



Daily Update

Friday 17th July 2020

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

In today's update: staff risk assessment survey; face covering posters.

Reminder: NHSBSA staff risk assessment survey

Community pharmacy contractors are being asked to declare their progress on performing COVID-19 risk assessments for their staff via an NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) snap survey.

There are two windows for collection, the first of which closes at **11.59pm today (17th July)**. Contractors are asked to submit a declaration in each window.

The questions within the survey are:

1. Have you offered a risk assessment to all staff?
2. What % of all your staff have you risk assessed?
3. What % of risk assessments have been completed for staff who are known to be 'at-risk', with mitigating steps agreed where necessary?
4. What % of risk assessments have been completed for staff who are known to be from a BAME background, with mitigating steps agreed where necessary?

Update for questions 3 and 4

The wording of questions 3 and 4 is not fully clear on the approach to be taken to calculating the answer. NHSE&I have provided the following further information to assist contractors:

Q3 and 4 are asking – of those staff known to be in the at-risk or BAME categories prior to the risk assessment process, how many of them have had a risk assessment completed. The denominator is all staff known to fit that classification (not all staff known to fit that classification who have accepted the offer of a risk assessment).

[Complete the Risk Assessment Declaration](#)

[Further information on the risk assessment declaration survey](#)

Posters about wearing face coverings

PSNC previously issued a poster advising patients to wear face coverings, but this has been withdrawn whilst we await official PHE/NHS posters reflecting **updated Government guidance**. We will update contractors when new posters are available.

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 a regular basis. Recent additions include:

Q. Where can guidance on staff risk assessments be found?

There are a variety of risk assessment tools that contractors can use to support informing staff of their risk factors for poorer outcomes of COVID-19, individual risk assessment and to support putting in place any appropriate mitigations.

Staff risk assessment templates and guidance is available from:

- NHS Employers [risk assessment](#) for staff – includes links to several examples from NHS Trusts
- [National Pharmacy Association](#)
- Pharmacists' Defence Association risk assessment tool '[Reducing the risk of COVID-19 in community pharmacy](#)'
- [Royal Pharmaceutical Society](#)
- [NHSE&I webinar recording and slides](#)

Q. What Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should pharmacy teams be using?

Public Health England's (PHE) updated guidance on the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), published on 2nd April 2020, 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 further guidance on use of PPE in pharmacies](#)

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

Keep up-to-date on COVID-19 with our hub page: psnc.org.uk/coronavirus

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