Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northants

Weekly Newsletter – w/c 9 September 2024

National Updates

NHS guidance on mpox virus outbreak in Africa.

In mid-August, the UK Health Security Agency issued guidance to all NHS service providers regarding Clade I mpox virus (MPXV) infection. NHS England has now issued further guidance which pharmacy owners to share with their teams, so they are aware of the key points.

Amendments to pharmacy regulations to introduce OPD +/- 10% dispensing.

New Original Pack Dispensing (OPD) rules, central procurement of certain vaccinations for community pharmacies and changes to the market entry application process are being introduced in and are due to come into force over the next few months.

Community Pharmacy England (CPE) sets out position to Ministerial Team.

CPE Chief Executive Janet Morrison has met with Minister of State for Care Stephen Kinnock, along with two community pharmacy owners/representatives both of whom sit on the CPE negotiating team.

Local News

FAO Northants Discharge Medicine Service:

Please can Northants pharmacies complete the **survey word document** and email back to margieo'connell@nhs.net by **15 September 2024**.

The aim of the survey is to get a picture from pharmacies as to the volume of DMS they see and what experiences that have in undertaking the service.

The intention of the outcomes of the survey is to feed into discussions with Northants Hospitals and the ICB as how to improve the quality of information on discharge and improve interface ways of working in Primary Care.

FAO Northants Link to Northamptonshire ICB website.

The above link gives you access to the Northants ICB website, accessing useful information, in particular a link to a **'Good Practice guide for Out-of-Stock Medicines'.**

Training & Events

CPPE Update – September 2024.

The latest CPPE update from the East of England Team.

Some key highlights this month include:

- New online workshop on Valproate – hard conversations – focal point.
- New e learning to support pharmacy technicians using PGD's in practice.
- New cohort open for Newly Qualified Pharmacist programme.

Reminders

Reminder: Flu Vac – are you clear when it starts?

Pharmacy owners are reminded that while the flu vaccination service can now be provided to pregnant women, vaccination of all other eligible adult cohorts for the 2024/25 campaign **cannot** commence until **Thursday 3 October 2024**.

Pharmacy First thresholds for September.

Following representation by Community Pharmacy England (CPE) Ministers agreed to make an adjustment for August but there have been no further updates since then. This means that, as things stand, the Pharmacy First threshold will be **increasing to 20 clinical pathway consultations for the month of September**.

Medicines

MHRA:

Drug Safety Update: use of Valproate in men.

Serious Shortage Protocol:

Four new SSPs issued for Isosorbide mononitrate 60mg modified-release preparations.