

This issue covers:

Local News:

- August Bank Holiday.
- AGM & SGM – **16/9/26, 7pm.**

Training & Events:

- FAO North Northants – CGL contract & webinar **8/9/26, 7pm.**
- CPPE face-to-face Menopause Prescribing perspectives – **22/9/26, 7–9pm.**

National News/Reminders:

- Childhood flu vac service – register by **31/8/26.**
- Vaccinations update for MenB, COVID 19 & Children's flu.
- PQS 2026/27 Gateway.
- Updated HCFS spec published.
- NHS Smartcard support tool.

Local News

August Bank Holiday.

The August bank holiday, **31 August 2026**, is fast approaching; please ensure you notify patients to order their medication ahead of time to avoid disappointment and to ease pharmacy workload.

AGM & SGM 16 September 2026.

Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northamptonshire are pleased to invite you to our online **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** on **Wednesday 16 September 2026.**

Alongside our AGM, we will also be holding a **Special General Meeting (SGM)** to explain the **Proposed Boundary Realignment** – Case for Change proposal.

Date: Wednesday 16 September 2026

Time: 7:00pm

Online: Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northamptonshire AGM/SGM | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams

We are also hosting drop-in sessions, in the weeks prior to the Special General Meeting, to answer any questions on the Proposed Boundary Realignment:

- Wednesday 26 August 2026 – 19:00 – 19:30 [Boundary Realignment Drop- in | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)
 - Wednesday 2 September 2026 – 12:00 – 13:00 [Boundary Realignment Drop- in | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)
 - Wednesday 9 September 2026 – 12:30 – 13:00 [Boundary Realignment Drop- in | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)
 - Wednesday 9 September 2026 – 19:30 – 20:00 [Boundary Realignment Drop-in | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)
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Training & Events

Reminder – FAO North Northants – CGL Contract & Webinar.

From **1 October 2026**, the current CGL contract, for the provision of the Supervised Consumption service, will be replaced with the CGL Core Medication Assisted Treatment (CoreMAT) service. More information about the changes can be found in the [CGL Letter to Pharmacies](#).

CGL will be holding an evening webinar on **Tuesday 8 September at 7pm** where they will provide further information about the service and answer any questions:

- **Tuesday 8 September 7pm** – [Link to join webinar](#).

The webinar **is open to all North Northamptonshire contractors**, including those who currently do not offer the service and would be interested in doing so in the future.

Menopause ; prescribing perspectives – Tuesday 22 September 7pm–9pm.

CPPE are running a face-to-face workshop to develop your knowledge and skills for adopting a structured approach to safely and confidently provide advice on menopause symptom management and supply of medicines.

Date- **Tuesday 22 September 7pm – 9pm** at the Rufus Centre, Flitwick, MK45 1AH.

[Book here to secure your place](#)

National News/Reminders

Reminder – Register for Childhood Flu Vac Service.

To receive supplies of childhood flu vaccines ahead of the 1 October 2026 service commencement date, pharmacy owners must have registered to provide the Childhood Flu Vaccination Service via MYS by **11.59pm on 31 August 2026**.

National resources for flu comms are now available to download or order from [Find public health resources](#).

Vaccination Update – August 2026

For pharmacies providing the MenB vaccination offer, COVID-19 vaccinations (winter or year-round) and/or children's flu (LAIV)

URGENT – FDP ACTION REQUIRED FROM FRIDAY 21 AUGUST

From **Friday 21 August 2026**, the FDP site acknowledgement page will reset. Even if you completed this previously, log in to the FDP Supply Dashboard and review your vaccine delivery address, lead contact details and vaccine storage capacity.

Correct anything inaccurate and select Accept again. **Complete this before your next vaccine order and do not wait for an email reminder.**

If this is not completed, you may be unable to order vaccines through FDP, vaccine supplies may be delayed, or vaccines could be delivered to the wrong address.

FDP Supply Dashboard: [Open the FDP Supply Dashboard](#)

Problems or incorrect details? Central East ICB: ceicb.svoc@nhs.net | LLRN:

llr.vaccopcentre@nhs.net. Contact your ICB promptly.

