



Daily Update

Tuesday 3rd November 2020

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

In today's update: CPCF Impact Assessment; regs explainer articles; CPN magazine; changes to parallel export ban list.

Government CPCF Impact Assessment: PSNC highlighting issues to Minister

Some details of an internal Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) impact assessment related to the five-year Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) deal have today been published in the pharmacy press.

PSNC objects to some of the DHSC assumptions set out within the impact assessment and we will write privately to Health Ministers and to the Secretary of State to correct these points. We are also continuing to press HM Government to honour its promises to give the NHS all the financial support it needs through the pandemic – community pharmacies' full costs must be covered.

In particular:

- PSNC has always questioned whether the introduction of IT and automation to dispensing would bring savings for community pharmacies and we have repeatedly made our reservations clear on this to DHSC.
- PSNC does not agree that the Transitional Payment has helped to alleviate contractors' costs – this would never have been the case without an increase to the contract sum and we will ensure that Ministers have clarity on this point.
- PSNC has seen no evidence that the cost savings brought about by stopping the provision of MURs will cover the costs of new pharmacy services, and this is why we insisted that an annual review process should be built into the deal.

[Read PSNC's response to the Impact Assessment in full](#)

New NHS Pharmacy Regulations: Explainer articles

On 20th October 2020 **[new NHS regulations were laid](#)** to introduce changes to the Terms of Service for pharmacy contractors. Some of these changes relate to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, but most are changes which were previously agreed as part of the **[5-year Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework \(CPCF\)](#)** and were originally planned to be introduced in July 2020.

The main changes were listed in a recent [PSNC news article](#) as a summary for contractors, but now we are in the process of writing a series of articles explaining what the changes mean in more detail. The first two articles have now been published.

Regs explainer (#1): Access to SCR

From 9th November 2020, pharmacy contractors must ensure that staff working at their pharmacy can access NHS Summary Care Records (SCR) and that access is consistent and reliable during the pharmacy's opening hours, in so far as that is within the control of the contractor. [Learn more in the explainer article.](#)

Regs explainer (#2): Updating NHS website profiles

From 9th November 2020, contractors must ensure there is a comprehensive and accurate profile for their pharmacy on the NHS website. Contractors must also ensure they verify and, where necessary, update the information contained in the profile at least once in each quarter of the financial year. [Learn more in the explainer article.](#)

Further explainer articles will be published in due course.

October CPN magazine

The October 2020 edition of PSNC's Community Pharmacy News (CPN) is now available. This issue of CPN features:

- NHS Test and Trace concerns;
- New Pharmacy Regulations;
- Call for self-care strategy; and
- Guidance on red separator use.

[Read October's CPN magazine](#)

Updates to the list of medicines that cannot be parallel exported from the UK

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) have updated the list of medicines which must not be parallel exported from the UK.

From 31st October 2020, 27 medicines have been removed and two medicines (Influenza vaccine and Anakinra) have been added to the list. The pharmaceutical forms for Co-trimoxazole and Hydrocortisone have also been updated.

[Learn more and view the parallel export ban list in full](#)

Have you seen our latest FAQs?

PSNC's website has a large number of answers to queries posed by pharmacy contractors, their teams and LPCs; these are updated on a regular basis. Recent additions include:

Q. What happens if I lose staff to illness or self-isolation and can't open my pharmacy?

NHSE&I has stated that for temporary closures, for instance where not enough staff are available to work, NHSE&I must be informed.

The pharmacy NHS 111 Directory of Services (DoS) profile must be updated, as must the pharmacy profile on the NHS website (see the [NHS website](#)).

NHSE&I also encourages local pharmacies to work together to maintain continuity of services in the event of temporary closures. [The CCA and NPA have issued recent business continuity advice](#) and PSNC provides advice on maintaining pharmacy services during the outbreak and a checklist for emergency closures on its [COVID hub network resilience page](#).

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

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