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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Wednesday 5th April 2023 |

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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: Newsletters over Easter; ICS Review recognises pharmacy workforce issues; Updated HRT medicines list; Directions updated for some Advanced Services; 2021/22 anticoagulant audit reportPSNC newsletter schedule over EasterDue to the Easter bank holidays, no PSNC newsletters will be sent on Friday or Monday. However, to help contractors stay informed about the latest pharmacy and health-related news, PSNC's Communications and Public Affairs Team will send email newsletters on: * **Tuesday 11th April**
* **Friday 14th April**

For the week commencing 17th April, the usual PSNC newsletter schedule (i.e. Monday, Wednesday, Friday) will resume.ICS Review highlights pharmacy workforce issuesThe recruitment of pharmacists in Primary Care Networks (PCNs) has exacerbated a general shortage of pharmacists, according to the independent review of Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) published this week. The review, led by Rt Hon Patricia Hewitt, highlighted the impact that the Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS) roles for pharmacists are having on the community pharmacy sector. PSNC has been warning Government and NHS England about this issue for some time, including by [**co-signing a letter calling for the Government’s upcoming long-term NHS workforce plan to include the whole of pharmacy**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=f22053bf12&e=d19e9fd41c). **Responding to the report, PSNC Chief Executive Janet Morrison said:**"The report is clear that action should be taken to carefully consider the best use of the limited pharmacist workforce going forwards, and that the new ICS should be instrumental in this. However, local action will need to be joined up nationally, so it will be important for the Government to realise these issues, with solutions in their upcoming long-term NHS workforce plan by ensuring that it covers the entirety of the pharmacy workforce across the NHS, including community pharmacy. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss the issues in the Hewitt Review, as Government considers the recommendations.”[**Read our full response to the Hewitt Review**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=f774b3950f&e=d19e9fd41c) Updated PSNC HRT medicines listPSNC has updated its HRT medicines list for pharmacy teams. Changes have been made to the list originally issued by PSNC, so pharmacy staff need to ensure they are using this most up-to-date version. The updated version is available here: [**PSNC HRT medicines poster**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=3bdfc1f29d&e=d19e9fd41c)\*\*Please note: you may need to hard refresh to refer to the most up-to-date version.**Pharmacy staff are advised to check the NHSBSA website for** [**an up-to-date list of HRT medicines covered by the HRT PPC**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=4d96307b30&e=d19e9fd41c).Directions updated to enable pharmacy technicians to perform some Advanced ServicesPharmacy technicians are now able to perform blood pressure checks as part of the Hypertension Case-Finding Service and deliver the Smoking Cessation Service (SCS).The Drug Tariff has been amended, where necessary, to reflect this and includes the amendments to The Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (Amendment) (England) Directions 2023. [**Find out more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=753c5d106a&e=d19e9fd41c)PQS: NHSE publishes 2021/22 anticoagulant audit reportNHS England (NHSE) has published a report on the anticoagulant audit from the 2021/22 Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS).9,303 community pharmacies participated in the anticoagulant audit, preventing potential harm **33,173 times throughout the course of the audit**. [**Read more about the report**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=ed9bd2b84e&e=d19e9fd41c)  |  |
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