**Key News and Guidance for LPCs**

 *Week ending 3rd July*

**Last week’s news stories:**

**Drug Tariff Watch – July 2022**

PSNC’s Dispensing and Supply Team has published the Drug Tariff Watch for July 2022. Read more here: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/drug-tariff-watch-july-2022/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/drug-tariff-watch-july-2022/)

**Charges for late submission of paper prescription bundle**

Contractors are reminded that an administrative deduction of £25 may apply if a paper prescription bundle is submitted late to the NHSBSA. A charge for processing of a late bundle would only apply if a contractor cannot provide evidence, where requested by the NHSBSA, that their bundle was submitted using secure track and trace delivery no later than the 5th day of the following month in which supply was made. Read more here: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/charges-for-late-submission-of-paper-prescription-bundle/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/charges-for-late-submission-of-paper-prescription-bundle/)

**Health Secretary outlines plan for digital reform of NHS**

The Secretary of State for Health & Social Care, Sajid Javid MP, has set out the Government’s plans to digitally reform the NHS. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/health-secretary-outlines-plan-for-digital-reform-of-the-nhs/**

**PSNC and NPA represent UK at World Pharmacy Council**

PSNC and the National Pharmacy Association (NPA) attended a meeting of the World Pharmacy Council (WPC) in May to discuss developments and innovations in the profession. Read more here: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/psnc-and-npa-represent-uk-at-world-pharmacy-council/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/psnc-and-npa-represent-uk-at-world-pharmacy-council/)

**June 2022 Price Concessions – Final Update**

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has published the final list of Price Concessions for June 2022. Read more here:[**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/june-2022-price-concessions-final-update/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/june-2022-price-concessions-final-update/)

**DSPTK Toolkit deadline**

The deadline for contractors to complete the Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPTK) for 2021/22 was 30th June 2022.

**COVID-19 vaccine autumn booster programme**

NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) has published a draft service specification to support the provision of a COVID-19 booster programme in the autumn. Read more here: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/c-19-vac-autumn-booster-programme/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/c-19-vac-autumn-booster-programme/)

**Medicine Supply Notification**

DHSC has issued a medicine supply notification for **Eletriptan (Relpax®) 20mg tablets. Read more here:** [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-eletriptan-relpax-20mg-tablets/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-eletriptan-relpax-20mg-tablets/)

**Further pause to NMS quarterly data reporting**

Community pharmacy contractors are no longer required to submit their completed New Medicine Service (NMS) summary data to the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) for April to June 2022, as this requirement has again been postponed for this quarter. Read more here: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/further-pause-to-nms-quarterly-data-reporting-2/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/further-pause-to-nms-quarterly-data-reporting-2/)

**Over 500 products added to DND list in last two years**

Following applications made by PSNC to DHSC and the NHSBSA, a further nine new products will be classed as ‘Drugs for which Discount is Not Deducted’ (DND) from 1st July 2022. This takes the total number of products granted DND status over the past two years to over 500 following checks made by PSNC. Read more here: [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/over-500-products-added-to-dnd-list-in-past-2-years/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/over-500-products-added-to-dnd-list-in-past-2-years/)

**NHSE&I Inclusive Pharmacy Practice Bulletin**

NHSE&I, in association with the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) and the Association of Pharmacy Technicians UK (APTUK) has published its first Inclusive Pharmacy Practice (IPP) Bulletin. Read more here: **https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/nhsei-inclusive-pharmacy-practice-bulletin/**

**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.