



# Daily Update

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> 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: Pharmacy Representation Review update; GP CPCS setup payment; NHSE&I webinar tomorrow; vacancies on Pharmacovigilance Expert Advisory Group.**

## **Independent Review Update: New Review Steering Group to take forward work on contractor support and representation**

PSNC and LPCs have been working closely together since the publication of the findings of Professor David Wright's independent review into contractor representation and support.

The outcome of the review was published over the summer and it resulted in 33 recommendations for the future of PSNC and the LPCs. [You can read about the report and its findings here.](#)

It is clear that the recommendations need to be explored in more detail, particularly looking at the benefits they would bring, the feasibility of implementing them, and any associated costs. To take forward that work, PSNC last month proposed to LPCs the formation of a group, called the Review Steering Group (RSG).

Key points about the RSG include:

- It will be made up of contractors to ensure fair representation of all groups of contractors;
- Its role will be to explore Professor Wright's recommendations in more detail and to come up with a workable proposal for the sector;
- The Group will need to commission work to help it to do this – this will be through working and engagement groups made up of wider groups of people from across the sector, and possibly using external experts and consultants;
- This work will be funded initially by PSNC, through savings made as a result of COVID-19 related travel restrictions; and
- The Group will not be a decision-making body – it will be for all contractors to decide whether or not they want to accept whatever the RSG proposes to them.

The proposal for the RSG stresses the critical need for the group to fully engage contractors in the next steps of this work – the group will need a comprehensive communications plan, and we expect it to update contractors via webinars on a regular basis.

[Find out more about the next steps here](#)

## GP referrals to CPCS: Engagement and setup payment

From 1st November 2020, the NHS Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS) was extended across England to include minor illness referrals from general practices as well as from NHS 111. We expect general practices across individual Primary Care Networks to start to make referrals to the service over the next few months, once the preparatory work has been undertaken at a local level.

Contractors registered to provide the CPCS will be able to support this local preparatory work and they can claim a £300 engagement and setup payment if they undertake a range of actions to get ready for rolling out the referral pathway in their area. The requirements are detailed in [Annex F of the updated CPCS service specification](#) and further guidance will be issued on this shortly.

Contractors that were part of the pilot for the referral pathway are likely to be able to quickly meet the requirements listed in Annex F and will be in a position to claim the payment. Where local preparations to roll out the referral pathway have not yet progressed in a locality, it is unlikely that contractors will be able to meet the requirements in Annex F at this time; contractors should only claim the payment where they have fully met the requirements of Annex F.

## NHSE&I Community Pharmacy Webinar

NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) are holding a webinar for community pharmacy teams on **Thursday 12th November, 6pm to 7pm**. Hosted by Chief Pharmaceutical Officer Dr Keith Ridge and Director of Primary Care Ed Waller, agenda topics include the Flu Vaccination Service and NHS Test and Trace, with speakers from both NHSE&I and Public Health England.

[Please register before 12 noon on Thursday](#) and an access link will be shared with you ahead of the event.

## Pharmacovigilance Expert Advisory Group vacancies

The Commission on Human Medicines (CHM) is looking to appoint experts to the Pharmacovigilance Expert Advisory Group (PEAG), including those with expertise in pharmacy.

The PEAG advises the CHM on all aspects of pharmacovigilance for human medicines (including herbal products) and vaccines. The group also advises the CHM and the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) on the strategic direction of the Yellow Card Scheme.

Further details are available via the [GOV.UK website](#). The closing date for applications is **midday 30th November 2020**.

**Keep up-to-date on COVID-19 with our hub page: [psnc.org.uk/coronavirus](https://psnc.org.uk/coronavirus)**

*Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee*



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