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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Wednesday 23rd November 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: PSNC's work to highlight pressures; PQS assessment framework; dispensing and supply updates; completing declarations for age exempt patients.Parliamentary focus on pressuresPSNC has been working on an ongoing basis to highlight the immense pressures that community pharmacy businesses of all sizes are facing and to press for urgent action to protect the network.Our work has included briefing large numbers of MPs and talking to the national media, and yesterday this resulted in Peter Dowd MP calling on Government to adopt our [**Four Point Plan**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=769d802800&e=d19e9fd41c) in Parliament, while other MPs talked about the pressures on pharmacy teams. We are briefing Peers ahead of similar debates in the House of Lords next week.Also, this week, work by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on pharmacy led to [**the Daily Mail**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=ef1598092a&e=d19e9fd41c) asking patients to take action to protect their local pharmacies. National influencing work is continuing, including working very closely with LPCs on engagement with key target MPs and continuing to brief journalists.PQS assessment framework now availableCommunity pharmacy contractors can now access the assessment framework for the 2022/23 Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) on [**PharmOutcomes**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=c4ad1eabf2&e=d19e9fd41c). This is available free of charge to all contractors and allows them and their teams to track their progress with achieving the gateway and quality criteria/domains of the PQS.[**Find out how to access the PQS assessment framework**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=fab4683e07&e=d19e9fd41c)Dispensing and Supply UpdatesPSNC's Dispensing and Supply Team has published the following notices about medicines supply that pharmacy teams should be aware of.**New SSP issued for Liptor tablets**The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has issued a new Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) whereby patients with prescriptions for Lipitor® 20mg chewable tablets can be supplied with Atorvastatin: [**Learn more about SSP039**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=ced97b078d&e=d19e9fd41c)**Expiry of SSP037**The SSP for Estraderm MX® 50mcg patches (SSP037) is due to expire at 23.59 tonight: [**See PSNC's top tips for SSP claims**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=210ee3c17d&e=d19e9fd41c)**November 2022 Price Concessions: Second Update**DHSC has granted further price concessions for November 2022. Note, a price concession only applies for the month in which it is granted: [**See the updated concessions list**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=14fdf54549&e=d19e9fd41c)Reminder: Completing patient declarations for age exempt patientsPSNC's Pricing Audit Team have recently seen an increase in unsigned declarations for patients who are age exempt but their date of birth is handwritten. Pharmacy teams are reminded that where the date of birth is handwritten, the patient declaration on the reverse of the prescription must be completed in full, i.e. the exemption box in part 1 must be clearly marked and there must be a signature in the signature box in part 3.[**Learn more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=d8ec0c5c35&e=d19e9fd41c) |  |
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