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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Wednesday 28th 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: Category M prices announced; antibiotic supply situation; Drug Tariff changes from January.January 2023 Category M prices announcedThe Drug Tariff Category M pricelist for January 2023 has been published on the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) website.These prices reflect an increase in reimbursement levels of approximately £28m per quarter. This is the net effect of a recognition of the price rises that have been seen in the market in recent months and an adjustment based on PSNC's latest analysis of margin delivery.[**Learn more about the new Category M prices**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=90bc51f6cb&e=d19e9fd41c)SSPs and supplies of antibiotics for Strep A treatmentsThe supply situation re antibiotics remains extremely challenging for community pharmacy contractors and much work has been undertaken by both PSNC and the LPCs to seek resolutions at both a national and local level.On Friday we published an update containing the latest information and support materials for contractors. In particular, we would like to draw your attention to:* **Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs):** The eight SSPs issued before Christmas have recently been updated further. Both PSNC and the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) have issued guidance to support their use.
* **Supply of Antibiotics:** PSNC has been liaising with DHSC and the Healthcare Distribution Association (HDA) to check that measures are in place to ensure supplies during the Christmas and New Year period.
* **Ongoing Pharmacy Pressures:** We are continuing to make very clear and strong representations to Ministers and Government about pressures on pharmacies, including in the recent [**open letter to the Secretary of State for Health**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=5e7912ee27&e=d19e9fd41c).

PSNC remains in contact with the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) over the festive period and will provide further updates as and when new information is available.[**Read the full update on antibiotics supply**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=7fa3613dfb&e=d19e9fd41c)Drug Tariff Watch - January 2023As well as the Category M prices referenced above, contractors and their teams should also take note of these other Drug Tariff changes that will be introduced from 1st January 2023. PSNC's Dispensing and Supply Team has created a summary of these changes in their latest Drug Tariff Watch article. This includes details of additions and deletions, as well as category and price changes.[**Read January's Drug Tariff Watch**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=8139ad8fcc&e=d19e9fd41c)Changes of note include:**FreeStyle Libre Sensors**The original FreeStyle Libre Sensors will be deleted from Part IXA of the Drug Tariff from January 2023. Any EPS or paper prescriptions for these sensors must be submitted to NHSBSA by 5th January 2023, otherwise they will not be passed for payment.[**Read more about the removal of FreeStyle Libre Sensors**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=24d579baf5&e=d19e9fd41c)**Madopar® preparations**Following applications made by PSNC, all Madopar preparations were re-classified as special containers. This change has been reflected in the January Drug Tariff.[**Learn more about the re-classification of Madopar® preparations**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=7512054896&e=d19e9fd41c)**Zero discount changes**As part of PSNC's work to review the status of thousands of items, eleven products will enter the list of 'Drugs for which Discount is Not Deducted' (DND) in January.[**View our DND status changes page**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=52b9a07722&e=d19e9fd41c) |  |
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