

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022

## Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) Special

### Community Pharmacy Somerset Bulletin

## Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2022-23 Special

Dear Community Pharmacy Somerset contractor colleagues,

- The Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) forms part of the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF). It supports delivery of the NHS Long Term Plan and rewards community pharmacy contractors that deliver quality criteria. The PQS 2022-23 has now launched, providing a critical opportunity for you to receive income.
- In previous years Somerset community pharmacy contractors have been amazing by achieving the criteria, supporting patients and claiming all PQS payments that they can.
- This year we want to support you all once more to achieve this and maximise your PQS income. As part of this your LPC has published this special PQS bulletin.
- We appreciate that there appears to be a lot to do for the PQS 2022-23, but this edition of the bulletin and subsequent editions will support you to work through it logically and timely.
- This edition contains everything you need to get started, so please read through the bulletin in full and set you and your team specific tasks to complete weekly/monthly.
- Your LPC appreciates that many contractors will also be looking to their HQ for specific PQS completion guidance; we would also flag that those independents who are NPA members will be receiving PQS support packs too.
- We will cover the local elements of the PQS domains in a series of articles in the next LPC bulletins, so please keep an eye open for these.

***NB: The PQS 2022-23 has already started so you need to make a start now – and we will be here to support you throughout!***

If you have any questions about the PQS 2022-23 please contact:

[yvonne.somersetlpc@gmail.com](mailto:yvonne.somersetlpc@gmail.com) or [michael.somersetlpc@gmail.com](mailto:michael.somersetlpc@gmail.com)

➤ **NHS England (NHSE) Guidance for community pharmacy contractors on the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2022-23:**

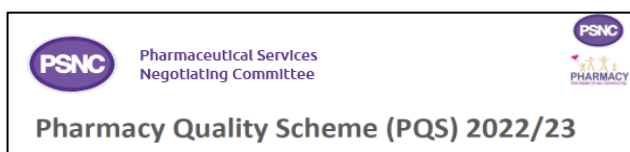


- NHS England (NHSE) published [Guidance for community pharmacy contractors on the Pharmacy Quality Scheme \(PQS\) 2022-23](#) on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022. The guidance explains how you can meet the gateway and quality criteria. It builds on previous work around respiratory disease, antimicrobial stewardship and weight management and includes new criteria on improving access to end of life medicines, domestic abuse and cancer red flags.
- Please read guidance in full to make sure you fully understand the PQS 2022-23 requirements and key dates.



**Resources to support you:**

➤ **PSNC PQS 2022-23 Digital guide, workbook and other resources:**



PSNC has published a range of resources to support you to meet the requirements of the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2022-23 including:

- [PSNC PQS 2022-23 Digital Guide](#) that walks you through each of the requirements of the scheme.
- [PSNC Briefing 031/22: Pharmacy Quality Scheme – Summary of the training requirements for the 2022-23 scheme.](#)
- [PSNC Action and Evidence Portfolio Workbook](#) containing questions for you and your team to find out if you are meeting the requirements of the gateway/domains, and much more. This is a fantastic resources and your LPC strongly advises you to use it.
- [PSNC PQS 2022-23 page](#) containing further information, resources and links to support you through the PQS 2022-23.

## Current priorities in the PQS 2022-22 for you to focus on now:

- **Aspiration payment:** The aspiration payment window opened at 9am on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and closes at 11.59pm on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022 (see below).
- **Respiratory Domain:** Criteria started on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022 **\*\*\*START NOW!\*\*\***

### ➤ **PQS 2022-23 Aspiration payment:**

- You are encouraged to review the Drug Tariff wording soon to decide which domains you want to work towards meeting by the end of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, and therefore be in a position to claim your Aspiration payment (this is optional and not claiming an aspiration payment will not impact on your ability to claim payment for PQS 2022-23, but gets money in the bank now).
- PQS 2022-23 Aspiration payment claims are made via the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) [Manage Your Service \(MYS\) portal](#).
- **The aspiration payment window opened at 9am on Monday (10<sup>th</sup> October 2022) and closes at 11:59pm on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022.**
- If you claim for an Aspiration payment within the above time period it will be paid on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022.



