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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Friday 23rd December 2022 |

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|  | This newsletter from PSNC is sent on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. It contains important information for those that work in the community pharmacy sector.In this update: Dispensing and supply updates; joint letter to Health Secretary; preparing for next year's PSNC elections; PSNC newsletters over Christmas.Dispensing and Supply Updates**Update on supplies of antibiotics for Strep A treatments**We have today published an update for contractors regarding the supply situation for antibiotics and including links to some new support materials. We remain in constant contact with the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). The supply and reimbursement situation is untenable for contractors with this current crisis being just the latest problem that pharmacies are unfairly having to grapple with. We are continuing to make clear and firm representations on this to Government – they have a duty to assure the supply of medicines and must find urgent solutions. [**Read the full update**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=e32e6a91bb&e=d19e9fd41c).**Updates to SSPs**Contractors should note the following updates made on 23rd December: * [**SSP043 – SSP047**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=02d024864e&e=d19e9fd41c) have been amended to include oral Azithromycin as an alternative antibiotic to Penicillin V.
* [**SSP036**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=72efb4c4df&e=d19e9fd41c) for Estraderm MX® 100mcg patches has been reactivated and is now set to expire on 13th January 2023. This SSP allows pharmacists to supply Evorel® 100mcg patches instead of Estraderm MX® 100mcg patches.
* [**SSP039**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=7db5ca8ea2&e=d19e9fd41c)for Lipitor® 20mg chewable tablets has been extended to 3rd February 2023.

[**Read more on the SSP updates from 23rd December**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=d075bca829&e=d19e9fd41c)[**Read our guidance on the points to consider when using SSPs for Penicillin V**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=847782c5e1&e=d19e9fd41c)**December 2022 Price Concessions: Fourth Update**DHSC has granted an updated list of price concessions for December 2022. [**See the updated price concessions list**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=cbe23f1516&e=d19e9fd41c). **Problems accessing October 2022 referred back paper prescriptions via MYS**The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) has notified PSNC that Manage Your Service (MYS) users are currently unable to access images for referred back paper prescriptions relating to the October 2022 dispensing month. The NHSBSA apologises for any inconvenience and is working to resolve this as soon as possible. The [**MYS webpage**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=dfd4ed6aa4&e=d19e9fd41c) will be updated as soon as the October 2022 images are available.It is important to note that prescription returns via MYS are held in the system for a period of 18 months from the date they are first sent to the pharmacy for action. As soon as the images become available on the system, pharmacy contractors can add in the required information and return the referred back prescription to the NHSBSA for payment. **New Medicine Supply Notices**DHSC has issued a medicine supply notification for the following products:* [**Dalteparin (Fragmin®) 10,000units/1mL solution for injection ampoule**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=69a2aeabec&e=d19e9fd41c)
* [**Fluticasone 50mcg/Salmeterol 25mcg (Combisal®) pressurised metered dose inhaler**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=61c310d9cb&e=d19e9fd41c)
* [**Pilocarpine hydrochloride 4% eye drops**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=5bb768e6fb&e=d19e9fd41c)
* [**Sulfasalazine 250mg in 5ml oral suspension sugar free**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=0d366fa72a&e=d19e9fd41c)

Pharmacy leaders join forces to write to the Secretary of StatePSNC and the other community pharmacy national representative bodies, along with the four largest pharmacy chains in England, have jointly written to the Secretary of State for Health, Rt Hon Steve Barclay MP, warning that the sector needs urgent investment.The letter was covered in the [**Telegraph**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=d807fb7a90&e=d19e9fd41c) and the [**Times**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=4d47dac7a8&e=d19e9fd41c) today, with PSNC's CEO, Janet Morrison being in quoted in both articles as saying that “without urgent action, we believe temporary closures of pharmacies will turn into permanent ones and that the next healthcare crisis will be the inability of some patients to access their prescription medicines.”[**Find out more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=b8d05d1f02&e=d19e9fd41c) PSNC election cycle begins in January 2023In the New Year, PSNC will start its election cycle for the new committee of PSNC, to be known as Community Pharmacy England (CPE). This Committee will take up post from 1st April 2023. The new PSNC/CPE committee will have a smaller number of members, 24 in total, including 10 Independent pharmacy contractors elected by the PSNC regions in England (the Regional Representatives) and 3 non-CCA Independent Multiple representatives elected nationally.To support those considering standing for election, we have published detailed guidance setting out the election process and the actions required from those seeking to stand. We have published this information now to allow those considering whether to be candidates in either election, to be able to consider this over the Christmas and New Year period.[**Read the election guidance**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=d9a3544578&e=d19e9fd41c) PSNC Newsletters: Christmas and New Year ScheduleTo help contactors and pharmacy teams stay up to date over the Christmas and New Year period we are planning to send email newsletters out on the following days: * Wednesday 28th December
* Friday 30th December

From Wednesday 4th January, the regular newsletter schedule will resume, with emails sent on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. If there is a need to share additional or urgent news over this period, then we will send out extra emails in addition to the above.Many thanks for your continued support for PSNC’s emails. |  |
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