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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Friday 28th 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: Imposed changes to CPCF 2023/24 and Regulations; New approach for C-19 antiviral supply; Transitional Payments reminder; Service case study; Dispensing and Supply Updates.CPCF 2023/24 and Regulations: Imposed changesThe Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has [**laid regulations**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=1f6e8f5386&e=d19e9fd41c) affecting community pharmacy contractors as well as indicating [**the Government’s decisions**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=7010c5c3a3&e=d19e9fd41c) on the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) for 2023/24.  These changes and decisions have been imposed on the sector as PSNC’s clear view remains that the sector’s finances and capacity are in a critical state, and that DHSC and NHS England [**have run out of money**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=de58aa2220&e=d19e9fd41c) for new pharmacy services or activity.  These changes do not reflect any changes that might be negotiated pending the outcomes of the Primary Care Recovery Plan (PCRP) which has been considered by Government separately to the CPCF and is likely to be published soon.  For a summary of the changes and our detailed response to these, please [**read the**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=3f2775159b&e=d19e9fd41c) [**full statement on our website**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=11104e80e7&e=d19e9fd41c). We have also published a [**briefing**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=95a53e6205&e=d19e9fd41c)[**on the Department’s regulatory changes**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=6a35e1136a&e=d19e9fd41c) to help contractors to understand what these mean for them ahead of their introduction on 25th May 2023. DHSC/NHSE announce new approach for C-19 antiviral supplyDHSC and NHS England (NHSE) have [**announced**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=e943359753&e=d19e9fd41c) a new approach to the supply of COVID-19 antivirals to patients living in the community.Ministers have decided that this will follow the business as usual approach to medicines supply, with prescribers in general practices being asked to prescribe the medicines and prescriptions being dispensed in community pharmacies. However, pharmacy contractors will be able to order the antivirals free of charge from the Government’s stockpile, via Alliance Healthcare.[**Read more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=7b81933e64&e=d19e9fd41c)Contractor reminder: Transitional Payments set to zero from FebruaryDHSC [**determined**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=2d4e2245c1&e=d19e9fd41c) that from February 2023 onwards, Transitional Payments would be set to zero. **This is reflected in the February Schedule of Payments received by contractors this month.** In discussions with DHSC, PSNC rejected the change to the Transitional Payments, on the grounds that any further reductions in payments would be impossible for community pharmacy contractors to manage financially. The reduction was then ultimately imposed without agreement.[**Read more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=d95870b9e7&e=d19e9fd41c)Service case study: Pharmacy teams provide 9,922 interventions to support patients to be ‘winter fit’Winter Fit was a winter care programme provided by community pharmacies in South West London that aimed to support people over the age of 65. The service aimed to help keep older people well and out of hospital through the winter using appropriate interventions made by community pharmacy teams. The service was a key part of protecting the over 65s population during a winter fraught with the ‘cost of living’ crisis.[**Read more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=6c84546101&e=d19e9fd41c)Dispensing and Supply Updates**Drug Tariff Watch – May 2023**The Drug Tariff Preface published monthly lists additions, deletions and other changes to products listed in the Drug Tariff. Below is a summary of the **changes coming into effect from 1 May 2023**. [**Read Drug Tariff Watch**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=bb038a980a&e=d19e9fd41c)**Class 4 Medicines Defect Information**The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has issued a class 4 medicines defect information for **[Beconase Hayfever Nasal Spray, PL 02855/0064 (Omega Pharma Ltd)](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=871ee436ec&e=d19e9fd41c" \t "_blank)**.**Contractor Notice: SSPs further extended**DHSC has provided an update on the following SSPs that were due to expire on 28 April but have been further extended. * [**11 Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) extended to 12 May 2023**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=396bd88be4&e=d19e9fd41c)
* [**SSP for Lipitor® 10mg chewable tablets extended to 12 May 2023**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=42e8e3a341&e=d19e9fd41c)
* [**Two SSPs for Clarithromycin oral suspensions extended to 26 May 2023**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=8369a90393&e=d19e9fd41c)

Pharmacists should ensure they are looking at the latest version of the SSP and endorsement guidance on the [**NHSBSA website**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=58a3f3cd32&e=d19e9fd41c).**MHRA Drug Safety Update April 2023**A new MHRA  Drug Safety Update has been published and includes articles on: * **Isotretinoin (Roaccutane▼)**
* **Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitors**
* **Nitrofurantoin**

[**Find out more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=c5e1c094d4&e=d19e9fd41c) |  |
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