



Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northants weekly newsletter w/c 12/2/24

National updates

Pharmacy First

- Community Pharmacy England (CPE) have been responding to questions relating to the service, including how GPs should refer patients and if medicines specified in the clinical pathway are not available what pharmacies should do. They have updated their [FAQ's](#).
- CPE have published a new [online resource](#) for patients to be shared when pharmacists are providing a consultation for one of the seven Pharmacy First clinical pathways.
- **REMINDER:** Health Education England are offering community pharmacists and pharmacy technicians a range of fully funded, flexible training to expand your clinical skills and improve patient care. Full details can be found on [NHS England site](#).
- You can find pharmacies that have signed up to Pharmacy First by logging in to [NHS Service Finder](#), which is a quick easy free to use tool for health and social care professionals to find local NHS services. More information is available on the [NHS England site](#).

Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Programme 2025/2026 Course Provision

- All Foundation Trainee Pharmacists (FTP) commencing training in 2025 will have access to a core training offer provided by NHS England, focusing on supporting delivery of the learning outcomes in practice.

Full information can be found on the [CPE website](#) and NHS England's [Implementing the Foundation Pharmacist Training Year](#) webpage.

Data Security and Protection Toolkit: 2024 Community Pharmacy England guidance available

- CPE has published new guidance to help community pharmacy owners complete the 2023/2024 Data Security and Protection Toolkit. The toolkit is used to make a pharmacy's information governance (IG) declaration and must be completed by Friday 30 June 2024.

Full information can be found on the [CPE website](#).

Reminders

For BLMK only – Easter 2024 Expression of Interest and Opening Intentions

- This is a reminder to those who have not already responded to the questionnaire you will have received directly from NHS Herts & West Essex Primary Pharmacy and Optometry Team.

The questionnaire covers your intentions on Good Friday (**29 March 2024**) and Bank Holiday Monday (**1 April 2024**). It also covers an expression of interest to open on Easter Sunday (**31 March 2024**) for a minimum of 2 hours and a maximum on four hours, depending on available provision. Easter Sunday will be reimbursed at a rate of £250.00 per hour.

Good Friday and Bank Holiday Monday are **not** commissioned opening.

The original closing date to complete the survey was Sunday 11 February 2024, but the deadline has been extended.

Please use the [link to the questionnaire](#).

C-19 Vaccinations: NHSE extends contracts until 31 August 2024

- NHS England has written to pharmacies currently providing the COVID-19 vaccination service to ask whether they would be willing to extend the duration of their current contract to provide the service until 31 August 2024. You will need to let your local commissioner know by **22 February 2024** if you are able to continue providing the service. Full details can be found on the [CPE website](#).

Contraception Service

- With the new changes to the Contraception Service from 1 December 2023 now including **initiation** and **on-going/repeat supplies**, pharmacies who were already signed up to the service providing Tier 1 (on-going/repeat supplies) will have until **11:59pm 29 February 2024**, to opt into the new service via their [MYS platform](#). If you choose **not** to opt in by this deadline you will automatically be deregistered from the service. Further information on the changes to the service can be found on the [CPE website](#).

PQS

- Community pharmacy contractors undertaking PQS are reminded that the claim window for the declaration is between **9am on 5 February 2024 and 11:59pm on 1 March 2024**. Further information can be found on the [NHSBSA website](#) and [PQS important dates](#).

Recruiting foundation trainee pharmacists in 2024 (2025 intake)

- Significant changes have been implemented for the 2025 foundation training year in line with the Initial Education and Training of Pharmacists reform programme required by the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC). This means that recruiting via the National Recruitment Scheme (Oriel) will be **the only route to employing a foundation trainee pharmacist** for the 2025-26 foundation training year. Employer registration for the 2025-26

foundation training year via Oriel is now open. **Registration closes at 23:59 on 1st March 2024.** Further information to sign up to Oriel can be found on the [CPE website](#).

NHSmail set to make multi-factor authentication mandatory.

- In November 2023 the NHS mail team announced that multi-factor authentication (MFA) is set to become mandatory across the platform for all NHSmail users within 2024. Pharmacy NHSmail users are encouraged to enrol for MFA, prior to it becoming mandatory. Full details can be found on the [CPE website](#).

Medicine updates

Medicine supply notifications

- [Oxcarbazepine 150mg and 300mg](#)
- [Nadolol 80mg tablets](#)
- [Flixotide \(fluticasone\) 50 micrograms/dose Evohaler](#)
- [Co-trimoxazole 40mg/200mg/5ml oral suspension sugar free and Co-trimoxazole 80mg/400mg/5ml oral suspension – update.](#)
- [Formoterol \(Oxis 6 Turbohaler\) 6 micrograms/dose dry powder inhaler](#)
- [Lisdexamfetamine \(Elvanse\) capsules](#)

Medicines Recall

- [MHRA Class 3 Medicines Recall: Ramipril 1.25mg tablets \(Torrent Pharma UK Limited\).](#)

Price Concessions Update

- [February 2024 price concessions first update.](#)

Local news

[Pharmacy First - Information Webinar aimed at Locum Pharmacists](#) : On Thursday 29th February 2024 **NHS England Midlands Region** will be hosting a webinar.

This webinar is to help support Locum Pharmacists working in the Midlands with being up to date with Pharmacy First, to share good practice and to provide an opportunity for them to ask questions.

ACTION REQUIRED: We would appreciate your help in raising awareness of the webinar within the network you access Locum Pharmacist cover and forward the details below onto any of those contacts.

To attend the webinar the online registration form needs to be completed and then a diary invite and joining instructions will be forwarded on to those who have registered. If you would like to attend the webinar, please register via this link and a diary invite and joining instructions will be sent to you – [WEBINAR REGISTRATION](#) .The details of the Webinar are as follows:

Date: Thursday 29th February 2024 / **Time:** 19:00 – 20:15/ **Via MS Teams/ Agenda** as below

- Overview of Pharmacy First

- Pharmacy First digital developments
- Training opportunities
- Progress to date on Pharmacy First
- Frequently asked questions
- Contacts, resources and networks

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