



COVID-19 Update

Tuesday 16th 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: Community Pharmacy Consultation Audit; updated risk assessment template; reminder to claim for 8th May Bank Holiday opening.

PSNC Audit: Pharmacy teams asked to take part to inform funding negotiations

PSNC is asking community pharmacy teams to take part in an audit that will capture information about all of the advice that pharmacies are giving to patients and local communities.

The audit has been tested by a small group of pharmacies to ensure it is easy to carry out, and it can be carried out as one of pharmacies' contractual (clinical) audits for 2020/21. Pharmacies will be asked to carry out the audit on a single day in the week commencing Monday 29th June.

Apart from referrals via the Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS), patient consultations are not recorded anywhere, but from anecdotal reports we know that they are having a significant beneficial impact on local communities, patients and the wider NHS.

The audit will help us to assess how many of these informal consultations are happening and their positive impact on the patient and wider health care system, and this evidence will be used to support the ongoing funding negotiations, including PSNC's ask for more investment in the sector.

Full details of how pharmacies can take part, including the audit template, guidance and a recorded presentation, will be available one week in advance of the audit week (on Monday 22nd June).

The audit is being led by Richard Brown, working at PSNC but also an LPC Chief Officer. It has been designed to be as straightforward as possible for pharmacy teams to carry out and tested with a small number of pharmacies in the south west of England.

[Learn more about the PSNC Audit](#)

Social distancing risk assessment template updated

As the pandemic continues and we all get used to living and working in a "new normal" situation, people's consciousness of the need to maintain social distances at all times may reduce and consequently new or additional measures at each pharmacy may need to be taken to ensure distancing is maintained on an ongoing basis.

PSNC has published an updated version (version 2) of its risk assessment template, which will help pharmacy teams to identify further potential changes which could be made to their pharmacy environment or procedures during the pandemic to increase the safety of staff and patients.

[Download the risk assessment template](#)

One week left to claim 8th May Bank Holiday payment

Community pharmacy contractors have just one week left to claim payment for being required by NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) to open between 2pm to 5pm on the Early May Bank Holiday (Friday 8th May).

Contractors must submit their claim for the £250 per hour payment using the [Manage Your Service \(MYS\) portal](#) by **22nd June 2020**, with payment due on the 1st July. This payment will not appear on the FP34 Schedule of Payment but NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) will provide confirmation of payment via individual contractor letters.

Have you seen our latest COVID-19 related 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:

Early May Bank Holiday opening (Friday 8th May)

Q. If I opened as directed at another time of the day and also opened between 2-5pm, may I claim for both?

Yes. The payment for the other opening will need to be claimed using the local procedure in place for this direction.

Q. What if I was directed locally to open for longer hours?

Contractors who remained open on the bank holiday as per a local agreement with NHSE&I should only claim for payment for up to 3 hours per day based on the number of hours they were open. If they were open for more than 3 hours, the balance must be claimed from the regional team as per local agreement. Pharmacy contractors must not duplicate claims for the same opening hours by claiming on MYS and through local arrangements.

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

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

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