Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northants

Weekly Newsletter – w/c 13 January 2025

National Updates

Early advance payment timetable for 2025.

Pharmacy owners who submit their FP34C declaration through the Manage Your Service (MYS) portal by the 5th of the month (or by the 6th if one or more bank holiday occurs during the first five days of the month) will receive 100% of their advance payments four working days after the submission deadline.

Flu Vaccination service: Provider Assurance activity begins.

NHS England have announced, via their Primary Care Bulletin, that it will soon start to undertake provider assurance work with pharmacy owners providing the Flu Vaccination service. The reviews will engage with pharmacy owners who may have administered NHS flu vaccinations to adults outside of the announced and authorised cohorts prior to 3rd October 2024.

Parliamentarians continue to voice their support for pharmacies.

Following on from much Parliamentary activity before Christmas, such as the debate on pharmacy funding in the South West and the Health secretary's appearance before the Health Committee, MPs are continuing to highlight the serious challenges pharmacies face and to call for support for the sector.

MPs launch inquiry into medicine shortages.

The All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Pharmacy has announced the launch of an inquiry into the impact of medicines shortages in England, the contributing factors and potential solutions. As part of this inquiry, the APPG has issued a call for written evidence from key stakeholders across the healthcare sector.

Government supports measures to extend pharmacy services, but hesitant on funding overhaul.

The Government has today responded to the Health Select Committee's report into the state of community pharmacy, addressing each of the report's recommendations to support the sector.

Update from Community Pharmacy England CEO.

In her latest blog, Janet shares her thoughts on the funding crisis, an update on the status of CPCF negotiations, and more on the fight for a sustainable future for community pharmacies.

Pharmacy First myth busting series #6. & **Pharmacy First myth busting series #7.**
The sixth and Seventh of a series of articles to tackle some of the misconceptions around Pharmacy First.

Local News

Important Update: WhatsApp Groups Security Alert.
We recently experienced an incident where a pharmacy staff member's personal mobile phone was hacked, giving the hackers access to one of our pharmacy WhatsApp groups. This led to some group members receiving phone calls, requests for individual meetings, and messages asking for separate verification codes.
Fortunately, group members quickly reported the issue and informed everyone, ensuring all were aware of the situation.
To keep your information secure, please remain vigilant:

- Be cautious if contacted by unknown numbers.
- Avoid joining groups you don't recognise.
- Do not click on suspicious links in messages.
- Avoid sharing any personal/patient information within messages.

Training & Events

Registration for the National Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Recruitment Scheme via Oriel.
Participation in the 2025 Foundation Trainee Pharmacist National Recruitment Scheme to recruit into your Foundation Training programme(s) for the 2026-27 training year.
The National Recruitment Scheme is **the only route to employing a foundation trainee pharmacist** for the 2026-27 foundation training year; you are unable to recruit trainees directly.

The deadline to submit your form(s) is **11.59pm on 1st March 2025**. Please note late submissions will not be accepted.

Face to Face Pharmacy Contraception Service Training in Huntingdon.
In collaboration with CPPE, Community Pharmacy Cambridgeshire & Peterborough are delivering consultation workshops for pharmacists. They have a few spaces remaining for **Sunday 19 January 10:00 – 12:00** in Huntingdon. Full details for **booking** can be found on the Community Pharmacy Cambridge & Peterborough website.

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 28 January at 2:00pm** (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

Reminder: SPS Pharmacy First podcast series.
Earlier this year, Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) 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.

Medicines

General:
TriOn Pharma recalls Vitamin D3 2000iu/ml supplements because of excess levels of Vitamin D3.

Medicine Supply Notifications:
Apomorphine hydrochloride (APO-go® PFS) 50mg/10ml solution for infusion pre-filled syringes.
Xylocaine® (lidocaine) 10mg spray.

MHRA:
Class 4 Medicines Defect Notification: Rabeprazole sodium 10mg and 20mg gastro-resistant tablets (Bristol Laboratories Limited).
Class 4 Medicines Defect Notification: Irbesartan 150 mg and 300 mg film-coated tablets (Jubilant Pharmaceuticals NV).