



# Daily Update

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021

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

**In today's update: funding negotiations update; PSNC hosts wellbeing workshops; PPE feedback request; Patient Safety Group priorities; RPS equality survey.**

## Update on PSNC Funding Negotiations

Ahead of further rounds of Ministerial meetings, PSNC has today once again underlined its position that community pharmacy contractors must be compensated for the full impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on their businesses, and warned of the impact on patient services if this does not happen.

Contractors will be aware that PSNC has two as yet unresolved funding bids with HM Government: one on COVID-19 costs and the second for an uplift to wider Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) funding. We are currently discussing both these issues with Ministers.

[Read the full negotiations update and commentary from CEO Simon Dukes](#)

## PSNC to host Pharmacist Support Wellbeing Workshops

PSNC has arranged to host two Wellbeing Workshops from Pharmacist Support, the profession's independent charity, to help support those working in the community pharmacy sector.

With Pharmacist Support's extensive experience in the wellbeing arena, PSNC wanted to provide a forum for these workshops to help them reach (and benefit) a larger audience.

Pharmacist Support will be offering their **Stress Management and Building Resilience** workshop, which includes the science behind stress and anxiety and its effect, an insight into how our mindset can impact our wellbeing, and techniques for dealing with feelings of pressure. It has been designed specifically with those working in pharmacy in mind.

The free online workshop lasts around an hour and involves interactive activities for attendees as well as learning.

[Find out more](#)

## PPE supplies: DHSC would like your feedback

DHSC is seeking the views of pharmacy contractors on their purchasing of personal protective equipment (PPE) which is in addition to the PPE which they are obtaining free of charge from the [Government's PPE portal](#).

This will help the portal team to understand what PPE needs are not being met through the current PPE delivery arrangements.

The portal team are seeking the views of contractors by asking them to complete a short questionnaire, which will take around 2½ minutes to complete, by **Sunday 14th February 2021**.

[Complete the questionnaire](#)

## 2021 Patient Safety Group priorities

The Community Pharmacy Patient Safety Group, comprising Medication Safety Officers from across the sector, has published its priorities for 2021. As part of its commitment to improving patient safety and reducing harm caused by medicines, this year the Group's priority areas include the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, medication safety in pregnancy, resilience and wellbeing, controlled drugs and opioid stewardship, and safeguarding.

[Find out more on the Group's website](#)

## RPS survey on equality, inclusion and diversity

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) is asking its members to share equality, inclusion and diversity data via an anonymous survey. The survey aims to identify whether the RPS membership is representative of the wider profession and to help remove any barriers to engagement.

[Complete the survey on the RPS website](#)

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 on **Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) declarations** include:

### **Q. Will all elements of PQS be extended until 30th June 2021?**

No. The PQS Part 2 2020/21 declaration will still take place as planned in February 2021 however, contractors will have until 30th June 2021 to complete any elements of the scheme in Domain 1 – Infection Prevention & Control and Antimicrobial Stewardship, Domain 2 – Prevention and Domain 3 – Risk management they have declared as having met and collate the evidence to demonstrate that they are compliant with the requirements

### **Q. Can the contractor discussion required to fulfil part of Domain 5 – Business Continuity Planning be carried out via email or WhatsApp?**

No. This domain [requires a discussion](#) that is facilitated. The need was to understand the high-level business continuity plans (BCP) of participating contractors and that would not be possible via an email or contractor survey alone.

Given that funding is attached to the domain and that this is a key criterion within the domain, the discussion does need to occur between contractors. An email chain or WhatsApp exchange does not constitute a discussion for the purposes of this domain, nor does it allow for the intention which is to share, learn and therefore develop a collated document that further supports BCPs more fully and considers how best to support local requirements in the event of a closure. **No other option other than a discussion between contractors in the PCN area and the Lead will be considered by NHSE&I.** This discussion can occur virtually using a meetings platform such as Zoom or MS Teams etc.

Further information can be found in [PQS: Preparing to declare – additional FAQs](#).

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

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