

## National Updates

### Pharmacy Stakeholder group produces Patient Safety Professional Standards

Community Pharmacy England and others have contributed to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's (RPS) revised professional standards for responding to patient safety incidents.

The Patient Safety Professional Standards: Responding to Patient Safety Incidents has been developed by the RPS, Association of Pharmacy Technicians UK and Pharmacy Forum NI, with the support of a steering group and a public consultation.

To support the launch of the standards, the RPS is hosting a **patient safety standards webinar** to provide more information about what is new, who they are for and how to use them. Follow this [link](#) to register for the event being held on **Thursday 9 May 2024, 7–8pm**.

### Quick poll: pharmacy queries and NHS App improvement.

Community Pharmacy England and NHS England's Transformation Directorate are encouraging pharmacy teams to complete a quick new poll. The aim of the poll is to understand potential benefits of planned prescriptions functionality, that will be released in the NHS App. The survey will take approximately 2–3 minutes to complete, and your feedback will play a significant role in shaping future priorities in this area. [Complete the survey](#).

### Pharmacy First: Recognition of tick bites and the symptoms of Lyme disease.

As we move into Spring, pharmacy teams may start to see people presenting with tick bites and potentially symptoms of Lyme disease.

While tick bites/Lyme disease is not treatable under the Pharmacy First clinical pathway for infected insect bites, with patients needing to be signposted onwards, patients may present with a tick bite with an erythema migrans (EM) rash – also known as a bullseye rash. Therefore understanding more about the signs and symptoms should help pharmacy teams recognise the symptoms and allow them to signpost patients as appropriate.

[Lyme Disease UK](#) is holding their annual Wake Up to Lyme monthly campaign in May to raise awareness of the importance of tick bite prevention and what to do if bitten by a tick.

### Expand and raise awareness of Pharmacy First, says Healthwatch England.

A new report from Healthwatch England finds that the public is receptive to Pharmacy First but more needs to be done to increase awareness of and further develop pharmacy services.

### Pharmacy: what people want.

### [Pharmacy First Key Promotional Resources.](#)

Community Pharmacy England has created useful Pharmacy First resources that give clarity on each cohort that is applicable to the 7 common conditions the service covers. This can be found on the [BLMK-N-LPC website](#).

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## Local News

### **For BLMK only – Imminent launch of the Smoking Cessation Service (SCS).**

Margie O’Connell is working with the BLMK LPC and ICB colleagues to support Bedfordshire Hospital and Milton Keynes to launch the SCS referral pathway from in patient setting to Community Pharmacy.

It may have been sometime since you signed up to deliver the service and should have received a recent email on **25 April 2024** to complete.

You may wish to revisit your training and refresh your competencies before you start to receive referrals.

Colleagues will be in touch within a reasonable amount of time before you start to receive referrals and you will be provided with some additional guidance and a ‘Top Tips’ flyer which is currently being finalised.

If you have decided that you do not wish to provide this service, you will need to de-register. If you do decide to de-register, please email Margie who will send you the details of how to do this [margieo'connell@nhs.net](mailto:margieo'connell@nhs.net). Further information can be found on the [CPE website](#).

### **Telephone scam claiming to be a local pharmacy.**

We have been made aware of an incident earlier this week, in which an elderly patient received a phone call purporting to be from their pharmacy, with the caller saying that the patient was owed some medication which would be delivered to them if they supplied their bank details. Thankfully the patient concerned did not supply any confidential information and called their actual pharmacy to let them know.

We understand that it is difficult to contact all patients to make them aware of this scam, but please be aware that this could happen to one of your patients and that they need to be vigilant.

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## Training & Events

### **[Invitation to BLMK Pharmacy First Service Webinar Series](#)**

The launch of the BLMK Pharmacy First Service Webinar Series, a local initiative aimed at fostering collaboration and successful implementation of the Pharmacy First Service within primary care networks (PCNs) and community pharmacies in the integrated neighbourhoods.

The second cohort of webinars are on:

- **LeaVale & Oasis**      **Wednesday 1 May 12:30 – 13:30**
- **Phoenix Sunrisers**    **Thursday 2 May 13:00 – 14:00**

Please note that attendance at the scheduled webinar for your PCN is required as a priority. However, if you miss your session, you can attend the same webinar at a neighbouring PCN on a different date. We encourage active participation from all stakeholders to maximise the benefits of the Pharmacy First Service. [Link for the webinar](#). A list of the full dates and times can be found on the [BLMK-N- LPC website -Training and Events](#).

### [Pharmacy First Training Day – Northants.](#)

Pharmacists regularly working in Northamptonshire are now invited by Northamptonshire ICB and the LPC to attend Pharmacy First training on **Monday 13 May 2024**. Full details of date, times and location can be found on the [BLMK-N-LPC website](#).

### [For Northants only – Practical Hypertension Training for Pharmacy Teams](#)

The British and Irish Hypertension Society will be delivering a face-to-face hypertension training to Pharmacy teams. This pilot 'Train the Trainer' style event will take place at Novotel, Leicester from **10am to 3pm** on **Tuesday, 14 May 2024**. Attendance is open to community pharmacy staff who work in the Midlands. It is expected that attendees will replicate the training to their teams/colleagues. Practical blood pressure measurement techniques using clinic, home and ambulatory monitors, interpretation and actions following BP measurement with scenarios will be provided. [Link to register for the event](#).

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## Reminders

### [Pharmacy First Clinical Pathways Consultations.](#)

A reminder that from **1 May 2024**, as part of the monthly £1000 claim, the minimum number of clinical pathways consultations will be **10**. Only clinical pathway consultations that cross the gateway point and reach an outcome set out in the pathway (without onward referral to another pharmacy), will count towards meeting the monthly minimum number of consultations for the block payment.

### [Briefing Event: Critical Pressures and the future.](#)

Community Pharmacy England has opened registration for a national event for pharmacy owners as part of an ongoing effort to engage more meaningfully with everyone in the sector. The purpose of the event will be to provide an update across a range of issues impacting pharmacies as well as the wider outlook for community pharmacy and upcoming work. **This event will be held digitally on Tuesday 7 May from 7pm to 8:30pm.**

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# Medicines

[Drug Tariff Watch – May 2024.](#)

[DHSCs April 2024 Price Concessions – 1<sup>st</sup> Update.](#)

[10 products added to the Discount Not Deducted \(DND\) list from May 2024.](#)

[NHSBSA 'Hints & Tips' – Issue 55](#)

[MHRA Drug Safety Update: April 2024](#)

## Medicines Supply Notifications

[Daktacort \(hydrocortisone 1%/miconazole 2% cream\)](#)

[Mesalazine \(Asacol\) 400mg MR gastro-resistant tablets.](#)

Email: [office@blmk-n-communitypharmacy.org.uk](mailto:office@blmk-n-communitypharmacy.org.uk)