Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northants

Weekly Newsletter – w/c 28 October 2024

National Updates

2024 mandatory workforce survey is now open.

NHS England's 2024 Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey is now open.
Completion of the survey is a **mandatory requirement for all pharmacy owners**.
The survey opened **on 16 October 2024** and will **close at midnight on 11 December 2024**.
As with previous surveys, the data will be collected through two different methods:

- An online survey; or
- Via data collection at Head Office level through an Excel spreadsheet.

The NHSBSA has sent emails to pharmacies asking them to complete the online survey.

Flu Vac: Resources to promote the service.

Community Pharmacy England has released a series of resources to help further promote the Flu Vaccination Service to patients and members of the public.

Ask Your Pharmacist Week: Monday 4 – 11 November 2024.

It's not long until Ask Your Pharmacist Week, the UK's annual community pharmacy public awareness initiative, organised by the National Pharmacy Association and supported by NHS England. The campaign focuses on the knowledge and skills of pharmacists and the wider community pharmacy team.
There are full details of the campaign and free of charge resources on the **NPA website**. Please note that the campaign resources are freely available to all contractors and pharmacy stakeholders, not only NPA members.

Clarification regarding retailed margin in 2023/24.

Minister Stephen Kinnock recently **responded to a Parliamentary Question regarding pharmacy reimbursement**. In his response, he stated that pharmacies were allowed to retain £850m medicine margin in the year 2023/24.

Honouring Black History and EDI.

As we celebrate Black History Month, we recognise the important contributions of Black colleagues across our sector. This month honours Black history, achievements and experiences, but it has also provided us a time to reflect and reaffirm our dedication to equality, diversity, and inclusion (EDI)

Pharmacies are saving the NHS 38 million GP appointments a year.

The findings from CPE's 2024 Pharmacy Advice Audit, highlight that pharmacies are providing several million walk-in consultations each year.

Pharmacies in England provide nearly 70 million unfunded consultations a year.
More than 1.3 million unfunded consultations a week – or just over 69 million a year – are now being carried out by community pharmacy teams in England, according to CPE's 2024 Pharmacy Advice audit.

Local News

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**.

FAO BLMK – Interpreting and Translation services - East of England Region.
Interpreting and translation services are available for you to access on behalf of your patients to assist with NHS appointments and are funded by your local ICB.

Training & Events

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.**

Reminders

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.

Medicines

General:

October 2024 Price Concessions – 3rd Update.
Drug Tariff Watch - November 2024.

MHRA:

Class 2 Medicines Recall: Phenobarbital Bristol Labs 15mg Tablets (Bristol Laboratories Ltd).
Class 3 Medicines Recall: Cyanocobalamin 50 mcg Tablets (Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Europe Ltd) – updated.
MHRA Drug Safety Update: October 2024.
Class 4 Medicines Defect: Parasolve (Paracetamol) 500mg effervescent tablets (Kent Pharma UK).
Class 2 Medicines Recall: Labetalol 200mg tablets (Tillomed Laboratories Limited).