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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Friday 30th December 2022 |

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|  | This newsletter from PSNC contains important information for those that work in the community pharmacy sector. Due to the New Year Bank Holiday, the next newsletter will be sent on Wednesday 4th January.In this update: Final concessions for December; joint letter to Health Secretary; SSP claim top tips; FP34C submission deadline extension.Record number of price concessions granted in DecemberThe Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has now granted the [**final list of price concessions for December 2022**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=278b201c59&e=d19e9fd41c). The latest additions bring the total number of concessionary prices granted for the month of December to 199, surpassing the previous record of 159 granted last month.Throughout the month PSNC has heard from hundreds of community pharmacy contractors who are having to pay inflated prices for antibiotics used for the treatment of Strep A and who have rightly been concerned about the lack of certainty around the final reimbursement prices for these medicines. We therefore welcomed the involvement of the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) to look into the pricing of antibiotics. But the number of reports we are getting from contractors about medicines price rises are just not acceptable and this goes far beyond the antibiotic crisis.PSNC remains deeply concerned about the impact that high medicine price rises are having on contractors. As well as making a record number of concessions requests to DHSC, we are continuing to warn them that this situation is simply not sustainable or acceptable, and to press for a fairer and more timely price concessions system to protect pharmacies from these devastating price rises.[**Find out more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=ecd3e3306c&e=d19e9fd41c)Pharmacy leaders join forces to write to the Secretary of StateHealth Secretary Steve Barclay has been warned that the community pharmacy network is on the verge of collapse as PSNC and other pharmacy representatives joined forces to call for urgent investment in the sector to prevent widespread closures.Sent in the lead up to Christmas, the joint letter was covered in both the [**Telegraph**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=e8b237bd19&e=d19e9fd41c) and the [**Times**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=65cf8a9221&e=d19e9fd41c) last Friday and coincided with a PSNC meeting with Pharmacy Minister Neil O'Brien.[**Read the joint letter**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=7d1c51bd77&e=d19e9fd41c)Top tips to claim for and reconcile SSP paymentsPSNC has been working with NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) to understand if claims for Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) are being submitted correctly. PSNC understands that a **large number SSP claims continue to be deemed invalid by the NHSBSA due to incorrect endorsements applied by PMR systems and/or pharmacy staff**.We have therefore created a guidance article to explain the common reasons for these incorrect/invalid SSP claims and provide top tips on how to endorse and declare SSP claims correctly.[**View our SSP claim top tips**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=d9a7dfffeb&e=d19e9fd41c)Extended FP34C submission deadlineWith New Year's Day (1st January 2023) falling on a Sunday and its substitute Bank Holiday (2nd January 2023) occurring in the first five days of the FP34C submission window, **pharmacy contractors have an extra day, until the end of 6th January, to submit their December FP34Cs using the Manage Your Service (MYS) portal and to dispatch their prescription bundle to the relevant pricing division at the NHSBSA**.Please note, the requirement to submit electronic Claim Notification (CN) messages or Electronic Reimbursement Endorsement Messages (EREMs) within the first five days of the following month remains unchanged. **To avoid any delays to payment for electronic prescriptions dispensed in December (Dispense Notification messages submitted by 31st December 2023), contractors must submit the corresponding CN messages or EREMs no later than the 5th January 2023.**[**Read more about the submission deadline extension**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=a499984b51&e=d19e9fd41c) |  |
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