

Weekly Newsletter – w/c 16 December 2024

National Updates

Details of Spring 2025 C-19 vac programme confirmed.

In a letter sent to community pharmacies and others, NHS England has confirmed the patient cohorts that will be eligible for vaccination in the Spring 2025 C-19 vaccination programme. This follows the advice of the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation being accepted by the Government.

Additional non-CCA multiples appointed to Community Pharmacy England Committee.

The Managing Director of Jardines (UK) Ltd and Superintendent Pharmacist of Pearl Chemist Group have been selected as non-CCA multiple observers to the Community Pharmacy England Committee. The establishment of two contributing observer places is an interim measure to ensure pharmacy owners with 10 or more pharmacies are well represented, while the Committee considers more permanent changes to its structure.

<u>Legislation restricting the sale and supply of gonadotrophin-releasing hormone analogues</u> will be made indefinite.

The Government announced that regulations restricting the prescribing and supply of puberty-suppressing hormones – which were due to expire at the end of December –will be made indefinite. The <u>Medicines (Gonadotrophin–Releasing Hormone Analogues) (Restrictions on Private Sales and Supplies) Order 2024</u> will come into force on **1 January 2025** as the current emergency order expires and will be reviewed in 2027.

NHS England announce changes to 2026/27 Foundation Pharmacist training.

NHS England has announced that multi-sector rotations during the 2026/27 Foundation Pharmacist Training Programme will not now be mandatory.

Community Pharmacy England Mid - Year Review: what we've been doing for you.

Community Pharmacy England is working to improve outcomes for the sector in everything we do. As part of our work to influence Government and NHS policy in favour of community pharmacy we have continued working to build advocates for the sector. This includes working with MPs, health charities, patient groups, think tanks, and the media, to raise awareness of the challenges pharmacies are facing and push for solutions.

Local News

Has Modi, Appointed to Community Pharmacy England Committee.

As you can see from our national news update, we are pleased to announce that Has Modi Managing Director, Jardines (UK) Ltd (49 pharmacies in East of England and East Midlands) has been selected as non-CCA multiple observers to the Community Pharmacy England Committee. Has Modi has been a member of Milton Keynes and Northamptonshire LPC since 2014, prior to which he sat on Bucks LPC since 1986. He has also been a PSNC member 2018 – 2023.

Pharmacy First Poster for schools.

In collaboration with BLMK & Northants ICB we have created a poster, that the ICB's will send out to all schools, highlighting the conditions that pharmacies can help with and support under the Pharmacy First initiative.

To support our pharmacies with the four main clinical conditions for children featured on the poster, we have added a series of training webinars to provide additional guidance and support on our BLMK-N-LPC website – NHS Contract – Pharmacy First – Training Webinars.

Christmas Opening Times 2024.

Please see the links below to the BLMK-N LPC website, with details of pharmacies that have been commissioned by NHS England to open over the Christmas period:

- BLMK
- Northants

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, the next one will be on **Tuesday 14 January 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.

Reminders

Verifying your NHS Profile Manager profile.

Ahead of the 31 December 2024 deadline* we would like to remind pharmacy owners of the need to update NHS Profile Manager each quarter to ensure that their pharmacy's NHS website and Directory of Service (DoS) profile information is up to date.

The NHS Terms of Service require pharmacy owners to check that their opening hours, contact information, facilities and services information are up to date for each profile, each financial quarter. You should mark each module as verified even if no change is required to the information.

*Note: The NHS Contract quarters are 1 April to 30 June; 1 July to 30 September; 1 October to 31 December; and 1 January to 31 March.

Medicines

General:

<u>December 2024 Price Concessions: 1st Update.</u>

MHRA:

Drug Safety Update: December 2024.

Medicine Supply Notifications:

<u>Insulatard® (isophane insulin, human) Penfill® 100units/ml suspension for injection 3ml cartridges.</u>

Cefalexin 125mg/5ml and 250mg/5ml oral suspensions, sugar free.

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