**Key News and Guidance for LPCs**

 *Week ending 5th June*

**Last week’s news stories:**

**MHRA Company led medicines recall: Invita D3 800IU Soft Capsules**

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has issued a company-led drug recall for **Invita D3 800IU Soft Capsules (Consilient Health UK Ltd**). Find out more: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/mhra-company-led-medicines-recall-invita-d3-800iu-soft-capsules-consilient-health-uk-ltd/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/mhra-company-led-medicines-recall-invita-d3-800iu-soft-capsules-consilient-health-uk-ltd/)

**SCR AI changes to continue beyond COVID-19 legislation**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the passage of related legislation, temporary changes were made to Summary Care Records (SCRs) so that SCRs, by default, could contain additional patient information, except where patients had indicated to the NHS that they did not want their data to be shared.

NHS Digital has advised that these changes are to continue going forward, meaning SCR Additional Information (AI) users will continue to be able to provide and use SCR AI under the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Common Law Duty of Confidentiality. PSNC and the Community Pharmacy IT Group had campaigned for pharmacy teams’ access to SCR AI to be extended beyond the pandemic by sharing case study information. Find out more: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/scr-ai-changes-to-continue-beyond-covid-19-legislation/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/scr-ai-changes-to-continue-beyond-covid-19-legislation/)

**Is your Smartcard due for renewal soon?**

Community pharmacy team members are encouraged to check the expiry date of their NHS Smartcards and if the expiry date is approaching, ensure they renew it in advance of the expiry date. Read more: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/is-your-smartcard-due-for-renewal-soon/**

**May 2022 Price Concessions – Final Update**

DHSC has granted the final list of price concessions for May 2022. Read more: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/may-2022-price-concessions-final-update/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/may-2022-price-concessions-final-update/)

**Class 4 Medicines Defect Information: Esomeprazole 40mg Powder for Solution for Injection/Infusion**

The MHRA has issued a class 4 medicines defect information notice for Esomeprazole 40mg Powder for Solution for Injection/Infusion (DEMO SAPHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY). Read more: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/class-4-medicines-defect-information-esomeprazole-40mg-powder-for-solution-for-injection-infusion-demo-sa-pharmaceutical-industry/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/class-4-medicines-defect-information-esomeprazole-40mg-powder-for-solution-for-injection-infusion-demo-sa-pharmaceutical-industry/)

**Over 2 million more flu vaccinations administered by community pharmacists in 2021/22**

Community pharmacy teams have administered 4.85 million flu vaccinations under the national Flu Vaccination Service in 2021/22. This is over 2 million more flu vaccinations than last year. Read more: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/over-2-million-more-flu-vaccinations-administered-by-community-pharmacists-in-2021-22/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/over-2-million-more-flu-vaccinations-administered-by-community-pharmacists-in-2021-22/)

**New SSPs issued for Lipitor® 10mg chewable tablets and Paracetamol 120mg suppositories**

DHSC has issued wo new Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) for Lipitor 10mg chewable tablets (SSP032) and Paracetamol 120mg suppositories (SSP033). Pharmacists are required to read and comply with the requirements outlined within these SSPs. Read more: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/new-ssps-issued-for-lipitor-10mg-chewable-tablets-and-paracetamol-120mg-suppositories/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/new-ssps-issued-for-lipitor-10mg-chewable-tablets-and-paracetamol-120mg-suppositories/)

**New Medicine Supply Notifications**

DHSC has issued Medicine Supply Notifications for the following products:

* [**Paracetamol 120mg suppositories**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-paracetamol-120mg-suppositories/)
* [**Atorvastatin (Lipitor®) 10mg chewable tablets**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-atorvastatin-lipitor-10mg-chewable-tablets/)

**MHRA Class 4 Medicines Defect Information: OxyContin 20mg prolonged release tablets**

**The MHRA has** issued a class 4 medicines defect information notice for OxyContin 20 mg prolonged release tablets. Read more: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/mhra-class-4-medicines-defect-information-oxycontin-20mg-prolonged-release-tablets/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/mhra-class-4-medicines-defect-information-oxycontin-20mg-prolonged-release-tablets/)

**One pump daily dose conversion added to Oestrogel SSPs**

DHSC has updated Annex A of SSP022 and SSP023 for Oestrogel Pump-Pack 0.06% gel to include a dose conversion to a specific alternative Estradiol patch for patients who use 1 pump of Oestrogel daily. Read more: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/one-pump-daily-dose-conversion-added-to-oestrogelssps/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/one-pump-daily-dose-conversion-added-to-oestrogelssps/)

**Shared Care Records implementation webinar**

The NHS Transformation Directorate is holding a webinar for community pharmacy teams on Shared Care Records (ShCRs). The webinar, scheduled for **2pm on Thursday 23rd June**, will discuss the benefits of pharmacy access to ShCRs, the barriers to implementation and more. Register for the webinar: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/shared-care-records-implementation-and-upcoming-webinar/**

**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.