Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northants

Weekly Newsletter – w/c 21 October 2024

National Updates

Critical staffing pressures in Community Pharmacies hitting patients.

Staffing pressures are significantly impacting pharmacies, adding huge workload pressures for all those who work in them and hampering their ability to help patients and the public, a report from Community Pharmacy England (CPE) has found.

Share your opinions on Winter Pressures: Pharmacy Owner Views Sought.

Community Pharmacy owners are being asked to share their views and concerns as we head into winter, as well as any further feedback they have before the next full CPE meeting in November.

Multiple pharmacy mentions in Parliament.

Community pharmacy has been referenced several times in the Houses of Parliament this week as MPs have quizzed Health Ministers on access to primary care services and pharmacy funding during two sessions.

Secretary of State launches conversation on health service.

The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has this week launched a national conversation on the NHS, seeking input and ideas to shape the future of a reformed health service.

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.

Pharmacy Show hears our ambitions for future of community pharmacy.

CPE CEO Janet Morrison gave an important sector update at this week's Pharmacy Show, while other members of the team joined other key sessions and engaged with visitors to their exhibition stand.

Local News

Sarah Owen, Labour MP for Luton North, visits Stopsley Pharmacy.
Sarah Owen, Labour MP for Luton North, visited Stopsley Pharmacy in Luton and was keen to show support for local businesses and services. She explained her commitment to the local area and felt passionate about defending local services that may be facing closures.

FAO Northants – Attention Independent Pharmacies.
We are seeking your input on an important matter that directly affects you.
You should have received a **1 question poll via your WhatsApp group** re **PharmAlarm** usage in your pharmacy. Please take a moment to vote in the poll (if you have not already done so via the WhatsApp group). Your feedback is crucial for shaping the next steps.
If you are not in any of the WhatsApp groups, and would like to be, please text message/WhatsApp Anne-Marie King directly and she can add you.

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**.

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) Presents: Antimicrobial Resistance webinar.
On **Thursday 14 November 10:30 – 11:30am** UKHSA will be holding a webinar which will explore their work on tackling AMR. **Registration via Microsoft Forms.**

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

Engaging with Politicians.

CPE works with politicians at a national level to champion community pharmacy and to advocate for our policy and funding asks. In addition, they support LPCs and pharmacy owners who receive queries from politicians or have any questions about this work and provide a wide range of resources to help engagement with politicians at a local level proactively. You can find your local MP on the **UK Parliament Site**.

Medicines

General:

October 2024 Price Concessions - 2nd Update.

National Patient Safety Alert:

Discontinuation of Kay-Cee-L (potassium chloride 5mmol/5ml) syrup.

MHRA:

Class 4 Medicines Defect Information: Paracetamol 500mg Effervescent Tablets (Kent Pharma UK).

Medicine Supply Notifications:

NovoRapid (insulin aspart) FlexTouch 100 units/ml solution for injection 3ml pre-filled pens.

Serious Shortage Protocol:

SSP074 Monomax 60XL tablets extended.