



Daily Update

Monday 19th October 2020

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

In today's update: regulation changes to allow more healthcare workers to administer vaccinations; a round-up of NHS Test and Trace guidance.

Regulation changes to allow more healthcare workers to administer vaccinations

Changes to regulations that allow a wider group of healthcare professionals to be trained to administer vaccinations came into force on 16th October 2020.

The changes also give the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) powers to grant temporary authorisation, pending the granting of a licence, for new vaccines and treatments needed to tackle public health threats (provided they meet the highest safety, quality and effectiveness standards).

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) says the workforce expansion will include those who already have experience in handling vaccinations and, where the right to vaccinate is extended to other community pharmacy team members such as pharmacy technicians, this is likely to require the supervision of the pharmacist.

[Read more about the changes to the Human Medicines Regulations 2012](#)

Latest information and guidance on NHS Test and Trace

In recent weeks PSNC has issued various information and guidance to clarify how NHS Test and Trace applies to community pharmacy. This advice is based on discussions PSNC has had with NHS England & NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) and Public Health England (PHE). Below is a round-up of the information.

First, on the use of the NHS COVID-19 app:

- **[NHS COVID-19 app: QR code posters optional for community pharmacy](#)**
- **[Healthcare workers should pause the NHS COVID-19 app when at work](#)**

And, more recently, on contact tracing in general:

- [NHS Test and Trace discrepancies could close pharmacies down, warn industry leaders](#)
- [PSNC updates Test and Trace advice](#)

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

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