Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northants

Weekly Newsletter – w/c 14 October 2024

National Updates

Pharmacy First: Further changes to monthly targets.

Achieving the thresholds for the monthly Pharmacy First payment has been an ongoing matter of great concern for pharmacy owners and Community Pharmacy England (CPE).
In light of the concerns raised by CPE, Ministers have now decided to amend the thresholds to:

- November 2024 20
- December 2024 20
- January 2025 25
- February 2025 25
- March 2025 30

The Repeat Prescribing Toolkit.

A practical toolkit is now available to help improve the consistency, safety and efficiency of repeat prescribing systems in England. The toolkit, from the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) and the Royal College of GPs (RCGP), was commissioned by NHS England following the National Overprescribing Review recommendations.
The toolkit provides a framework that enables GP Practices and Primary Care Networks, working in collaboration with community pharmacies and patients, to streamline workloads, improve patient safety and care, address potential oversupply and reduce medicines waste.

Pharmacy staff: Booking your autumn C-19 vac booster.

Following the launch of the autumn vaccination season on 3 October 2024, pharmacy owners are reminded to encourage their pharmacy staff to book an appointment for their COVID-19 booster vaccinations.

Community Pharmacy England (CPE) invites non-CCA multiples to join its committee.

Owners of 10 or more pharmacies are being invited to become observers to the CPE Committee, as an interim measure while the Committee begins work on permanent changes.

PQS: Ask for ANI to wind down but Safe Spaces to continue.

The Home Office has announced that the Ask for ANI emergency codeword scheme that was launched during the pandemic will conclude on 4 November 2024.

Prime Minister speaks positively about Community Pharmacy during PMQs.

The Prime Minister was asked at PMQs what the Government is doing to improve access to General Practice.

Economic analysis: How much does it cost to run a pharmacy?
Community Pharmacy owners are invited to share data to inform an important fiscal review of the sector.

Local News

FAO BLMK- **BLMK-N LPC is seeking to employ Service Coaches.**
The role of the coaches will be to support implementation of collaborative services across community pharmacy and general practice with the main focus on the Pharmacy First Service. This is a new and exciting opportunity to make a difference for patients in the community by ensuring a good understanding of the services offered within general practice and community pharmacy and to ensure the smooth running of these services.
More information on the person specification and terms can be found **here.**
If you are interested in the role and would like more details, please email **office@blmk-n-communitypharmacy.org.uk** closing date **20 October 2024**.

FAO Northants – **Revised Pharmaceutical Needs Engagement (PNA).**
Your insights are needed to help shape the future of pharmacy in Northamptonshire.
Public Health Improvement Northamptonshire have revised the information they need from you and have shortened the questionnaire, which will take less than 5 minutes to complete. Without your input, the ability to develop robust recommendations in relation to pharmaceutical needs in Northamptonshire will be limited. The **link for the survey** will close **3 November 2024**.

Training & Events

FAO Northants – Free Face to Face ENT Training in Leicester.
Tuesday 29 October from 6:30om-9:15pm Pharmacy First ENT training sessions (face to face) at LOROS Hospice, Groby Lane Leicester LE3 9QE.
To register for the event and see full agenda click here **Eventbrite**.

FAO Milton Keynes - MK Parkinson's Café and Chat.
A series of events in MK bringing together people living with Parkinson's and their friends, families and carers. The aim of the event is to engage the community, bring them together so they do not feel alone and also find out what services and activities they would like locally.

Reminders

Patient Consent and the NHS Electronic Prescription Service.

BLMK-N LPC have recently received a number of concerns which suggest that pharmacy employees are changing the nominated pharmacy without patient consent. Patients believing their choice has been restricted may follow the process set out on NHS England's patient guidance. We have also added 'Patient letter of complaint' templates on BLMK-N LPC website relating to each ICB.

Please can we remind pharmacy teams to follow the four guiding principles of patient nomination as set out by Community Pharmacy England (CPE).

Full CPAF Questionnaire 2024/25.

Selected pharmacies will be notified by NHSBSA if they need to complete the full CPAF questionnaire and will have from **1 October until 31 October 2024** to complete on the Manage Your Service (MYS) website.

Medicines

General:

Improved price concession for Metformin 500mg modified-release tablets for September 2024.

October 2024 Price Concessions 1st Update.

MHRA:

Class 4 Medicines Defect Information: Linezolid 600mg film-coated tablets (Sandoz Ltd).

Medicine Supply Notifications:

Trandate (labetalol) 50mg tablets.

Serious Shortage Protocol:

Expiry of SSP073 Chemydur 60XL tablets.