**Key News and Guidance for LPCs**

*Week ending 17th April*

**Last week’s news stories:**

**Patient safety culture survey results published**

The Community Pharmacy Patient Safety Group has published the results of their safety culture survey undertaken in Autumn 2021. The survey was designed to gather information on the perspectives of frontline pharmacy teams about the culture around safety reporting, the enablers and barriers to reporting, the clarity of the reporting processes, and the confidence of those reporting. Read more: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/patient-safety-culture-survey-results-published/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/patient-safety-culture-survey-results-published/)

**MHRA Class 2 Medicines Recall: Olopatadine USV 1mg/ml eye drops**

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has issued a class 2 medicines recall for:Olopatadine USV 1mg/ml eye drops (USV UK Limited) PL 32870/0055. Read more here: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/mhra-class-2-medicines-recall-olopatadine-usv-1mg-ml-eye-drops-usv-uk-limited/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/mhra-class-2-medicines-recall-olopatadine-usv-1mg-ml-eye-drops-usv-uk-limited/)

**Medicine Supply Notification: Clomifene 50mg tablets**

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has issued a medicine supply notification for Clomifene 50mg tablets. Read more: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-clomifene-50mg-tablets/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-clomifene-50mg-tablets/)

**Medicine Supply Notification: Fesoterodine 4mg and 8 mg modified release tablets**

The DHSC has issued a medicine supply notification for **Fesoterodine (Toviaz®) 4mg and 8 mg modified release tablets. Read more:** [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-fesoterodine-toviaz-4mg-and-8-mg-modified-release-tablets/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-fesoterodine-toviaz-4mg-and-8-mg-modified-release-tablets/)

**Closing of the old PPE ordering portal**

Following the launch of the new personal protective equipment (PPE) ordering portal, DHSC has advised that the old PPE portal platform will close on **26th April 2022**. Read more: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/closing-of-the-old-ppe-ordering-portal/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/closing-of-the-old-ppe-ordering-portal/)

**Requirement to submit NMS quarterly information returns**

Community pharmacy contractors are now required to start submitting their completed New Medicine Service (NMS) summary data to the NHS Business Services Authority each quarter. This requirement was suspended due to the pandemic, but has now been re-instated. Read more: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/requirement-to-submit-nms-quarterly-information-returns/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/requirement-to-submit-nms-quarterly-information-returns/)

**PSNC North-East and Cumbria Regional Representative Election**

PSNC will shortly begin formal processes to seek a new North-East and Cumbria Regional Representative following the resignation of Mark Burdon from the Committee. Read more: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/psnc-north-east-and-cumbria-regional-representative-election/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/psnc-north-east-and-cumbria-regional-representative-election/)

**Medicine Supply Notification: Triamterene 50mg / furosemide 40mg tablets**

The DHSC has issued a medicine supply notification for **Triamterene 50mg / furosemide 40mg (Frusene® ) tablets. Read more:** [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-triamterene-50mg-furosemide-40mg-frusene-tablets/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-triamterene-50mg-furosemide-40mg-frusene-tablets/)

**New learning approaches for pharmacy technicians**

The Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) has developed some new learning approaches for pharmacy technicians. This includes impact groups to help develop their skills and confidence, and Myers Brigg Type Indicator**®** online workshops to better understand personality types and their own preferences. Read more: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/new-learning-approaches-for-pharmacy-technicians/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/new-learning-approaches-for-pharmacy-technicians/)

**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.