Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northants

Weekly Newsletter – w/c 7 October 2024

National Updates

Patient Consent and the NHS Electronic Prescription Service.

The General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) have published an article regarding concerns about changes to EPS nominations without patient consent.

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).

2023 Workforce survey results published.

The results of the 2023 Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey have been published by NHS England.

LPC Chairs Forum convened to advise Community Pharmacy England (CPE).

A forum of LPC chairs, created to provide more local input into the representation of pharmacy owners at a national level, met for the first time last week.

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

Community Pharmacy Technician Apprenticeship Programme: Application for PTPT Training Contribution.
NHS England Workforce, Training and Education (WT&E) have secured funding to support growth of the pharmacy technician workforce within community pharmacy by increasing pre-registration trainee pharmacy technician (PTPT) training capacity. Funding contributions are for new PTPTs that have not yet been enrolled or started PTPT training, with training placements to commence between November 2024 and 28 February 2025.

Pharmacy contractors may apply for PTPT funding contributions by completing this on-line **expression of interest (EoI) form**. The deadline for expressions of interest to be submitted is **23:59** on **13 October 2024**.

Useful CPPE videos and information:

- **Pharmacy Contraception Service** – Shared decision making on initiation of contraceptive pills and top tips – the video includes Practical tips and covers choice of pills and practical considerations of running the service
- **Newly Qualified Pharmacist Programme** - you will find all the resources linked to this programme, providing an outline of the programme, who is eligible, programme leaflet, FAQ's and some testimonials.
- **Pharmacy First Resources** – a range of learning resources to support pharmacy professionals to provide the service.

Pharmacy Show: 13-14 October 2024 – NEC Birmingham.
The Pharmacy Show 2024 is **free** to attend for UK Registered healthcare professionals and those working in leadership/managerial roles within community pharmacy. Click here to **register** for the event.

Reminders

Changes to October Pharmacy First monthly threshold – to remain at 20.

CPE have been discussing this issue over the last few weeks with the Department of Health and Social Care and NHS England, and Ministers have now decided that they intend to reduce the October threshold for the Pharmacy First service to **20**, in light of the concerns that have been raised.

From **1 October 2024**, new caps on the number of Pharmacy First clinical pathway consultations that can be delivered per month have been introduced. A list of pharmacy owners, their assigned band and monthly cap can be found on the **NHSBSA website**.

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

MHRA:

Class 4 Medicines Defect Information: Rosuvastatin 20mg, 40mg tablets (Sandoz Ltd).

Class 3 Medicines Recall: Cyanocobalamin 50mcg Tablets (Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Europe Ltd).

Class 3 Medicines Recall: Trandolapril 2mg and 4mg capsules (Viatris UK Healthcare Ltd).

Medicine Supply Notifications:

Torasemide 10mg tablets.