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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |  | | --- | |  | | PSNC Newsletter | | Wednesday 3rd May 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: Regulatory Changes Webinar; VAT services exemption introduced; NHS Hints and Tips Newsletter.Book now for our Regulatory Changes Webinar Gordon Hockey, Director of Legal, will be hosting a PSNC webinar about upcoming changes to the Pharmaceutical Regulations on **Tuesday 16th May at 7pm**.  The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and NHS England has introduced a package of regulatory changes in response to the current pressures on community pharmacy, and calls from PSNC for regulatory easements to help contractors to manage the workforce and cost pressures. While the package is an inadequate response to the pressures and one aspect is divisive (and they were opposed by PSNC), some of the changes have some merit and may assist contractors.  The webinar will cover the regulatory changes due to come into force from 25th May 2023. Gordon will outline the flexibilities for contractors to close for rest breaks and the provisions against which Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) may agree local hours plans. He will also look at business continuity plans to deal with temporary closures, and review the options for 100-hour pharmacies to reduce their core hours.  [**Register for the webinar**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=67f8b17442&e=d19e9fd41c) VAT services exemption introduced From this month, healthcare services carried out by pharmacy staff under the supervision of pharmacists have become exempt from VAT. This is something that PSNC has been seeking Government agreement on for a long time, including in recent CPCF negotiations.  HM Revenue and Customs has issued a [**note detailing the change to the VAT treatment of medical services**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=a9a3b3376f&e=d19e9fd41c). It explains that, from 1st May 2023, the VAT exemption on medical services has been extended to include services undertaken by non-registered staff who are directly supervised by pharmacists. The Government says this will bring the VAT treatment of pharmacists in line with other registered health professionals providing medical services to the public.  PSNC believes that the extension of this VAT exemption will help as community pharmacy businesses try to make better use of the skill mix in their teams both now and in the future.  [**Read more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=e0d159f021&e=d19e9fd41c) Issue 51: NHS Prescription Services ‘Hints & Tips’ NHS Prescription Services produces a quarterly newsletter called “Hints & Tips for dispensing contractors”. The latest edition (Issue 51), which has just been published contains useful information and advice on patients claiming free NHS prescriptions, real time exemption checking, disallowed items and more.  [**Read the newsletter**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=440ed26eb1&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) | |  | | |

