

National updates

Further extension to Pharmacy First submission deadline.

- The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) has emailed pharmacy owners to inform them that they will further extend the submission deadline for the February Pharmacy First claims to **11:59pm Thursday 21 March 2024**. Full information can be found on the [CPE website](#).

NHSBSA are working with IT system suppliers to resolve issues with Pharmacy First data and do not anticipate discrepancies will affect payments for the Pharmacy First service. Pharmacy owners should continue to work with their Pharmacy First IT system supplier helpdesk to escalate any discrepancies and should not confirm their claims in MYS until the issue has been resolved. Any pharmacy owners that have submitted their claims with incorrect information should email the MYS team (mys@nhsbsa.nhs.uk) for further guidance.

Pharmacy First – Requirement to have an otoscope from 1 April 2024.

- Pharmacy owners are reminded that from 1 April 2024, they must have an otoscope available, and all clinical pathways must be provided in bricks and mortar pharmacies (excluding Distant Selling Pharmacies) registered to provide the Pharmacy First service. Full information can be found on the [CPE website](#).

LFD Service – New eligible patient groups from 1 April 2024.

- The Lateral Flow Device tests supply service for patients potentially eligible for COVID-19 treatments (LFD service) will continue to be commissioned as an Advanced Service in 2024/2025. Full information can be found on the [CPE website](#).

HRT prescribing for Pre-Payment Certificates – GP IT update.

- As announced in the NHS Primary Care bulletin (published 14 March 2024), over half of GP surgeries have digital solutions available to automate the issuing of listed HRT items as single-item prescriptions at the point of prescribing (separate prescriptions for each HRT item).

NHS England and DHSC are continuing to work together with IT suppliers to implement changes across all GP IT systems over the coming months. In the meantime, where a change hasn't yet been automated, please remember that prescribers are required to issue all HRT items as single-item prescriptions. Please see the options available to pharmacy teams on the [CPE website](#).

Local News

Message for Northamptonshire -NHS Community Pharmacy Extended Care Service Tier 1, 2 and 3.

- on 15 March 2024, the East Midlands Primary Care Team have notified pharmacies, via email, of the discontinuation in part to the NHS Community Pharmacy Extended Care Service Tier 1, 2 and 3. Full details can be found on the [BLMK-N-LPC website](#).

Reminders

Bank Holiday Hours

- A reminder to ensure that your [DoS](#) and NHS.UK profiles are updated with your opening hours for the upcoming Easter Bank Holiday dates (29 & 31 March & 1 April). This can be done via the [NHS Profile Manager](#).

Verifying your NHS Profile Manager profile

- Ahead of the **31 March 2024** deadline, pharmacy owners are reminded of the need to update their [NHS Profile Manager](#) to ensure that their pharmacy's NHS website and Directory of Service (DoS) profile information is up to date. Full information can be found on the [CPE website](#).

Pharmacy Pressures Survey 2024 – available now

- Community Pharmacy England has launched its third annual Pressures Survey and hope to hear directly from everyone who owns or works in a community pharmacy.

The survey takes around 10-15 minutes to complete and is open now until **23:59 on Tuesday 2 April**. Full information and the survey can be found on the [CPE website](#).

Medicine updates

Medicine supply notifications

- [Jext 300micrograms/0.3ml \(adrenaline 1 in 1000\) solution for injection auto-injector pen.](#)
- [Supply issues with multiple GLP-1 RA products.](#)
- [MHRA Class 3 Medicines recall – Oestrogel Pump-Pack 750 micrograms/actuation gel \(estradiol\) \(Besins Healthcare \(UK\) Ltd\).](#)

Price Concessions Update

- [March 2024 Price Concessions 2nd Update.](#)

Contact us:

Contact us page, on [BLMK-N-LPC website](#) or at office@blmk-n-communitypharmacy.org.uk

