**Key News and Guidance for LPCs**

*Week ending 12th September*

**Last week’s news stories:**

**End of PEPs: PSNC publishes information on cashflow impact**

We have now issued a briefing about the winding down of the Government’s Pharmacy Earlier Payment Scheme (PEPS). This briefing includes a cashflow model, setting out the implications of the end of the scheme for contractors affected. The document also includes timelines of the transition away from the PEPS payment timetable to help affected contractors understand when they will see the changes in their payments so that they can prepare accordingly. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/end-of-peps-psnc-publishes-information-on-cashflow-impact/**

**Medicine Supply Notification: Xylocaine 1% with adrenaline 100micrograms/20ml solution for injection vials.**

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has issued a Medicine Supply Notification for Xylocaine 1% (lidocaine) with adrenaline 100micrograms/20ml solution for injection vials. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-xylocaine-1-lidocaine-with-adrenaline-100micrograms-20ml-1200000-solution-for-injection-vials/**

**Hypertension Case-Finding Service – equipment and training requirements**

To help contractors prepare to provide the new Hypertension case-finding Advanced service going live from **1st October 2021**, information about the equipment and training requirements needed to provide this service has now been published on the PSNC website. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/hypertension-case-finding-service-equipment-and-training-requirements/**

**CPPE announces culturally competent learning campaign**

The Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) has announced they are running a learning campaign, [**Seeing you better: Culturally competent person-centred care**](https://www.cppe.ac.uk/as/default?AS_ID=142), which will begin on Monday 13th September 2021. This four-week learning campaign aims to improve pharmacy professionals' knowledge about the experiences of people from different cultures to their own. It may also help support their work towards the 2021/22 Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS). Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/cppe-seeing-you-better-culturally-competent-person-centred-care-learning-campaign-announced/**

**Briefing for General Practice teams on changes to the 2021/22 CPCF**

We have published a two-page summary Briefing for general practice teams on the main changes to the New Medicine Service (NMS), information on the Hypertension case-finding service and the revised PQS. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/briefing-for-general-practice-teams-on-changes-to-the-cpcf-2021-22/**

**Changes to the COVID-19 LFD distribution service**

An updated version of the NHS community pharmacy COVID-19 lateral flow device distribution service (or ‘Pharmacy Collect’) service specification has been issued to contractors. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/c-19-lfd-distribution-service-changes-to-the-service/**

**Pharmacy Access Scheme: Changes from January 2022**

Currently, community pharmacy contractors are in the process of receiving one or more letters from the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) in relation to the [**updated 2022 Pharmacy Access Scheme (PhAS)**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/details-about-2021-22-pharmacy-access-scheme-published/), which starts in January 2022. Each letter will deal with a contractor's pharmacy or pharmacies indicating whether or not they will be eligible for the revised PhAS. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/pharmacy-access-scheme-changes-from-january-2022/**

**Class 4 Medicines Defect Information**:**Rosuvastatin tablets**

The Medicines and Health products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has issued a Class 4 Medicines Defect Information for **Rosuvastatin 5 mg, 10 mg, 20 mg and 40 mg film-coated tablets. Read more here: https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/class-4-medicines-defect-informationrosuvastatin-5-mg-10-mg-20-mg-and-40-mg-film-coated-tablets/**

**PSNC website upgrade**

PSNC is currently working to redevelop its website and wants your help to improve its content structure. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/help-make-our-website-easier-to-use/**

**PSNC webinar on changes to advance payments and FP34C submission requirements**

PSNC and NHSBSA will be holding a joint webinar on the upcoming changes to advance payments and FP34C submission requirements. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/book-now-for-webinar-on-changes-to-advance-payments-and-fp34c-submission-requirements/**

**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.