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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Friday 26th May 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: Newsletter schedule next week; 2023/24 flu letter published; Template forms for new regulations; Dispensing and Supply updates.PSNC newsletter schedule next weekDue to the upcoming bank holiday, next week we will be sending our newsletters out on **Tuesday 30th May and Friday 2nd June**. The usual three times a week schedule will resume the following week.Annual flu letter for 2023/24 publishedThe Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and NHS England jointly published the national flu vaccination programme letter yesterday (25th May 2023) for the 2023/24 season. The letter confirm that 50 to 64 year olds not at clinical risk are **not included** as a cohort under the Community Pharmacy Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Advanced Service (Flu Vaccination Service) for this coming season.Commenting on the publication, **Alastair Buxton, our Director of NHS Services**, said:"While the publication of the annual flu vaccination letter is welcome, it is unforgivably late and this has not helped pharmacy owners to finalise their plans for the forthcoming season."[**Find out more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=73d0716e18&e=d19e9fd41c)New PLPS regulations – template formsNHS England has published the template forms to be used when submitting applications and notifications for the new regulations that came into force recently. We encourage pharmacy owners to review our updated [**briefing note**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=ea09a0e7d4&e=d19e9fd41c) before completing a notification or application using the templates and sending to their Integrated Care board (ICB).[**Find out more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=bae07c4cdd&e=d19e9fd41c)Dispensing and Supply Updates**National Patient Safety Alert: Shortage of Pyridostigmine 60mg tablets**This product is out of stock, with immediate action required by pharmacy teams and other healthcare staff. Resupply is expected week commencing 12th June 2023. [**Learn more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=302dcde02c&e=d19e9fd41c) **SSP for Utrogestan 100mg capsules**On 19th May 2023, DHSC announced a new [**SSP056**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=ccbe9eb092&e=d19e9fd41c) which enables community pharmacists in the UK to supply patients with no more than two months’ worth of supply of Utrogestan 100mg capsules. The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) has now published the [**supporting guidance**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=882f445c7f&e=d19e9fd41c) for this Serious Shortage Protocols (SSP). * Please note that for patients who pay for their prescriptions, prescription charges are not payable if a patient receives a smaller quantity of the medicine than the quantity originally ordered on the prescription if it was supplied in accordance with an SSP for reduced quantity.
* When declaring prescription totals at the end of the month, pharmacists should declare these prescriptions as paid. The NHSBSA will amend total monthly figures to account for prescriptions covered by SSP056.

**Two SSPs for Clarithromycin oral suspensions further extended**DHSC has provided an update on the SSPs for Clarithromycin 125mg/5ml and 250mg/5ml oral suspensions (SSP053 and SSP054). SSP0053 and SSP054 were due to expire on 26th May but the end date has been further extended to **Friday 23rd June 2023.** [**Learn more**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=677db209be&e=d19e9fd41c) |  |
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