



Daily Update

Friday 5th February 2021

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

In today's update: one week left for 2020 PPE claims; pharmacy staff vaccine uptake; reminder on Pharmacy Advice Audit; rechecks for specials with additional information; Instanyl nasal spray shortage.

One week left to claim for PPE payment

Community pharmacy contractors have ONE week left to claim reimbursement for their expenditure on personal protective equipment (PPE) during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Claims must be submitted using the [Manage Your Service \(MYS\) portal](#) by **12th February 2021**.

The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) has confirmed that payment for claims made by the end of 5th February 2021 (today) will be received on the 1st March 2021 and itemised on the December 2020 Schedule of Payments as 'PPE claims' under the section titled 'Details of other amounts authorised'. Payments may be delayed for some contractors who submitted exceptional claims that were subject to payment verification if this was not completed in time for the actual payment run dates, or there are other queries relating to the claim submission.

Where evidence is requested for exceptional claims, it is recommended that contractors provide this as soon as possible to support timely payment. It is most likely that claims made between 6th-12th February and those that are subject to extra verification, will be paid a month later on 1st April 2021 and itemised on the Schedule of Payments for the January 2021 dispensing month.

[Read more here](#) or take a look at our [FAQs on the PPE Claim process](#)

Pharmacy staff vaccine uptake

CCGs or regional teams have been asking contractors about the proportion of their frontline staff who have been given a first dose of COVID-19 vaccine. This is part of efforts by NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) to ensure that all those in the first four priority groups have been vaccinated by mid-February.

PSNC encourages contractors to complete these forms and return them, so far as they are able, to help provide the assurance that pharmacy staff have been vaccinated or have been given the opportunity to be vaccinated. This should also help to identify those members of staff who are still to receive a vaccination.

In many cases, LPCs have been notified in advance that the forms are being sent to contractors and may be able to assist with any local issues.

NHSE&I has indicated in the Primary Care Bulletin this week that it is very grateful to all those who are helping to provide this information.

Pharmacy Advice Audit 2021: Final reminder

PSNC has had an exceptional response to our Pharmacy Advice Audit 2021: thank you to the pharmacies who have taken part. We have decided to extend the deadline for submissions **until COP Friday 12th February 2021** to help build the strongest possible evidence base.

Community pharmacy teams have been asked to take part in the audit to capture information about patients coming into pharmacies seeking informal advice. The audit also attempts to get a sense of how significant workload and staffing pressures are currently.

The data will allow PSNC to quantify how many unfunded GP referrals are taking place, and it will tell us more about impact that COVID-19 is having on pharmacy teams and on the advice that patients are seeking from you. This will provide crucial evidence for our ongoing funding discussions with HM Government and the NHS.

[Further information and resources on the audit](#)

Rechecks for specials prescriptions with additional or supplementary product information

PSNC is aware that some pharmacy contractors have been left out of pocket because prescribers have free-typed the words '*Special*' or similar, into the dosage area or notes section of a prescription, and the pharmacy has not been reimbursed for supplying a special in accordance with the prescriber's instructions.

In this situation, pharmacy contractors can request **[pricing rechecks](#)** for any specials prescriptions where additional/supplementary product information included by the prescriber was not taken into account by the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) during prescription pricing.

[Find out more and read PSNC's advice for pharmacy teams](#)

Shortage of Instanyl (fentanyl citrate) nasal spray

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) has advised that there is a shortage of Instanyl (fentanyl citrate) nasal spray (Takeda UK). Takeda UK states it is out of stock of the Instanyl 100 and 200 micrograms/dose nasal spray, although Instanyl 50 micrograms/dose nasal spray remains available.

[Find out more](#)

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

Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee



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