

[NHS England Pharmacy First campaign re-start.](#)

NHS England will be relaunching their Pharmacy First campaign on Monday 11 November.

Minor revisions have been made to the original campaign materials used earlier this year, including additional information on the age criteria for the clinical pathways.

Ahead of the official launch, the campaign materials are available on the **[Department of Health and Social Care's Campaign Resource Centre website.](#)**

[One Year on from Vision: LPCs and wider stakeholders consider the outlook for pharmacy.](#)

LPCs and Community Pharmacy England met with a range of advocates and patient groups last week to reflect on the outlook for the sector a year on from the publication of the **[Vision for Community Pharmacy.](#)**

Local News

[Conference of LPC representatives 2024.](#)

The Annual Conference of LPC Representatives is an important event in the calendar, giving LPCs the chance to discuss the big issues troubling pharmacy owners in their areas and share ideas and learning.

We had 2 representatives from BLMK-N LPC attend, Has Modi (Committee Member) and Mahesh Shah (Vice Chair).

FAO BLMK - Good Practice Re Colchicine.

Following a critical incident recently, possibly involving colchicine, key points for prescriptions for colchicine are that no prescription should be as directed, this is because there is only a small difference between a correct dose and an overdose and instructions must be clear. Large quantities should be flagged too.

For acute gout:

Prescribe 500 micrograms of colchicine 2-4 times daily, until pain relief is achieved.

The manufacturer recommends a dose of 1 mg to start followed by 500 micrograms after 1 hour, leaving a gap of 12 hours, and resuming treatment with 500 micrograms every 8 hours until symptoms are relieved.

The maximum dose per course is 6 mg (12 tablets) and the course should not be repeated within 3 days.

For prophylaxis of gout flares (during urate-lowering treatment):

Give 500 micrograms of colchicine twice daily following initiation of long-term treatment with allopurinol

Decide treatment duration taking into account factors such as flare frequency, gout duration and the presence and size of tophi – it is for a period of time until the urate lowers, maximum 6 months, often only 3 months.

FAO Bedford/Central Bedfordshire/Milton Keynes - Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) Community Pharmacy Survey extended.

The purpose of the PNA is to identify what pharmaceutical services are currently available in an area and where services are likely to be needed in the future, because of changes to the health or demographics of the population. The PNA plays a **crucial** part in supporting commissioning decisions in relation to local pharmaceutical service provision based on patient's needs.

The following surveys deadlines have been extended to **1 December 2024**; we strongly encourage you to complete the following survey for your locality:

- [Bedford Borough Council](#)
 - [Central Bedfordshire](#)
 - [Milton Keynes City Council](#)
-

Training & Events

[SPS launches Pharmacy First podcast series.](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) has launched a podcast series to discuss some of the issues surrounding the Pharmacy First Service and to debunk certain clinical myths around the Clinical pathway strand of the service.

[CPPE Update – November 2024.](#)

The latest update from CPPE, East of England team which includes an **online workshop** for Valproate training in November and December and new dates for workshops in January – March 2025.

[NHSBSA Online Webinars for Pharmacy Teams.](#)

The NHSBSA are hosting webinars to provide an insight into how they reimburse prescriptions. These sessions will take place online and last approximately 1 hour. There are 8 sessions in total starting from **Thursday 14 November at 10:00am** (a full list of the dates is on the CPE website). To

sign up and attend one of the sessions, email NHSBSA at open-days@nhsbsa.nhs.uk with the date and time of the session you wish to attend.

[CPE Webinars – Engaging with the NHS 10-year plan.](#)

Community Pharmacy England (CPE) will be hosting two webinars to discuss the Government's NHS 10-year plan. The webinars will provide more detail on how the plan is being developed, outline opportunities for pharmacy owners to have their say, and describe the ways in which CPE is responding on behalf of the sector. **Registration for these events need to be made in advance**, with bookings to close at noon on the day of each event. Registrations may close earlier if they reach the maximum number of attendees for the event.

Click on your preferred date to register:

[Monday 18 November 7.30pm](#)

[Tuesday 26 November 7.30pm](#)

[CPE Webinar - OPD.](#)

CPE will be hosting a webinar on the introduction of Original Pack Dispensing (OPD) on **Monday 25 November at 7:30pm**.

[Book your place now.](#)

Reminders

[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**.

Medicines

General:

[Legislation restricting the sale and supply of gonadotrophin- releasing hormone analogues further extended.](#)

MHRA:

[Drug Safety Update: November 2024.](#)

[Class 4 Medicines Defect information: Zoledronic Acid Ennogen 4mg/5ml concentrate for solution for infusion \(Ennogen Healthcare Limited\).](#)

[Class 4 Medicines Defect Information: Omeprazole 40mg Powder for solution for infusion \(Viatris UK Healthcare Ltd\).](#)

Serious Shortage Protocol:

Expiry of SSP076 Nyzamac® SR 60mg capsules.

Medicine Supply Notification:

Medicine Supply Notification: Sodium fusidate (Fucidin®) 250mg tablets and fusidic acid (Fucidin®) 250mg/5ml oral suspension.

Email: office@blmk-n-communitypharmacy.org.uk