



Daily Update

Thursday 21st January 2021

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

In today's update: GP CPCS animation launched; IT support for CPCS extended; more pharmacy C-19 vaccination sites open; new pharmacist training standards introduced.

PSNC launches GP CPCS animation

PSNC has launched a video animation and infographic explaining how GP practices can refer into the NHS Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS).

The digital explainers have been developed to help describe the GP referral pathway into the CPCS. The animation outlines how referrals work and what pharmacies do with those referrals, as well as the success of NHS 111 referrals into the CPCS. The infographic complements the animation but in a one-page factsheet format.

PSNC is working with NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) and others to raise awareness of the benefits that GP CPCS can bring with Primary Care Networks (PCNs) and general practice teams. We hope that the new animation and infographic will help LPCs and pharmacy teams to initiate local discussions on implementing the service in their areas.

[View the animation and infographic](#)

CPCS IT support extended until 30th September

NHSE&I has today announced that funding for the CPCS IT systems has been extended for an extra six months – until 30th September 2021.

Since March 2020, monies from the Pharmacy Integration Fund have been provided to NHSE&I regional teams to fund CPCS IT system licences ("the CPCS IT system" referenced in the CPCS service specification) for community pharmacies providing the service. This funding was originally due to end on 31st March 2021, but NHSE&I have decided to extend the central funding of the IT for six months as a way of supporting contractors during the pandemic.

[Learn more here](#)

Pharmacy run COVID-19 vaccination sites target health inequalities

A second wave of community pharmacies have joined the NHS COVID-19 vaccination programme.

The 65 pharmacy-run sites began offering vaccination appointments from 8am today. Playing to the strengths of community pharmacies as socially inclusive healthcare providers, the majority of the sites are in areas where they are best placed to reach groups at higher risk of mortality from COVID-19 or where, until now, there has been no local vaccination site.

The 65 pharmacy sites going live in the second wave include Lincoln Pharmacy in Tower Hamlets, London, a Mosque in Birmingham, and The Whalley Range Tennis and Cricket Club in Manchester.

[Read the full news story](#)

New standards for the initial education and training of pharmacists introduced

The General Pharmaceutical Council have published [new standards for the initial education and training of pharmacists](#). The implementation of these standards will transform the education and training of pharmacists, so they are able to play a much greater role in providing clinical care to patients and the public from their first day on the register, including by prescribing medicines.

The new standards have been [welcomed by the Chief Pharmaceutical Officers for Great Britain in a joint letter](#).

[Learn about the key changes the new standards bring](#)

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14 Hosier Lane, London, EC1A 9LQ
Tel: 0203 1220 810 | Email: info@psnc.org.uk