



COVID-19 Update

Wednesday 1st July 2020

This daily update contains important information for community pharmacy teams about the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In today's update: delivery service formally extended; changes to NMS requirements; advice audit reminder.

Pandemic Delivery Service – extension confirmation

Following on from yesterday's announcement about the extension of the Pandemic Delivery Service, NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) have now published a letter to pharmacy contractors to formally extend the provisions.

[Read the NHSE&I letter](#)

[Read the guidance and Advanced Service specification](#)

Contractors must submit their claims for payment for the Advanced service via the MYS platform by 5th August 2020. Payment for the Essential service will be made automatically for July.

Changes to NMS knowledge and skills requirements

Changes have been made to the knowledge and skills requirements for pharmacists that are preparing to provide the New Medicines Service (NMS). This removes the need for a pharmacist providing the NMS to have an **MUR certificate**.

To reflect the removal of the requirement to have an MUR certificate, as part of the NMS knowledge and skills requirements, an **updated NMS self-assessment form has been published**. This should be completed by any pharmacists that are preparing to provide NMS, who have not previously completed the former version of the self-assessment form.

Have you completed the PSNC Pharmacy Advice Audit?

Community pharmacy teams are reminded of PSNC's request to carry out the audit on a single day **this week (29th June to 5th July)**.

Pharmacies are encouraged to undertake the Pharmacy Advice Audit to capture information about the advice they give to their patients and local communities. The audit will help demonstrate the added value your pharmacy team delivers and, alongside data from other pharmacies, will assist PSNC in gathering evidence to support the ongoing funding negotiations, including our call for more investment in the sector.

[Further information and audit resources](#)

Have you seen our latest COVID-19 related FAQs?

PSNC's COVID-19 hub has an [FAQs page](#) with a large number of answers to queries posed by pharmacy contractors, their teams and LPCs; these are being updated on a regular basis. Recent additions include:

Q. How will contractors claim payment for the delivery service?

The payment which will be made to all contractors (bar Distance Selling Pharmacies) to reflect the costs of complying with the new Terms of Service requirements will be made automatically by the NHSBSA; contractors do not need to claim this payment. Payments will appear under the same line as the Transitional payments with the first payment being due on 1st July 2020.

Where a contractor makes a delivery under the Advanced service, a claim will need to be made each month, as part of the end of month submission to the NHSBSA. The claim will be made via a declaration on the Manage Your Service (MYS) portal, in a similar way to payment claims for the flu vaccination service. The contractor will need to enter the number of deliveries made under the terms of the Advanced service during the month of claim. Contractors must submit their claims for payment monthly via the MYS platform no later than the 5th of the following month. Payments will appear on the schedule of payments as an 'Additional Advanced Payment'.

Q. What is the dataset that I need to keep to claim for the home delivery Advanced Service?

Contractors should retain a copy of their delivery logs (i.e. those they would normally keep for deliveries undertaken) which as a minimum, should contain the names and addresses of the eligible patients to whom a delivery was made under this service and the date of the delivery. Contractors should annotate their logs to indicate which deliveries relate to shielded patients.

[Find answers to more of your questions here](#)

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