



# Daily Update

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

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

**In today's update: Test and Trace update; extra time for 2020/21 IG submission; SSP07 and SSP08 extended; COVID-19 vaccinations.**

## **NHS Test and Trace: December 2020 update**

PSNC has today issued an update on the application of the NHS Test and Trace service to community pharmacies.

In early October, PSNC, the Association of Independent Multiples (AIM), the Company Chemists' Association (CCA), and the National Pharmacy Association (NPA) [wrote a letter to raise concerns about the impact of Test and Trace on the sector with the Pharmacy Minister.](#)

Whilst we had hoped for sector specific advice on this issue, this has not been forthcoming. PSNC has therefore decided it would be pragmatic to release the Government's response to our letter and recommends that pharmacy contractors and their teams follow the official documents for the healthcare sector referred to within it.

[Read the Government and NHSE&I guidance here](#)

## **Extra time granted for 2020/21 IG submission**

NHS Digital has announced that completion of the 2020/21 Data Security and Protection Toolkit will be delayed until 30th June 2021.

Taking into account the additional workload for NHS organisations due to the ongoing pandemic, the annual information governance (IG) submission date has been pushed back by three months. The delay of this requirement is one of a number of regulatory dispensations PSNC had previously agreed with NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I), but this announcement confirms the length of the delay.

PSNC is working with NHS Digital on the pharmacy toolkit and related guidance; further announcements will be made following those discussions.

## Further extension to SSP07 and SSP08

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has issued extensions for the Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) for Fluoxetine 30mg capsules (SSP07) and Salazopyrin® EN-Tabs 500mg (SSP08). The end dates for both SSP07 and SSP08 have been further extended to **Friday 8th January 2021**.

[Read more and see PSNC's SSP guidance](#)

## COVID-19 vaccination programme

As community pharmacy teams will be aware from national media coverage, the situation around COVID-19 vaccines and the subsequent vaccination programme have been moving at pace this week. PSNC would like to draw your attention to our COVID-19 vaccinations webpage which has been updated to reflect the latest situation.

[Visit our COVID vaccinations webpage](#)

### Professional indemnity insurance

Contractors are reminded that the General Pharmaceutical Council's (GPhC) professional standards for registered pharmacies include 'appropriate indemnity or insurance arrangements are in place for the pharmacy services provided' (standard 1.5) and those contractors providing COVID-19 vaccination services should therefore check with their insurers that this activity and NHS service is covered by their insurance, and if not, make suitable arrangements for it to be covered. PSNC has asked the DHSC if the Government intends to provide any indemnity cover (including any back up cover) for community pharmacy contractors providing NHS COVID-19 vaccination services.

**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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