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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Friday 23rd September 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: Details of the new Pharmacy Quality Scheme 2022/23; Estraderm SSPs extended; price concessions update.Making a start on the new Pharmacy Quality Scheme 2022/23Initial details of the new Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) for this year have now been released as part of the [**arrangements for the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) in 2022/23 and 2023/24**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=f5a3600c77&e=d19e9fd41c). PSNC, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and NHS England have agreed the arrangements for the 2022/23 PQS, as well as those for the 2023/24 PQS, with a focus on supporting recovery from COVID-19 and wider national health priorities. The 2022/23 scheme will officially begin on **10th October 2022** and contractors will be able to claim an Aspiration payment if they wish to, later this year.In our negotiations on the scheme, PSNC has managed to reduce the scope of this year’s PQS so that the estimated contractor costs and time required to complete the criteria will be below those associated with the original NHS proposals for the scheme. A further reduction in scope has also been agreed due to the delayed start of the 2022/23 PQS. Where capacity allows contractors to get going with the PQS, we suggest they tackle the New Medicine Service gateway criterion and the training requirements first.[**Find out more about the 2022/23 PQS**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=82108c9eac&e=d19e9fd41c)SSP035 and SSP036 extendedThe Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) for Estraderm MX® 25mcg (SSP035) and 100mcg patches (SSP036) have been further extended to **Friday 30th September 2022**. These SSPs were originally due to expire on 16th September. [**Learn more about SSP035 and SSP036**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=bea8e3e0f7&e=d19e9fd41c)September Price Concessions: Third UpdateDHSC has granted an updated list of price concessions for September 2022. Please note that a price concession only applies for the month in which it is granted.[**See the updated September price concessions list**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=d002f39e16&e=d19e9fd41c) PSNC is [**seeking improvements**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=3af60d3603&e=d19e9fd41c) to the current price concessions system following significant concerns raised by pharmacy contractors about the unsustainable level of prices, imposed by DHSC in the past few months, for certain medicines. To hear more on how the current price concessions system operates, pharmacy teams can now access a recording of PSNC’s recent webinar [**here**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=b3020b22f1&e=d19e9fd41c). |  |
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