



Daily Update

Wednesday 25th November 2020

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

In today's update: Government Spending Review; GP CPCS award nomination; medicines recall notice.

PSNC responds to Government Spending Review

Chancellor Rishi Sunak has today set out the [Government's spending plans for the remainder of 2020/21](#). HM Treasury is attempting to curb Government spending where possible due to the increasing amount of national debt that the response to the COVID-19 pandemic has created. However, in the midst of this healthcare crisis, NHS spending continues to be seen as vital.

The Chancellor has committed to increasing the core health budget by £6.6 billion, as well as pledging an extra £3 billion to support the NHS to recover from the impact of COVID-19. The core funding aims to help deliver 50 million more GP appointments, whilst half of the COVID support monies has been earmarked to ease existing pressures in the NHS.

These top-level spending commitments to the NHS are promising, but, as ever, the impact on community pharmacy will depend on the details.

PSNC has this autumn put two funding bids to Government: a COVID costs proposal, and a bid seeking an urgent uplift to the funding associated with the five-year Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF). We have yet to receive a response to either, but hope that the completion of the Spending Review will now allow these negotiations to be continued and concluded soon.

[Read more, including a statement from PSNC CEO Simon Dukes](#)

Parliamentary Award nomination for GP CPCS pilot

Avon Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC) has said it is proud to be representing the community pharmacy sector as a finalist in the NHS Parliamentary Awards 2020.

Nominated by Darren Jones, MP for Bristol North West, the GP Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS) pilot has been selected as the South West representative for the 'Excellence in Primary Care' Award. The pilot received positive feedback from both patients and healthcare professionals, and its success paved the way for the rollout of this referral pathway into the national service.

Avon LPC said: "This could not have been possible without the support of our local GP practices and community pharmacies who have worked to support one another in ensuring patients are seen by the right clinician at the right time in the most appropriate primary care setting."

[View the full NHS Parliamentary Awards shortlist](#)

MHRA medicines recall notice

The Medicines and Healthcare Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has issued a class 2 medicines recall for:

Abstral 200microgram sublingual tablets (Kyowa Kirin Limited) PL 16508/0031

Kyowa Kirin Limited is recalling batches 608973601 and 608973602 as a precautionary measure, due to the reports of double tablets in a single blister pocket. This alert follows the issue of [EL \(20\) A/34](#) earlier this year. Since the original notification, Kyowa Kirin Limited have initiated corrective actions to resolve the issue, but these batches were manufactured prior to the corrective actions being implemented.

[Learn more about the recall](#)

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

Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee



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