



# Daily Update

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> 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: Pharmacy Advice Audit; and update to NHSBSA staff risk assessment survey

### PSNC Pharmacy Advice Audit

PSNC would like to thank all the pharmacies who took part in the PSNC Pharmacy Advice audit. The response has been tremendous with over 80% of pharmacies across England engaging and completing the audit. The results are now being analysed and they will give PSNC a clear picture of how much of a positive impact the day-to-day consultations happening in pharmacies are having; this will help to inform negotiations and discussions about the role pharmacies are playing and on funding.

We would also like to recognise the huge support provided by LPCs and other national pharmacy bodies, which have meant that this has truly been a cross sector audit.

### Updated: NHSBSA Staff Risk Assessment Survey

Contractors are reminded to declare their progress on performing COVID-19 risk assessments for staff.

The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) is collecting information about the progress of community pharmacy contractors over the course of July and we are now in the first of the two windows for collection:

- 9am on **9th July** to 11.59pm on **17th July**; and
- 9am on **24th July** to 11.59pm on **31st July**.

Contractors will be asked four questions when they declare their progress, and an update has now been made to the wording of questions 3 and 4 as it was not fully clear on the approach to be taken to calculating the answer.

NHSE&I have provided the following further information to assist contractors:

*Q3 and 4 are asking – of those staff known to be in the at-risk or BAME categories prior to the risk assessment process, how many of them have had a risk assessment completed. The denominator is all staff known to fit that classification (not all staff known to fit that classification who have accepted the offer of a risk assessment).*

### [Complete the Risk Assessment Declaration](#)

NHSBSA has contacted all pharmacies via NHSmail, but information can also be found on the [NHSBSA website](#).

Further support and guidance on undertaking individual staff risk assessments can be found on our [PPE, staff safety and security webpage](#).

[View the story in full](#)

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. Where can guidance on staff risk assessments be found?**

There are a variety of risk assessment tools that contractors can use to support informing staff of their risk factors for poorer outcomes of COVID-19, individual risk assessment and to support putting in place any appropriate mitigations.

Staff risk assessment templates and guidance is available from:

- NHS Employers [risk assessment](#) for staff – includes links to several examples from NHS Trusts
- [National Pharmacy Association](#)
- Pharmacists' Defence Association risk assessment tool '[Reducing the risk of COVID-19 in community pharmacy](#)'
- [Royal Pharmaceutical Society](#)

**Q. A member of my staff has told me that they have a medical condition, therefore they are asking for a risk assessment for COVID-19. I did not have any knowledge of their condition and they have never asked for any adjustments to be made to their role or work activities. Can I ask my staff member what their condition is?**

The staff member does not need to disclose their condition and only needs to inform you that they have an underlying medical condition which is classed as a vulnerability in respect to COVID19. Contractors and line managers are advised not to ask any questions about the nature of the condition, e.g. the diagnosis, symptoms, investigations, or treatment that may lead to a disclosure of the staff members' medical condition. Their declaration that they have a medical condition that categorises them as vulnerable is adequate to warrant the risk assessment if they wish to have the assessment. If any staff member wishes to disclose what their condition is, you must keep it confidential and there is no need to record it as part of the risk assessment.

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

Keep up-to-date on COVID-19 with our hub page: [psnc.org.uk/coronavirus](https://psnc.org.uk/coronavirus)

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