



Daily Update

Wednesday 9th 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: PSNC CEO video message; PPE Portal order uplift for Christmas; NHS website to launch Flu vaccine finder.

Funding Negotiations Update: Video message from PSNC CEO

PSNC Chief Executive Simon Dukes has recorded a new video message for pharmacy teams explaining the current situation regarding community pharmacy funding negotiations.

In the video, Simon outlines PSNC's two-pronged approach to money – to cover all COVID-related costs and a bid for an uplift to the annual contract sum – both of which require urgent resolution.

[Watch the video here](#)

PPE Portal order uplift for Christmas

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has announced a 25% increase in order limits for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) orders over the Christmas period.

The announcement confirmed that the [PPE Portal](#) will be operational over Christmas however, the delivery partners (Royal Mail and Pallet Carrier) will not be delivering on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Orders made during the Christmas period should still be delivered within five days and to make allowance for any potential disruptions or increased need, DHSC have increased order limits by 25% for all providers, as of Tuesday 8th December 2020, and until at least 4th January 2021.

[Learn more](#)

NHS website to launch Flu vaccine finder for patients

A new community pharmacy flu vaccine service finder will go live onto the [NHS website service finder webpage](#) during mid-December 2020. This tool within the NHS website will allow patients to find local pharmacies that provide the NHS commissioned service and check their eligibility.

Your NHS website pharmacy profile will display whether your pharmacy can offer the flu vaccine. Contractors should therefore make sure to update their pharmacy's profile if they can no longer offer the service, e.g. because the stocks within the pharmacy become exhausted.

[Learn more about the Flu vaccine finder](#)

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. What Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should pharmacy teams be using?

Public Health England (PHE) updated its guidance on the wearing of facemasks in primary and community health care settings in July 2020. In summary, the recommendation is that all pharmacy staff now wear facemasks, unless the pharmacy is COVID-19 secure, including all staff being able to maintain a social distance from one another.

This aligns the PHE guidance with PSNC's guidance to contractors, issued in mid-June.

[Read the latest PHE guidance](#)

It is important to note that while pharmacy staff should now wear masks in line with the revised guidance, it is imperative that social distancing and self-isolation (where appropriate) continue to be practised and hygiene measures, such as regular hand washing, continue to be followed.

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

Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee



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