



Daily Update

Thursday 31st 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: New Year Honours; further extension to Pandemic Delivery Service; end of the Brexit Transition Period; second C-19 vaccine approved; claiming for PPE expenditure.

Pharmacy recognised in New Year Honours

The [New Year Honours List 2021](#) was published last night, with many people recognised for their exemplary work during the COVID-19 response.

PSNC would like to extend its congratulations to all of those recognised for their work in and around pharmacy. In particular, we want to give a special mention to our community pharmacy colleagues: Patricia Geraghty, Pharmacist Dispensing Technician at Lloyds Pharmacy in Leek, Staffordshire, and Haroon Mahmood, Relief Manager at Wells Pharmacy in Darlaston, West Midlands.

Pandemic Delivery Service extended to new Tier 4 areas

Following yesterday's Government announcement of the **move of additional areas into Tier 4 from today (31st December 2020)**, NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) have confirmed that the Pandemic Delivery Service will also be extended to cover clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) patients living in the new Tier 4 areas **from today**.

This change to the service requirements was announced, this morning, in [a letter published by NHSE&I](#). Lists of postcodes in Tier 4 have also been published on the [NHSE&I website](#).

The service in these areas will run until 23:59 on 1st February 2021 (please note that this date is later than the current expiry date for the other Tier 4 areas).

[Read the news story in full](#)

The UK-EU Trade deal and the end of the Transition Period

Yesterday, Health Minister Edward Argar MP wrote to health and social care colleagues to provide an update on the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement.

The letter includes information on medicines continuity of supply, reciprocal healthcare, health security and science, data and professional qualifications, and the Minister thanks every single person working in the sector for their dedication to the unprecedented challenges of 2020.

[Read the letter and our summary here](#)

Oxford University/AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine approved

The COVID-19 vaccine developed by Oxford University/AstraZeneca was yesterday **given regulatory approval by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)** after meeting required safety, quality and effectiveness standards.

Like many community pharmacists, PSNC is keen to see the sector able to play a greater role in the vaccination programme now the Oxford University/AZ vaccine can be used; we have clearly communicated that message to the Department of Health and Social Care and NHS England and NHS Improvement and will continue to do so.

[Read more here](#)

Reminder: Claiming for C-19 PPE expenditure

PSNC and DHSC have agreed a reimbursement mechanism for expenditure on personal protective equipment (PPE). PPE purchased by pharmacy contractors for use in the delivery of NHS pharmaceutical services, as a result of the COVID-19 infection control guidance, **between 27th February 2020 and 31st December 2020** will be covered by the reimbursement mechanism, providing the PPE will be used by the end of March 2021.

[Learn more here](#)

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

Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee



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