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| Daily Update  |
| Thursday 29th July 2021 |

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|  | This daily update contains important information for community pharmacy teams, including details of the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In today's update: New NHS England CEO appointed; Single Activity Fee to increase; SSP endorsement errors; pharmacy skincare research project.Amanda Pritchard appointed NHS England Chief ExecutiveNHS England's current Chief Operating Officer Amanda Pritchard has been appointed to replace Sir Simon Stevens as Chief Executive when he steps down this week. This new appointment comes at a crucial time for the NHS, which is dealing with the ongoing pandemic recovery and planned reforms to its structure through the establishment of Integrated Care Systems (ICS). PSNC is looking forward to working with the new Chief Executive to develop the community pharmacy service and ensure the sector’s important role in supporting the pandemic recovery is recognised.[**Read PSNC's CEO's comment on the appointment**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=51ced2ada5&e=d19e9fd41c) Single Activity Fee to increase from August 1stIn order to ensure delivery of £1.792bn in fees and allowances in the 2021/22 financial year, the value of the Single Activity Fee will increase to £1.29 from **1st August 2021**. PSNC has agreed the increase based on our analysis of funding delivery and the latest projections for the year.This increase is one of several changes in the August 2021 Drug Tariff that community pharmacy teams should be aware of. Our Dispensing and Supply Team's usual summary of additions, deletions, and category and price changes can be found in [**the August 2021 Drug Tariff Watch**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=b039a8dc69&e=d19e9fd41c). How to avoid SSP endorsement errorsNHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) has identified a number of EPS claim messages for Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) which did not meet the requirements for a valid SSP claim introduced in June 2021.PSNC has worked with the NHSBSA to understand how and why these errors are occurring and, together, we have produced guidance to help contractors.[**Learn more about SSP endorsement errors**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=baca018607&e=d19e9fd41c) Pharmacy skincare research projectAston University is conducting a research project that explores the role of community pharmacy in managing skin conditions. The research aims to understand the key aspects of skin care from a community pharmacy perspective and the areas that are the most challenging to manage. The research will be conducted via an online survey that will only take 10 minutes to complete. The results will be important in helping to identify the key research priorities when exploring the role of community pharmacy and skincare. [**Learn more about the research and online survey**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=70e653dbff&e=d19e9fd41c) |  |
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| Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee    14 Hosier Lane, London, EC1A 9LQTel: 0203 1220 810 | Email: **info@psnc.org.uk**  |
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