

Fortnightly Newsletter - w/c 1 September 2025

# **For Action**

#### **Local News:**

- FAO BLMK Safeguarding.
- CP Research Eczema.
- FAO MK Cycle September.

#### **Training & Events:**

- BLMK-N LPC contractors' event 17 September 7:00pm 9:30pm.
- FAO Luton ResoLUTiONs Pharmacy Training Event **24 September 7:00pm 9:30pm.**
- NHS England Funded Independent Prescribing courses.
- Registration is open for the Pharmacy Show 2025 12 & 13 October 2025.

#### **National News/Reminders:**

- Flu Vaccination for pregnant women Starts from 1 September 2025.
- PQS Clinical audit can be started From 1 September 2025.
- National Health campaigns for 2025/26.
- Timings for commencement of CPCF changes announced.
- Future CPCF survey Open until 8 September 2025.

# **Local News**

# FAO BLMK - URGENT - Safeguarding

Following a recent case within the BLMK area, a safeguarding concern was raised by Children's Social Care involving a pharmacist. There action was deemed inappropriate and highlights the need for pharmacy professionals to exercise clear judgment and uphold safeguarding standards when supporting vulnerable individuals.

Pharmacy teams are advised to enhance their safeguarding policies and procedures, with particular attention to the appropriate handling of intimate digital images. With the following reference documents and key points for considered as part of this review of safeguarding processes:

- MDU-Receiving and storing patient images from online consultations-202508151056.pdf
- The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Community Pharmacy England
- standards\_for\_pharmacy\_professionals\_may\_2017\_0.pdf

BLMK-N LPC have updated contacts for consultation and reporting concerns to social care BLMK on their resources page on the <u>website</u>.

#### Community Pharmacy Research - eczema.

All UK based Community Pharmacy staff (those who have worked in a Community Pharmacy with the last month) are invited to take part in our series of three online workshops to develop training for pharmacy staff to help patients living with eczema. We will be discussing questions such as:

- What are your patients asking you about eczema?
- What sort of information would you like to provide?

The workshops will be two hours long and held online. You only need to attend one of the workshops listed below:

- Wednesday 17 September 2025, 7pm
- Monday 29 September 2025, 12pm
- Thursday 2 October, 12pm
- Wednesday 8 October 7pm

If you are interested in taking part please email Jane Harvey via the email address: <a href="mailto:jane.harvey1@nottingham.ac.uk">jane.harvey1@nottingham.ac.uk</a>.

This study is being conducted at the <u>Centre of Evidence Based Dermatology</u>, University of Nottingham.

This research is funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR). The study is sponsored by Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

Please note that all participants will be given £75 as a thank you for taking part.

#### <u>FAO Milton Keynes</u> – <u>Cycle September</u>.

Hop on your bikes, join a community, learn new bike skills, and win prizes!

# **Training & Events**

#### NEW - BLMK-N LPC presents an evening to Connect, Collaborate & Converse.

This face-to-face event will bring together Pharmacists, LPC members, PCN Leads & Industry Stakeholders.

Join us on Wednesday 17 September 2025, 7pm-9:30pm at The Rufus Centre, Flitwick, Bedford, MK45 1AH.

Food served at 7pm with event starting at 8pm.

Register here by Sunday 7 September to secure your place.

#### FAO Luton - ResoLUTIONs Pharmacy Training Event.

ResoLUTiONs will be holding a Pharmacy training event on the **24 September 2025**, at The HUB in Luton, **7pm – 9:30pm**.

To register your place, RSVP to <a href="mailto:Jessica.Chance@cgl.org.uk">Jessica.Chance@cgl.org.uk</a>.

#### NHS England funded independent prescribing courses 2025/26.

NHS England has <u>announced</u>, that it has opened applications for pharmacists for funded independent prescribing courses.

Courses are available up to March 2026, with <u>several universities</u> offering multiple dates for cohort intakes. Start dates will depend on the university provider.

#### The Pharmacy Show 2025.

Registration is officially open for the Pharmacy show 2025, returning to the NEC Birmingham on 12 & 13 October.

