractors to claim for the extra costs they incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic and are part of PSNC’s programme of support on COVID cost claims. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/covid-19-costs-online-workshops-for-contractors/**

**Have you completed the DMS DoC?**

Pharmacists and pharmacy technicians must complete the Discharge Medicines Service (DMS) Declaration of Competence (DoC) **before**providing DMS, which became an Essential service earlier this year. Even pharmacies not yet receiving referrals from hospitals should be ready to provide the service, which includes ensuring staff have completed the relevant training and are competent to offer the service. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/have-you-completed-the-dms-doc-2/**

**COVID-19 Costs: further guidance issued**

PSNC has published further guidance and FAQs on the COVID-19 cost claims process for community pharmacy contractors. The new briefing is part of a series of guides that PSNC has issued to help contractors to claim for the extra costs they incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Contractors have until 15th August 2021 to claim for the pandemic-related costs using an agreed claim form provided by the NHSBSA. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/covid-19-costs-further-guidance-issued/**

**PSNC Rural Regulations workshop**

PSNC will be holding a workshop on Rural Regulations on **Monday 26th July at 2pm. This workshop will cover** controlled localities, reserved locations, historic rights, outline consent and more. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/book-now-for-the-psnc-rural-regulations-workshop-26-july-2021/**

**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.