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

In today's update: re-determination of Ranitidine price concession; healthcare digital learning platform.

Re-determination of May 2020 price concession for Ranitidine 150mg tablets

Following further representations from PSNC, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has re-determined a price concession for Ranitidine 150mg tablets (60 tablets) for May 2020 at **£7.32**. The revised price will automatically apply to any prescriptions for Ranitidine 150mg tablets submitted in May prescription bundles.

Initially, no concessionary price was granted by DHSC for Ranitidine 150mg tablets in May. Following reports received from contractors regarding their purchases, PSNC submitted an application to DHSC requesting a re-determination of the price for May.

Note: This concession has been put in place retrospectively for the dispensing month of May only. Any announcements for price concessions granted in June will be made in due course.

Please continue to report supply issues using PSNC's **generic shortages form**.

HEE Learning Hub

Health Education England (HEE) has launched a new digital platform that enables the health and care workforce to share and access resources more easily during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Currently in its Beta phase, the Learning Hub has been designed based on users' needs with new features being released frequently. Users will also be able to contribute digital resources including e-learning, video, audio, images, web links and articles. This agile approach will help provide a comprehensive learning experience for all.

Many stakeholders from across the health and care workforce, including clinical commissioning groups, social care, professional bodies, charities and the simulation community, have already contributed a range of quality learning resources.

Visit HEE's Learning Hub

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 am I supposed to protect my staff from catching COVID-19?
Contractors are advised to ensure that:

- Patient information posters for NHS settings are displayed so they can be seen before patients enter the premises.
- All pharmacy staff practice good hygiene and avoiding direct or close contact (closer than one metre when providing health care) with any potentially infected person.
- Users of the pharmacy should be advised to keep a distance of at least two metres from other people.
- Appropriate PPE is used – see below.

PHE have advised that full height screens installed on medicines counters would provide helpful protection for staff and PSNC advises pharmacy contractors to consider installing these wherever possible.

Q. What Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should pharmacy teams be using?
Public Health England's (PHE) current **guidance on the use of personal protective equipment (PPE)** recommends use of fluid-resistant surgical masks in pharmacies when working in an area with possible or confirmed cases and where staff are unable to maintain 2 metres social distance from the patient. The guidance for community pharmacy staff is included in Table 3 of the guidance – Recommended PPE for ambulance, paramedics, first responders and pharmacists.

Read the RPS guidance on use of PPE in pharmacies

It is important to note that while pharmacy staff may choose to wear masks in line with the revised guidance, it is imperative that social distancing and self-isolation (where appropriate) continue to be practised and hygiene measures, such as regular hand washing, continue to be followed.

Find answers to more of your questions here

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