Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northants

Weekly Newsletter – w/c 13 May 2024

National Updates

May Briefing Event – Lack of Government investment and Pharmacy First challenges are key concerns for Pharmacy Owners.

Underfunding, dispensing at a loss, and challenges in Pharmacy First implementation are amongst the key concerns and priorities for pharmacy owners in the coming months. Community Pharmacy England's (CPE) digital briefing event, held last week, focused on critical pressures and the future, providing an opportunity for pharmacy owners to learn more about CPE work in key areas and share views on important issues.
Watch a recording of CPE Briefing Event: Critical Pressures and the future.

Pharmacy Workforce Wellbeing Report highlights importance of collaboration.

CPE and others have committed to collaborative actions to help address pharmacy professionals' mental health and wellbeing as part of a new report.
The Pharmacy Workforce Wellbeing Roundtable Summary has been published by the Royal Pharmaceutical and Pharmacist Support – the profession's independent charity – following a roundtable discussion held in February 2024.

Funding & Reimbursement Shorts: Handling prescriptions with supplementary product information.

CPE is launching a series of digital guides to help pharmacy owners and their teams understand more about common funding and reimbursement topics. The guides will help to develop good practices, maximising income and reduce instances of losing money or facing delayed payments because of small errors or not following the required processes.

New resources to help eliminate hepatitis C.

Hep C U later has been commissioned by NHS England to provide resources to help encourage hepatitis C testing amongst patients, to provide information to the public and update knowledge amongst healthcare professionals and their teams.

Medicine supply issues are a daily battle, Pressure Survey confirms.

CPE has released a national report confirming the severe impact of the worsening medicines supply situation on community pharmacies across England.
The Pharmacy Pressures Survey 2024: Medicines Supply Report.

Local News

For BLMK only –Calling All Pharmacists: Research Opportunities in Maternity Inequalities – NIHR Funded Opportunities.

Are you passionate about shaping the future of healthcare and tackling maternal and child health inequalities? You are invited to be part of an exciting opportunity to advance preconception health initiatives. We invite community pharmacists with a passion for research to get involved. As part of our application process we are seeking to enhance our research capabilities and involve practice nurses and pharmacists from across the BLMK ICB community.

If you are interested, please contact Sanhita.chakrabarti@nhs.net Deputy Chief Medical Office BLMK ICB and f.balogun1@nhs.net Community Pharmacy Integration Lead, BLMK ICB.
The deadline for application submission is 22 May 2024.

The new Temporary Authorised Witness module on the Controlled Drug Reporting website has now launched.

The way community pharmacies apply for an appropriate authorised person to attend their premises for the purpose of witnessing the destruction of stock schedule 2 CDs in the East of England has now changed.
In most instances, the Controlled Drugs Accountable Officer will no longer arrange for an "Authorised Witness" to attend your pharmacy for the sole purpose of witnessing the destruction of stock 2CDs. Instead, any registered healthcare professional (e.g., a registered pharmacy technician or pharmacist) can apply to witness the destruction of stock schedule 2 CDs for a limited period of time in a pharmacy.
Please go to www.cdreporting.co.uk and complete the form "Apply to be a Temporary Authorised Witness'.
Further information can be found on the BLMK-N-LPC website.

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 third cohort of webinars now starting for Central Bedfordshire are on:

- **Chiltern Hills Tuesday 21 May 12:30 – 13:30**
- **Hilton Wednesday 22 May 12:30 – 13:30**
- **Ivel Valley South Thursday 23 May 12:30 – 13:30**

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. **Link for the webinar.** A list of the full dates and times can be found on the **BLMK-N-LPC website -Training and Events.**

The Circularity in Primary Pharmaceutical Packaging Accelerator (CiPPA) initiative launch.
A new collaboration approach has been launched to address challenges surrounding the recycling of medicine packaging.
To support the launch of CiPPA, there will be a **webinar** on **Thursday 16 May at 14:00**, on driving sustainable packaging solutions in the pharmaceutical industry.

Reminders

Pharmacy Advice Audit – Due to launch w/c 3 June 2024.
As part of the Pharmacy Advice Audit, due to launch **w/c 3 June 2024**, CPE will ask pharmacy teams to record information about patients seeking informal advice (outside of the Pharmacy First Service) over the course of any single day within a two-week period. The audit has been designed to be as straight forward for pharmacy teams as possible, with instructions made available shortly.

Data Security and Protection Toolkit 2023/24
Deadline for completion for all community pharmacy contractors is **20 June 2024**.
For more information please see **NHS process and guidance**.

Medicines

Medicines Supply Notifications
Pabrinex (Vitamins B and C) Intravenous and Intramuscular High Potency solution for injection ampoules – Updated.
Sulfadiazine silver (Flamazine) 1% cream.
Lisdexamfetamine (Elvanse) capsules.
Humalog (insulin lispro) 100 units/ml solution for injection 10ml vials.
Pancreatic enzyme replacement therapy (PERT).