# **National News/Reminders**

## Flu: Vaccination of pregnant women.

Community pharmacy teams can start vaccinating pregnant women from **today** under the 2025/26 Adult Flu Vaccination Service.

Vaccination of other eligible adult patients must not start until 1 October 2025.

The <u>service specification</u> is clear that the NHS will not pay for vaccinations administered outside of the announced and authorised dates for vaccination.

## Adult Flu vacs service fee in 2025/26.

When the revised service specification for the 2025/26 Adult Flu Vaccination service was published last month, CPE informed pharmacy owners that the fee for this year was still under consideration by Ministers, following CPE submission of an evidence-based case for an increase in the fee.

The decision has now been set out in the Drug Tariff for September 2025, with a refusal to increase the fee. This means the fee will remain at £9.58. CPE understand this decision has been driven by the available budget that NHS England holds for vaccination services.

The proposed fee for the 2025/26 season was unacceptable to Community Pharmacy England and as they could not agree it, Ministers took the decision to impose the fee on this occasion.

#### PQS: Clinical audit can be started from today.

The Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) Antimicrobial stewardship – Pharmacy First consultations – clinical audit can be started from today (1 September 2025).

Completion of the audit, as well as sharing anonymised data with NHS England and incorporating any learnings from the audit into future practice **by the end of 31 March 2026**, is a quality criterion in the Patient safety domain of the 2025/26 Scheme.

The audit **must be started between 1 September 2025 and 3 February 2026** to ensure there is an eight-week consecutive period for the data collection. The audit should be completed no later than **31 March 2026**.

#### National Health campaigns for 2025/26.

Following the publication of the joint letter to pharmacy owners about changes to the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) in 2025/26, published on 31 March 2025, CPE have been working with NHS England and DHSC to finalise all the necessary requirements for the agreed changes to the contract to be introduced.

One of the points agreed in negotiations was that there would be **two** national health campaigns and two local health campaigns (the latter agreed by ICBs and LPCs at a local level) that pharmacy owners would have to undertake. That is two fewer campaigns than is generally required within the CPCF.

The first national campaign topic has now been agreed with NHS England and DHSC, and it will focus on **promoting Pharmacy First to the public**. The campaign is expected to run later in 2025.

# <u>Timings for commencement of CPCF changes announced.</u>

Following the publication of the joint letter to pharmacy owners about changes to the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) in 2025/26, published on 31 March 2025, CPE have been working with NHS England and DHSC to finalise all the necessary requirements for the agreed changes to the contract to be introduced.

NHS England will confirm the various commencement dates nearer the time, via their <u>Primary</u> <u>Care Bulletin</u>, subject to receiving confirmation that the necessary changes to the clinical IT systems will be made on schedule.

#### Future CPCF: What's most important to you?

Community Pharmacy England (CPE) want to hear community pharmacy owners' opinions on the future direction of the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) to help shape negotiating priorities for 2026/27.

Ahead of CPCF 2026/27 negotiations, our summer survey aims to gather views on potential funding allocations, service priorities and regulatory asks. Pharmacy owners can directly input into the Committee's discussions via this poll:

Poll: 2026/27 CPCF Negotiating Priorities (for independent and non-CCA multiples only)

The survey will close at 11.59pm on Monday 8 September 2025 to allow time for the Committee to review responses before its meeting. Please note, this survey is for community pharmacy owners only – CCA multiple branches do not need to respond, as their head offices will be contacted separately.

## Funding & Reimbursement Shorts: End of month submission process.

As part of CPE <u>Funding & Reimbursement Shorts</u> series, Community Pharmacy England's inhouse Drug Tariff and funding experts have created a new video on the end of month submission process.

## **Useful Links:**

https://cpe.org.uk

Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs)

Alerts recalls and safety information: medicines and medical devices.

**Drug Safety Updates.** 

<u>Timelines for PQS Domains 2025/26.</u>

<u>Translation Services - Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northants.</u>

MECC - BLMK.

MECC - Northants.

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