



Daily Update

Monday 28th September 2020

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

In today's update: digital guide to Part 2 PQS; changes to special container status; Local Health and Care Records case study; medicine supply notifications.

Part 2 PQS 2020/21 digital guide for contractors

PSNC has today published a digital guide to Part 2 of the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) for community pharmacy contractors.

The 20-minute guide features Alastair Buxton, PSNC Director of NHS Services, giving an introduction to the scheme's requirements and explaining what contractors need to do to complete the necessary actions and claim payments.

The guide aims to offer busy contractors and their teams an alternative way to ensure they are aware of what is available to support them in undertaking the scheme and it complements the other information and guidance available in PSNC's [PQS hub](#).

[Watch the digital guide](#)

Further products reclassified as special containers

Following a review of the special container status of certain products, the Department of Health of Social Care (DHSC) has re-determined that a [further 12 products for October 2020 now meet the special container criteria](#) as set out in Part II Clause 10B of the Drug Tariff.

To date a total of 44 products have now been reclassified as special containers. For a list of all the monthly changes to the special container status of products, please see the following page: psnc.org.uk/SCupdates

IT case study: Community pharmacies accessing the Dorset Care Record system

Community pharmacy contractors in Dorset are connecting to health and social care records held within the Dorset Care Record (DCR), a type of Local Health and Care Record ([LHCR](#)) system.

The DCR collates records from hospitals, GPs, local authorities and Dorset HealthCare, so it contains extra information when compared with the NHS Summary Care Record Additional Information (SCR AI). Community pharmacists have been given access to the DCR to give

them a fuller picture of the patient's medical and care history. The record reduces the need for patients to repeat themselves and lessens the risks of medicines information not being visible to the pharmacists and technicians.

[Click here to read more](#)

Medicine supply notifications

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has issued a number of medicine supply notifications that community pharmacy teams should be aware of. Please click a product below to see the related updated, including expected resupply dates.

- [Zonisamide 50mg and 100mg capsules](#)
- [Fluticasone propionate \(Flixotide\) 0.5mg/2ml and 2mg/2ml Nebules](#)
- [Metronidazole \(Acea\) 0.75% gel](#)
- [Enalapril 20mg tablets \(various suppliers\)](#)
- [Normacol granules and Normacol Plus granules](#)

Have you seen our latest FAQs?

PSNC's website has a large number of answers to queries posed by pharmacy contractors, their teams and LPCs; these are updated on a regular basis. Recent additions include:

Q. Do I have to engage with the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS)?

No. The scheme is voluntary – contractors do not need to engage with it – but PSNC recommends that all contractors should seek to meet the Part 1 PQS checklist criteria. There are significant elements of the checklist that will support contractors to additionally comply with elements of Health and Safety legislation. Contractors that successfully meet all the requirements will receive a payment which will be funded from a £18.75m budget.

It has been agreed that completion of the Part 1 scheme may be a Gateway requirement for the Part 2 scheme.

Q. How do I claim the Part 2 PQS Aspiration payment?

Contractors can claim for an Aspiration payment on the [NHS Business Services Authority \(NHSBSA\) Manage Your Service \(MYS\) application](#) between **09:00 on 14th September 2020 and 23:59 on 9th October 2020**.

There is no requirement to have claimed for a previous PQS to claim an aspiration payment for PQS 2020/21 Part 2. Once contractors have reviewed the requirements of the PQS 2020/21 Part 2, they will need to decide which domains they intend to meet at the February 2021 declaration period, when they make their Aspiration declaration.

Q. Do I have to have met the Gateway criterion (completing the Part 1 PQS scheme) before I can make a claim for an Aspiration payment?

No, however, contractors will need to have met the Gateway criterion on the day of their PQS declaration.

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

Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee



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