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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |  | | --- | |  | | PSNC Newsletter | | Friday 17th March 2023 | | |  | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  | |  | 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: Free clinical examination skills training for community pharmacists; HRT pre-payment certificate; dispensing and supply notices.Free clinical examination skills training for community pharmacists Health Education England (HEE) has announced a new NHS-funded training course for 10,000 community pharmacists on clinical examination skills. The training, which will be coordinated by HEE with the Pharmacy Integration Programme at NHS England, will be provided by CliniSkills. The training will be delivered online, with optional face-to-face attendance for pharmacists who would find this beneficial.  The programme will be available from 17th April 2023, with pre-registration now open to all community pharmacists. The training will run until March 2024.  [**Find out more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=b0e1195ef6&e=d19e9fd41c) ****HRT pre-payment certificate**** To reduce prescription costs for women receiving Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT), on 1 April the Government is launching the [**HRT Pre-Payment Certificate (PPC)**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=cb4876c2d3&e=d19e9fd41c). To enable this, from the start of April prescribers will need to issue prescriptions for HRT items (which are listed in the Drug Tariff as being HRT licensed for the treatment of menopause) as single-item prescriptions (i.e. separate from other prescription items). Further guidance for prescribers on the HRT PPC will be published in due course.    Find out more in our previous articles:   * [**New regulations to accompany the introduction of HRT prepayment certificates (HRT PPCs)**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=d65de4183a&e=d19e9fd41c) * [**DHSC announces rollout of HRT prescription prepayment certificate**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=42bfa361e3&e=d19e9fd41c)   PSNC will start publishing supplementary guidance next week. Dispensing and Supply updates **SSP issued for Paracetamol 240mg suppositories** In response to a significant ongoing disruption to the supply of Paracetamol 240mg suppositories, a Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) has been issued by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). Effective today, 17 March 2023, SSP051 provides that for every Paracetamol 240mg suppository originally prescribed, one Paracetamol 250mg suppository must be supplied. **The SSP may be amended or revoked at any time but currently expires on 5th May 2023 – PSNC will update contractors on any changes.**[**Find out more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=b1cd755604&e=d19e9fd41c)**Contractor Notice: Expiry of SSP049 Estradot® 100mcg patches** The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has confirmed that sufficient stock of Estradot® 100mcg patches are now available to meet normal demand. As a result the Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP), SSP049 Estradot® 100mcg patches **expires at 23.59pm on Friday 17 March 2023**. After this date, any prescriptions for Estradot® 100mcg patches must be dispensed in accordance with the prescription, and SSP049 will no longer be valid for use. [**Find out more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=75355ab59c&e=d19e9fd41c).   **MHRA Class 4 Medicines Defect Information: Venlafaxine XL 150mg, 225mg, 300mg prolonged-release tablets** The Medicines and Health products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has issued a class 4 medicines defect information notice for Venlafaxine XL 150mg prolonged-release tablets, PL01883/0340. [**Read more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=c56c1f8a50&e=d19e9fd41c)  **Medicine Supply Notification: Capsaicin 0.075% (Axsain®) and 0.025% (Zacin®) cream** The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has issued a medicine supply notification for Capsaicin 0.075% (Axsain®) and 0.025% (Zacin®) cream. A copy of this medicine supply notification, including further information, has been sent to all pharmacy NHS email addresses. DHSC and NHSE have now launched an online [**Medicines Supply Tool**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=b939bf8fae&e=d19e9fd41c), which provides up to date information about medicine supply issues. The contents of these MSNs can now be viewed on the Tool. [**Find out more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=8c653f9268&e=d19e9fd41c) |  | |  |  |  | | |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee      14 Hosier Lane, London, EC1A 9LQ Tel: 0203 1220 810 | Email: [**info@psnc.org.uk**](mailto:info@psnc.org.uk) | |  | | |

