



Daily Update

Friday 9th October 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 bodies warn of closures due to NHS Test and Trace decisions; last chance to claim PQS Part 2 Aspiration payment; additional PQS guidance on PCN Domains.

NHS Test and Trace discrepancies could close pharmacies down, warn industry leaders

Pharmacy leaders, including PSNC CEO Simon Dukes, have today written to Ministers and NHS officials, with an urgent warning that NHS Test and Trace discrepancies pose a potential threat to the timely supply of medicines to local communities.

Some contact tracers are classifying pharmacies as retail settings, rather than healthcare establishments, and this is leading them to apply different rules than they do for GP practices. There have already been several incidents where entire community pharmacy teams have been told by NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate following a single positive case within the pharmacy. Potentially this means pharmacies closing for up to two weeks at a time.

The joint letter to Public Health Minister Jo Churchill MP asks for her urgent help to achieve a consistent approach across the country, recognising pharmacies as healthcare settings.

[Read more about the joint letter here](#)

PQS Part 2 Aspiration payment window closes today

Community pharmacy contractors have **until 23:59 tonight (9th October 2020)** to claim an Aspiration payment for the Pharmacy Quality Scheme 2020/21 Part 2 before the window for claiming this payment closes.

Please note that the NHSBSA has advised of an issue when users are attempting to log in to Manage Your Service (MYS) portal using Google Chrome browser (version 84 or newer). However, MYS is still accessible using Internet Explorer, Firefox, Edge and Safari browsers with no reported issues.

[Learn more about claiming the Aspiration payment](#)

Additional guidance on PQS PCN Domains published

Additional guidance and resources have been published to support contractors, LPCs and Pharmacy Primary Care Network (PCN) Leads to meet the requirements of the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS). Key new resources from PSNC include:

- [Guidance for LPCs on the PCN domains](#)
- [Guidance for pharmacy contractors on the PCN domains](#)
- [Guidance for Pharmacy PCN Leads](#)
- Within the [guidance and resources section of PQS 2020/21 Part 2](#) you can also find:
 - a range of templates and Briefings to help engage with PCNs;
 - an action plan template;
 - a training log sheet; and
 - a risk review template for the risk management domain.

[Visit the PQS hub on our website for more](#)

Keep up-to-date on COVID-19 with our hub page: psnc.org.uk/coronavirus

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14 Hosier Lane, London, EC1A 9LQ
Tel: 0203 1220 810 | Email: info@psnc.org.uk