Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northants

Weekly Newsletter – w/c 3 February 2025

National Updates

Reflections on Pharmacy First: One Year On.

Friday 31 January marked one year since the NHS Pharmacy First service was launched, and Community Pharmacy England is once again applauding the amazing work that has been done by everyone in the sector to get this service off the ground.

Funding & Reimbursement Shorts: 'FS' endorsed prescriptions for free supply of sexual health treatments.

As part of CPE Funding & Reimbursement Shorts series Community Pharmacy England's in-house Drug Tariff and funding experts have created a new video providing guidance on how handling 'FS' endorsed prescriptions for free supply of sexual health treatments.

Local News

URGENT UPDATE – BLMK-N LPC Communications are changing.

Starting now, the **Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northamptonshire** newsletter will be published **fortnightly** instead of weekly.

Please continue to check https://cpe.org.uk for news updates in between receiving our newsletter and check the CPE newsletter too. This is published on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to support community pharmacies in all regions. If you are not on the mailing list to receive CPE newsletters, please register at Community Pharmacy England Newsletter.

Additionally, we are launching a **WhatsApp Broadcast Group** (to exist alongside your existing groups) to share urgent local updates between newsletters. Unlike regular WhatsApp groups, this will be a **one-way communication channel**, where only the LPC can send messages.

📢 **To join the WhatsApp Broadcast Group:**

Email your **mobile number, pharmacy name, and role** to office@blmk-n-communitypharmacy.org.uk and ensure your privacy settings allow us to add you.

We aim to set this up **ASAP**, so please send your details promptly.

Thank you for your cooperation.

FAO Luton – Luton Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment PNA 2025 Contractors Survey.
Luton Council is currently undertaking a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). The PNA will be used by NHS England to consider applications to open new pharmacies, or to commission additional services from pharmacies.

As part of this process, they are collecting information about services provided by all pharmacies in Luton. Please complete the following survey: https://survey.ntropydata.co.uk/surveys/PNApharmacy. It is really important that they collect this information from as many local pharmacies as possible to help shape the future direction of pharmacy services in Luton. They understand this is a very busy time for you, so have kept the survey short. Can you please complete the questionnaire by **21 February 2025.**

Training & Events

FAO Luton – ResoLUTiONs Pharmacy Training Event.
Face to Face training for pharmacies, currently offering the service, in and around Luton from Resolutions, the Alcohol and Drug Service.
12 February 2025 7pm – 9:30pm, The Hub, 91 Castle Street, Luton.
Email Jessica.chance@cgl.org.uk to confirm attendance.

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 11 February at 10:00** (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.

Register for CPE Data Security and Protection Toolkit 2025 Workshop.
Community Pharmacy England will be holding a webinar on **Thursday 13 February at 7.30pm** to help community pharmacy owners to complete the Data Security and Protection Toolkit 2025.
Register for Workshop

Reminders

Update your NHS Profile Manager quarterly.
Pharmacy owners are reminded to regularly update their NHS Profile Manager each quarter, ensuring their NHS website and Directory of Services (DoS) profile information remains current.

From February, when you update your contract information and opening times in the NHS Profile Manager, this also updates your UEC Directory of Services (DoS) profiles.

Pharmacy Pressures Survey 2025: It's time to share your views.
Community Pharmacy England has launched its fourth annual Pressures Survey, and all pharmacy owners and staff are asked to share their views.

The survey provides crucial evidence as part of ongoing work to monitor and quantify the intolerable challenges facing the sector. The survey is split into two parts for **pharmacy business owners/head office representatives** and another for **pharmacy teams**.
Both surveys are short and should take around 10-15 minutes to complete. They will remain open until **23.59 on 28 February 2025.**

Medicines

General:
Supply of unlicensed PERT preparations.
Rolled over price concessions for February 2025.

Medicine Supply Notifications:
Camellia sinensis extract (Catephen®) 10% ointment Fluorouracil (Efudix®) 5% cream Imiquimod (Aldara® 5% and Zyclara® 3.75%) cream 250mg sachets.