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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Friday 26th August 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: Changes to discount deduction; Flu vac National protocol and Directions; CPAF screening deadline; end of regular C-19 staff testing; expiry of SSP033; price concessions update.Changes to discount deduction arrangementsNew arrangements for the application of discount deduction to community pharmacy payments have been agreed by PSNC and the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).The new discount deduction system will see the current single scale split into three groups: one each for generic medicines, branded medicines, and appliances. Rather than one set value for all items dispensed, separate fixed values have been determined for each group. From October 2022, discount deductions will begin transitioning to these new arrangements.[**Find out more, and see PSNC's guidance on the changes**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=ce68686261&e=d19e9fd41c) Flu vac National protocol and Directions publishedThe UK Health Security Agency have published the National protocol for inactivated influenza vaccine. The protocol provides another mechanism by which community pharmacy contractors can offer the NHS Flu Vaccination Service during the forthcoming flu season.DHSC have also published the amended Directions for the Community Pharmacy Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Advanced Service. The Directions apply from 1st September 2022 and will be included in the Drug Tariff from October 2022.[**Download the National protocol and updated directions**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=d1815db267&e=d19e9fd41c) Last few days to complete CPAF screening surveyContractors are reminded that they only have a few days left to complete the Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF) screening questionnaire before the deadline on **Wednesday 31st August 2022**.  PSNC recommends that any contractor who has yet to complete the CPAF screening questionnaire takes immediate action. It should take approximately 10-20 minutes to complete.[**Learn more about CPAF**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=ce0e287a21&e=d19e9fd41c) Routine staff testing for COVID-19 to be pausedThe Government has announced that regular asymptomatic testing for COVID-19 will be paused in all remaining health and care settings from **31st August 2022**. This means that routine, twice-weekly asymptomatic COVID-19 testing by pharmacy staff should be paused.[**Read more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=ae28dbe66e&e=d19e9fd41c) Expiry of SSP033The Serious Shortage Protocol for Paracetamol 120mg suppositories (SSP033) is due to expire at **23.59pm today, Friday 26th August 2022**.[**See PSNC's top tips for SSP claims**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=01a30ecdb3&e=d19e9fd41c) August Price Concessions: Fourth UpdateDHSC has published an updated list of price concessions for August 2022. PSNC is still in discussion with the DHSC about several other lines of concern, including Aripiprazole and Temazepam tablets. We will provide an update on these as soon as a decision has been reached.[**See the updated August price concessions list**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=317dfcc3bf&e=d19e9fd41c) |  |
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