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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Monday 11th July 2022 |

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|  | This newsletter from PSNC is sent on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. It contains important information for those that work in the community pharmacy sector.In this update: New Pharmacy Minister; over 80% of pharmacies now have RTEC; staying healthy in the heat; survey on pharmacy's role in continence support.Change of Pharmacy MinisterFollowing Steve Barclay's appointment as Health Secretary, James Morris MP has been named as the new Minister with responsibility for pharmacy. His official title is Minister for Patient Safety and Primary Care.PSNC is seeking to meet with Mr Morris at the earliest opportunity and will work to ensure that he is fully briefed on the serious current pressures that pharmacy teams are facing, as well as the incredible value that they bring to their communities.[**Read more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=f3ef7903c6&e=d19e9fd41c)RTEC DWP rolled out to over 80% of pharmaciesThe NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) has confirmed that over 80% of pharmacy organisations have now received the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) functionality for Real Time Exemption Checking (RTEC).RTEC allows pharmacy teams to digitally check if patients are eligible for free NHS prescriptions because they hold a specific exemption. The rollout of the DWP inclusion in RTEC means patients found to be exempt via RTEC no longer need to complete an exemption declaration on an EPS token, saving time for patients and pharmacy teams.[**Learn more about the RTEC rollout**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=53591a9e90&e=d19e9fd41c)Staying healthy in the heat – advice for patientsThe UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has issued a [**heat-health alert**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=052a207ab8&e=d19e9fd41c) for this week. During this heatwave, the public may turn to community pharmacy teams for advice. PSNC has previously developed materials that may be used by pharmacy teams to communicate relevant messages contained in the Heatwave Plan for England and NHS guidance on how to cope in hot weather.[**Download the heatwave resources**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=72508ff4f1&e=d19e9fd41c)Share your views on pharmacy's role in promotion of continencePharmacy teams are invited to participate in a survey which aims to explore current practice in community pharmacy regarding the management of individuals who present with bladder and/or bowel incontinence. The survey should take around 10-15 minutes to complete and should be completed by **one** member of staff working within the community pharmacy.[**Learn more about the survey**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=f3f9626aca&e=d19e9fd41c) |  |
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