Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northants

Weekly Newsletter – w/c 4 November 2024

National Updates

Provision of C-19 vacs from April 2025.

NHS England has opened the procurement for pharmacies that wish to provide the COVID-19 vaccination service from April 2025.
Guidance documents and details on how pharmacy owners can submit a response, can be found on the **NHS Business Services Authority's webpage**.

Patient Group Directions (PGD) Updated NHS Specialist Pharmacy guidance.

NHS Specialist Pharmacy Service has updated its **Introduction to PGDs guidance**, setting out what a PGD is and how it is used in clinical practice.

NHSBSA 'Hints & Tips' - Issue 57.

The NHSBSA quarterly newsletter full of hints and tips for dispensing contractors.

Chancellor sets out Autumn Budget.

The Chancellor announced her Autumn Budget on 30 October, setting out the Government's overarching spending plans for the next 18 months. **Impact of Budget on pharmacies**.

Local News

Guide for reporting Controlled Drug (CD) Incidents.

The Controlled Drugs Accountable Officers (CDAO) Team has provided a guide for reporting CD incidents.

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

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 **Tuesday 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

Pharmacy First Monthly threshold for November.

A reminder that the Pharmacy First threshold for **November 2024** remains at **20**.

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.

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:
October 2024 Price Concessions – Final Update.

MHRA:
Class 2 Medicines Recall: Labetalol 200mg tablets (Tillomed Laboratories Limited) – Update.