Vaccine delivery update: flexible delivery dates now live

From 2 pm on **Friday 14 August 2026**, dynamic delivery days apply to the COVID-19 year-round pathway, the MenB time-limited vaccination offer and winter 2026. When ordering, select your preferred delivery date from the options available rather than working around one fixed day each week.

No new registration or setup is required. This flexibility should help pharmacies align deliveries with planned clinics, order little and often, and reduce the risk of vaccine remaining unused before expiry.

Plan ahead: August bank holiday deliveries

There will be no deliveries of COVID-19 or 4CMenB vaccine on Monday 31 August 2026.

Deliveries for the week commencing 31 August will therefore take place from Tuesday to Friday inclusive.

Delivery Day

Tuesday 1 September

Wednesday 2 September

Thursday 3 September

Friday 4 September

Ordering Deadline

Thursday 27 August

Friday 28 August

Tuesday 1 September

Wednesday 2 September

Before ordering: submit a stocktake for the relevant vaccine on FDP within the previous 7 days. Without a current stocktake, the order will be blocked until a new record is submitted. Allow up to 2 hours for the system to register it, so do not leave this until the last minute.

Reminder for MenB-vaccinating pharmacies

Pharmacy Contractors must administer at least 10 vaccines between 20 July & 30 September 2026, or the Commissioner may suspend supply of the vaccine.

MenB-vaccinating pharmacies should review current activity and ensure the minimum requirement is met by **30 September 2026**.

PQS 2026/27 Gateway.

PQS, whilst not mandatory, is additional bottom line income for your pharmacy.

To support you to achieve this income, we wanted to remind you that you **MUST** complete the Gateway criteria to be able to claim, and the PEOLC questionnaire is mandatory, which we advise completing as soon as possible.

Gateway details below:

- Pharmacy owners can update NHS Profile Manager from **2 June 2026** if they are a 'Pharmacy Palliative Care Medication Stockbroker'.
- If you previously claimed for the Medicines Optimisation Domain in 2025/26, please ensure your status is correct and updated for 2026/27.
- Complete the PEOLC questionnaire which will be accessible from the [**NHSBSA website**](#) from August 2026 and must be submitted by the end of **31 December 2026** to meet the gateway criterion. Once completed and submitted you will receive a confirmation email which must be kept – file with all PQS paperwork.
- Complete the PEOLC Action Plan – whilst this does not need to be completed until **31 March 2027**, we suggest completing this as soon as possible. Details of what is required in your action plan are available on the [**CPE website**](#).

In addition, remember the sooner you complete the Quality Domains the easier it will be for you and your teams to complete the declaration once it is live.

Updated HCFS spec published

NHS England has published an **updated** version of the Hypertension Case-Finding Service (HCFS) specification.

This revised version has been agreed by Community Pharmacy England, and it contains a number of changes to the service requirements which were agreed as part of the [**2025/26 CPCF negotiations**](#).

New NHS tool helps pharmacy teams quickly find their smartcard support.

We have added the new NHS England online tool, which helps pharmacy teams quickly identify their local Registration Authority (RA) contact details for smartcard support, to our website.

Help highlight pharmacy pressures.

Read Community Pharmacy England's article to help raise awareness of the 2026 Pressures Survey findings.

[New resource for dispensing cross – border prescriptions in England.](#)

To support pharmacy teams, CPE's Dispensing and Supply team has created a comprehensive resource on dispensing prescriptions issued in the devolved nations (Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland) and presented for dispensing in England.

Useful Links:

[Alerts recalls and safety information: medicines and medical devices.](#)

[Community Pharmacy England \(CPE\).](#)

[Community Pharmacy BLMK-N LinkedIn.](#)

[CPCF services and Terms of Service – Important dates.](#)

[Drug Safety Updates.](#)

[MECC – BLMK.](#)

[MECC – Northants.](#)

[Serious Shortage Protocols \(SSPs\)](#)

[Translation Services – Community Pharmacy BLMK.](#)

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