



Daily Update

Monday 14th December 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 Brexit Forum; APPG warns of pressures on pharmacies; Category M prices; Perindopril Erbumine Tablets defect notice.

December meeting of the Community Pharmacy Brexit Forum

Today PSNC hosted the Community Pharmacy Brexit Forum hearing updates from a number of organisations, including NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) and the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).

The meeting followed the [helpful update last week on EU exit – medicines supply continuity – to all GPs and community pharmacists from Keith Ridge, the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer for England.](#)

NHSE&I gave key updates on primary and community care including messages to:

- Prescribe and dispense as normal;
- Ensure you are familiar with the latest information on supply disruption;
- Encourage patients to take out travel insurance before travelling to the EU; and
- Encourage staff who are EU citizens to register with the EU Settlement Scheme.

There was also an update on the work of the Medicines Shortages Response Group, and the DHSC provided a comprehensive update on the multi-layered approach to maintaining continuity of supply of medicines.

[Learn more about the Brexit Forum meeting](#)

APPG issues report warning of pressures on pharmacies

The All-Party Pharmacy Group (APPG) has today published a report following its inquiry into the pressures of COVID-19 on the pharmacy sector, which has warned that some pharmacies could be forced to close unless further Government support is pledged.

According to a survey undertaken as part of the inquiry, nearly 8 out of 10 pharmacy contractors felt the financial support offered so far (the £370m advanced payments) has not been enough to mitigate financial pressures.

The report makes a series of policy recommendations on what support the sector needs to remain sustainable, including asking the Government to consider boosting overall funding in recognition of both the great financial pressures faced and the huge contribution made to frontline healthcare during the pandemic.

[Read more about the APPG's report](#)

January 2021 Category M Prices Announced

The Drug Tariff Category M pricelist for January 2021 has been published. This reflects natural reductions to prices due to changes in the buying costs of medicines in the reference period, along with an uplift to ensure margin run rates proceed at the desired level.

However, PSNC also pressed DHSC to retain the previous £15m per quarter uplift included in October's Drug Tariff. The Committee felt that, given that this list would take effect in the immediate aftermath of the end of the Brexit Transition Period, it would be prudent to try and maintain some stability of medicine reimbursement prices.

[Learn more about the new Category M prices](#)

Class 4 Defect Notice: Perindopril Erbumine Tablets

Perindopril Erbumine 2mg, 4mg, 8mg Tablets PL 04569/1348, PL 04569/1349, PL 04569/1350, Generics UK Limited T/A Mylan

Generics [UK] Limited t/a Mylan have informed the Medicines and Health products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) that the Patient Information Leaflet (PIL) within the packs for the products listed above are missing relevant important safety information.

[Read the defect information notice 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. Where can I find information on how to operate my pharmacy in relation to COVID-19?

A COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedure and guidance to support community pharmacy teams can be found on the [NHSE&I website](#). Please note that this document is subject to changes and updates, so please ensure you are always referring to the most up to date version and are also referring to the separate updates for additional information.

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

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