



# Daily Update

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> 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: Daily newsletter pause; support from charity over the festive period; promoting flu vaccination; Foundation pharmacist programme.**

## PSNC Daily Newsletters: Christmas Pause

We are not expecting to have a significant volume of news for contractors over the Christmas and New Year period, so these daily newsletters will now be stopped until **Monday 4th January**.

If we do have any significant news or information that contractors need to be aware of during the next fortnight then we will of course send out newsletters on an ad-hoc basis. All updates will also continue to be posted on [psnc.org.uk](https://psnc.org.uk) as usual. You can also continue to reach PSNC via the usual email addresses on working days over the Christmas and New Year period.

Thank you for your support for these newsletters throughout the year – if we can improve them next year, please let us know your thoughts and ideas via [commsteam@psnc.org.uk](mailto:commsteam@psnc.org.uk)

## Support over the festive period

Following the release of the recent Workforce Wellbeing survey results that highlighted high levels of burnout across the profession, **Pharmacist Support** – the profession's independent charity – is keen to highlight the free and confidential support available over the festive period.

Their **Wardley Wellbeing Hub** hosts a range of resources, covering stress, anxiety, resilience, and connecting with others, to help you and your team manage any pressures you may be facing – personally or professionally – over the coming weeks and months.

**Other services** include:

- a peer-to-peer support helpline called Listening Friends, staffed by colleagues who understand the pressures of the role;
- an information and enquiry service;
- financial assistance;
- specialist advice in the areas of debt, benefits and employment law; and
- addiction support – assisting those with alcohol, drugs and gambling issues as well as eating disorders.

A lack of awareness of the support available was one of the issues raised in this latest workforce wellbeing research. This is something the charity is keen to address. These are particularly pressured times for the sector and the charity wants to ensure that no one in their pharmacy family will face challenging times alone.

**For further information on Pharmacist Support**  
visit [www.pharmacistsupport.org](http://www.pharmacistsupport.org) or email [info@pharmacistsupport.org](mailto:info@pharmacistsupport.org)

Last month PSNC invited Pharmacist Support to provide a Stress Management and Building Resilience workshop for LPCs as part of a planned virtual meeting between PSNC and LPCs. We were very grateful to the charity for running the workshop and made a donation to support their important work.

## Promoting flu vaccination to patients aged 50-64 years

For the first time, this year the NHS flu vaccination service has been extended to provide protection to patients aged 50-64 years with no other risk factors. To support contractors promote flu vaccines to this age group, Public Health England (PHE) has produced several support materials that contractors can use to promote the service and encourage uptake in this group.

Contractors are recommended to encourage eligible patients to get their flu vaccination at the earliest opportunity to protect themselves and those around them. Patients should be advised not to delay getting vaccinated in anticipation of being offered the COVID-19 vaccine and can be informed that there only needs to be a 7-day gap between the flu vaccine and a COVID-19 vaccine.

[Find out more about the support materials](#)

## CPPE Corner: Foundation pharmacist programme 2020/21

The Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) is now accepting applications for the January cohort of its Foundation pharmacist programme. We spoke to Helen Middleton, Foundation Pharmacist Programme Delivery Lead at CPPE, to find out more.

[Read about the Foundation pharmacist programme](#)

Keep up-to-date on COVID-19 with our hub page: [psnc.org.uk/coronavirus](https://psnc.org.uk/coronavirus)

*Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee*



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