



COVID-19 Update

Wednesday 10th June 2020

This daily update contains important information for community pharmacy teams about the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In today's update: guidance on minimising spread of infection; amended public information posters; emergency closure checklist; free coaching support.

NHSE&I issues guidance on minimising spread of infection

NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) have [written to healthcare providers](#) to outline the plans put in place to minimise nosocomial infections (e.g. COVID-19), including through the NHS Test and Trace programme and the management of outbreaks.

Community pharmacy contractors should take particular note of the actions NHSE&I has asked all primary care contractors to undertake as well as the guidance on the use of face masks which will apply to primary care settings.

Public Health England (PHE) will publish updated PPE guidance later this week and PSNC is in discussion with NHSE&I and PHE to clarify what this will mean for those working in community pharmacy; we will update contractors on this as soon as possible.

[Read more about helping to minimise the spread of infection](#)

Updated public information posters

Public Health England (PHE) has updated the set of Coronavirus (COVID-19) posters for use in pharmacies. These include an updated poster to advise on maintaining a 2m distance from others, a poster that should be displayed so it is visible to people seeking to enter the premises and a poster pharmacies can use if they are working behind closed doors for part of the day.

These can all be downloaded from the [PHE campaign resources hub](#). Any previously issued posters should be removed from display and be replaced by the above posters.

Face covering

As part of risk management, PSNC has designed a poster template that contractors can use, if they deem it appropriate, to encourage patients to wear face coverings when in the pharmacy.

[Face covering poster \(Word\)](#)

[Face covering poster \(PDF\)](#)

Checklist for emergency closures

PSNC has updated a briefing for community pharmacy contractors which explains those actions needed if the pharmacy may be faced with a risk of a short-term closure because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic or for another reason. It's recommended that contractors consider matters before a closure is needed – and the checklist also includes items that can be taken now to mitigate a possible future closure.

The pharmacy may need to be run by locums or other staff unfamiliar with your procedures, or the pharmacy may need to close. It's important that you do what you can, if appropriate, to make sure everything is in place to ensure patients are able to access their prescriptions, and that your business can resume as easily as possible.

This guidance was prepared with input from NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) and updates an earlier emergency closure checklist.

[View the emergency closure checklist for community pharmacy](#)

Looking after you too: coaching support for primary care staff

As part of work to ensure all staff delivering frontline primary care services feel supported to maintain their psychological wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic, the NHS has launched the #LookingAfterYouToo initiative.

This is a free resource – available to all clinical and non-clinical staff working in primary care – offering individual coaching sessions with a highly skilled and experienced coach.

[Learn more and book a coaching session](#)

Have you seen our latest FAQs?

PSNC's COVID-19 hub has an [FAQs page](#) with a large number of answers to queries posed by pharmacy contractors, their teams and LPCs; these are being updated on an almost daily basis. Recent additions include:

Q. How will I claim for opening on the Early May Bank Holiday (8th May) between 2-5pm?

Claims for payment for this service must be made between 25th May 2020 and 22nd June 2020 via the [Manage Your Service \(MYS\) platform](#) provided by the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA).

The NHSBSA will make appropriate payments on 1st July 2020. The payment will not be separately itemised on the FP34 Schedule of Payments. However, the NHSBSA will issue letters to contractors who claimed to inform them of the payment made to them.

[Find answers to more of your questions here](#)

Keep up-to-date with our hub page: psnc.org.uk/coronavirus

Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee



14 Hosier Lane, London, EC1A 9LQ
Tel: 0203 1220 810 | Email: info@psnc.org.uk