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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Wednesday 7th December 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: Strep A info for pharmacy teams; Pharmacy Vision consultation survey deadline; dispensing and supply updates; PSNC branding questionnaire.Invasive Group A Strep: information for pharmacy teams A higher than usual number of cases of scarlet fever, caused by invasive Group A streptococcal (iGAS) infections, are being reported in children across the country. Whilst the Government and NHS have said that the risk to the public remains low, the [**UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=bf5071262f&e=d19e9fd41c) has advised parents to be on the lookout for symptoms and to contact NHS 111 or their GP if they are concerned.Knowing the symptoms and where patients need to go for treatment may be the best ways for pharmacy teams to support children and their parents. The UKHSA has developed some social media resources that can be downloaded from the [**DHSC campaign resources centre**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=8087fc61e9&e=d19e9fd41c). These can help improve knowledge as well as be shared to raise awareness amongst the public.Additionally, PSNC’s Dispensing and Supply Team has received reports from some contractors and pharmacy teams who are finding it difficult to obtain certain antibiotics. PSNC has raised its concerns about the supply situation with DHSC and we are currently awaiting further information via an update from the DHSC Supply Team. It is critical that medicine supplies are maintained and pharmacies are fairly reimbursed for them.[**Further information**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=bae21dbedb&e=d19e9fd41c)Reminder: Contractor views on pressures and the futureCommunity pharmacy contractors are reminded that the deadline to complete the initial consultation survey on the vision for community pharmacy is this **Friday (9th December) at 11.59pm**.This open consultation is the first opportunity for individuals and organisations to share their thoughts on the future direction for community pharmacy with Nuffield Trust and The King’s Fund, as part of PSNC’s vision project. This work is seeking to lay the ground ahead of future critical CPCF negotiations.[**Learn more about the vision project and complete the survey**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=cc281c0fba&e=d19e9fd41c) **Blog: Wouldn’t it be great if…**Reena Barai (Owner of S.G. Barai Pharmacy, PSNC Committee Member, and Vision Steering Group Member) has written a blog offering some ‘starters for 10’ on what pharmacy could look like in the future, and encouraging her fellow contractors to provide their own views to help shape it.[**Read the blog**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=fc4bebd152&e=d19e9fd41c)**Protecting pharmacy services: please share your views**PSNC is hosting two webinars to hear from contractors about the current critical situation for many pharmacies and the steps they may be willing to take should urgent relief not be forthcoming from Government. Please sign up to come and hear from and talk to PSNC Chief Executive Janet Morrison and Negotiating Team Members.[**Read more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=1314d8bdab&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.**SSP005 extended:**DHSC has decided to further extend the Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) for Fluoxetine 10mg tablets (SSP005) to Friday 10th February 2023. [**Find out more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=b4f834ee0c&e=d19e9fd41c)**Manufacturer and Wholesaler Christmas Opening Hours: :**We have created a summary of manufacturers and wholesalers’ customer service desk opening hours over the Christmas period and collated links to information on the order cut off/delivery schedules during this period. [**Read more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=eb3cd688b1&e=d19e9fd41c) Rebranding PSNC: Can you spare three minutes?In April 2023, PSNC will become Community Pharmacy England (CPE). This presents us with an opportunity to explore what we could do better and how we can use effective branding to best represent the sector.To inform that work, we want to hear the sector's perceptions on PSNC's reputation, voice and values. Our short branding questionnaire should only take around three minutes to complete and the deadline for responses is **5pm tomorrow** (Thursday 8th December).[**Complete the PSNC Branding Questionnaire**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=8eef7cebc0&e=d19e9fd41c) |  |
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