



COVID-19 Update

Wednesday 15th April 2020

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

In today's update: PSNC webinar tonight; RPS and GPhC statement on volunteers; deployment of MPharm students

Join tonight's webinar with PSNC CEO

PSNC Chief Executive Simon Dukes will be hosting a COVID-19 webinar **TONIGHT at 7.30pm** for community pharmacy contractors and it's not too late to **[book your place](#)**.

During the event, Simon will outline how PSNC is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, including working with others and negotiating for additional funding for the sector, and he will answer questions from contractors.

Already registered? [Click here to join at 7.30pm](#)

RPS and GPhC Statement on Volunteers

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) and the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) have issued a joint statement reassuring pharmacy teams and pharmacy owners that they support the use of NHS volunteers as an option to get medicines to extremely vulnerable people when it's not possible to use patients' own representatives or pharmacy delivery services.

The statement says that pharmacy professionals acting in accordance with the standards and using NHS Volunteer Responders in good faith in line with the service specifications of the Pandemic Delivery Service will not be regarded as responsible for the actions of other people outside of their control.

Additionally, the RPS has produced [volunteering guidance](#), which outlines what pharmacy professionals should consider when working with volunteers.

[Read the RPS and GPhC joint statement in full](#)

Facilitating the deployment of MPharm students

New **[Joint Guidance: Facilitating deployment of pharmacy undergraduate students to support the pharmacy workforce](#)** has been issued that defines guiding principles for how employers might support safe and effective deployment of pharmacy students within pharmacy settings, during the emergency period. Current advice is that students only deploy in a way/at a time that will not interrupt their amended schedule of assessment.

This guidance can be accessed via Health Education England's (HEE) new **[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) information webpage](#)**.

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

Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee



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