

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

PQS announced for first part of 2020/21

A new Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) for the first part of 2020/21 has been announced today. The focus of the scheme is ensuring community pharmacy contractors and their teams have put in place all reasonable measures to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, protecting both themselves and the people using their services.

Scheme requirements

To meet the requirements of the new scheme, contractors need to complete all 14 actions set out in a checklist, all of which relate to the response to the pandemic; many contractors will already have undertaken most if not all of the actions in the checklist over the last few months.

View the Part 1 2020/21 PQS Checklist and PSNC support materials

Funding and claims

The funding made available for the scheme is **£18.75m** and all contractors meeting the requirements can claim a payment of **£1,630** via the NHSBSA's Manage Your Service (MYS) portal.

Claims via MYS can be made **between 14th July 2020 and 23:59 on 29th January 2021**.

Part 2 2020/21 PQS

PSNC is currently in discussions with NHSE&I and DHSC, working to finalise the detail of the Part 2 PQS scheme, which is expected to commence in October 2020. This will also focus on the response to the pandemic and details will be published as soon as possible and at the latest in the September 2020 Drug Tariff.

Completion of and claiming for the Part 1 scheme will be a Gateway requirement for the Part 2 scheme.

Read the full story on the PSNC website

Have you seen our latest COVID-19 related FAQs?

PSNC's COVID-19 hub has an **FAQs page** with a large number of answers to queries posed by pharmacy contractors, their teams and LPCs; these are being updated on a regular basis. Recent additions include:

Q. What advice should I be giving to concerned patients?

Members of the public should continue following HM Government and NHS advice about the COVID-19 coronavirus. This includes:

- staying at home as much as possible;
- working from home if they can; limiting contact with other people;
- keeping their distance if they go out (2 metres apart where possible);
- washing their hands regularly;
- Not leaving home if they or anyone in their household has symptoms.

For NHS information about COVID-19, or if someone thinks they might have it, they can visit **nhs.uk/coronavirus**.

Find answers to more of your questions here

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

