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| Community Pharmacy England logo |

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| Newsletter20th December 2023 |

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| The voice of community pharmacy (banner) |

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| **This newsletter - sent on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays - contains important information and resources to support community pharmacies across England.** |

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| In this update: Our CEO's end of year blog; Pharmacy First Final PGDs and protocol now available; Provider Assurance of LFD service.  |

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| Chief Executive's Blog: December 2023Our CEO Janet Morrison has written a blog reflecting on the past year and sharing her hopes and ambitions for next 12 months. Highs from 2023 include the most significant investment in community pharmacy for well over a decade, whilst lows were captured in Community Pharmacy England's Pharmacy Pressures Survey.Acknowledging that it's hard to be optimistic about the future whilst looking at those pressures, Janet's end of year blog identifies some glimmers of hope such as the Vision for Community Pharmacy, the Pharmacy Inquiry by the Parliamentary Health and Social Care Committee, as well as the new Pharmacy First service. |
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| [**Read Janet's blog**](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=323c982f5f&e=d19e9fd41c)  |

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| Pharmacy First: Final PGDs and protocol publishedNHS England has published the [final 23 Patient Group Directions (PGDs) and protocol](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=f5e91b1844&e=d19e9fd41c) for the Pharmacy First service, which is due to start on 31st January 2024. Draft versions of the PGDs and protocols were published on the NHS Business Services Authority's website on 1st December 2023, to assist pharmacists and pharmacy owners in preparing to offer the service.**However, pharmacists must read and sign-up to the final versions of the PGDs and protocol, rather than the draft versions, before providing the service.** [Find out more](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=6cfced8420&e=d19e9fd41c)   |

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| LFD service: Provider Assurance activity beginsThe NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) Provider Assurance Team will soon start to undertake provider assurance work with pharmacy owners offering the Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) test supply service.Note, there has been an update to the process since we originally highlighted this. The NHSBSA will first send an email to pharmacy owners which will aim to check their understanding of the service, the checks being carried out on patients' eligibility, and that they are keeping the necessary records in line with the service specification.We encourage any pharmacy owners who are selected, to engage fully with the NHSBSA during the process.[Find out more, including the initial questions NHSBSA will ask](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=55d38e6fd1&e=d19e9fd41c) |

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| Community Pharmacy England banner |

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| **Community Pharmacy England**Address: 14 Hosier Lane, London EC1A 9LQTel: 0203 1220 810 | Email: comms.team@cpe.org.ukCopyright © 2023 Community Pharmacy England, All rights reserved.You are receiving this email because you are subscribed to our newsletters. Please note Community Pharmacy England is the operating name of the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee (PSNC). |

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