### ➤ **PQS 2022-23 Gateway Criteria:**

- **To be eligible to take part in the PQS and be eligible for a PQS payment, you must declare that you will achieve the gateway criteria by the end of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. The declaration can be made between 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023.**

## There are two parts to the gateway criteria:

### 1. New Medicine Service (NMS)

- The aim of this gateway criterion is to ensure that all pharmacies taking part in the scheme meet all the terms of service requirements and are choosing to actively provide clinical support to patients by providing NMS.
- To participate in the PQS 2022-23 you must have delivered and recorded a minimum of 20 NMS's between 1 April 2022 and the end of 31 March 2023. **If you haven't achieved this minimum number yet this is a priority for you now.**
- You will not be required to make a declaration for this gateway criterion as this will be automatically verified against the NHS Business Service Authority (NHSBSA) payment data for NMS.
- Resources and further information on NMS can be found on the [PSNC NMS page](#).

### 2. Patient Safety report

- This gateway criterion aims to embed a positive safety culture in community pharmacy, ensuring errors and near misses are recorded, learnt from, and actions are taken to prevent future harm.
- When making a declaration for this criterion, you will confirm that you have a newly written safety report (new since March 2022 when this criterion was last included in the PQS or covering the last two years if not previously claimed, or since the pharmacy was acquired or opened, if this time period is less than two years).

- The report should be at premises level and be available for inspection from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.
- The report will cover analysis of incidents and incident patterns (taken from an ongoing log), evidence of sharing learning locally and nationally, and actions you have taken in response to national patient safety alerts.
- PSNC has provided templates to support you in gathering and collating your patient safety report:
  - [Monthly patient safety report template \(PDF\)](#)
  - [Patient safety report template \(Word\)](#)

Full details of the gateway criteria, resources to support you and how to make your declaration can be found at the [PSNC Pharmacy Quality Scheme page](#).

➤ **PQS 2022-23 Domains:**

There are four domains within the PQS 2022-23:

- **Domain 1 - Risk management and safeguarding**
- **Domain 2 - Respiratory**
- **Domain 3 - Healthy living support**
- **Domain 4 - Prevention**
- **Domain 5 - Addressing unwarranted variation in care**

Please review these and decide which domains your pharmacy will work towards. We would encourage you to work towards achieving all of them to maximise your income and support for patients. When claiming an Aspiration payment you will be asked to indicate which of the domains you will be working towards. If you subsequently do not achieve any of the domains you have received an Aspiration payment for, the money will be deducted automatically by the NHSBSA (receiving an Aspiration payment is conditional on a contractor's agreement to this arrangement).

➤ [PSNC Information, resources and links to support you to meet the criteria within each domain can be found at the PSNC website.](#)

- Domain 1 - Risk management and safeguarding** → +
- Domain 2 - Respiratory** → +
- Domain 3 - Healthy living support** → +
- Domain 4 - Prevention** → +
- Domain 5 - Addressing unwarranted variation in care** → +

## ➤ CPPE resources to support the PQS 2022-23:



- CPPE has provided [Pharmacy Quality Scheme webpages](#) to support you to meet the training requirements of the scheme.
- The pages include information on each of the PQS domains that have quality criteria requiring completion of learning/assessment. These are:
  - [Risk management and safeguarding](#)
  - [Respiratory](#)
  - [Healthy living support](#)
  - [Prevention](#)
- The page for each domain includes information on the learning and assessments developed or hosted by CPPE and/or links to required learning from other providers, as relevant.
- Please have a look through the pages so that you can familiarise yourself with requirements and signpost community pharmacy colleagues to the pages.
- One of the key differences in this year's PQS compared to previous years is the inclusion of 'validity periods' for learning. This means that staff **may be required to repeat training and e-assessments that they have completed previously**, depending on the stated validity period and when they last completed the training and e-assessments.
- CPPE has included a **really useful tracker** on the [PQS home page](#) to help you to easily identify which learning and e-assessments you need to complete to meet the requirements of the PQS 2022-23. You need to be logged in to the CPPE website to see the tracker. The tracker works for GPhC registered pharmacy professionals and non-registrants with a [non-GPhC registrant account](#).
- Note that the tracker is for CPPE learning/assessments included in the PQS 2022-23, but does not include the new [Domestic abuse awareness \(Safe Spaces training\) e-learning](#), developed by Hestia and hosted on the CPPE website. This e-learning is a quality criterion requirement in the [Risk management and safeguarding PQS domain](#).

## ➤ CPPE face to face optimising inhaler technique workshop, Bridgwater, Wed 11th January 2023 [Book now]



- After almost 3 years we are really pleased to announce that face to face CPPE workshops are returning!
- An [Optimising inhaler technique: improving outcomes workshop](#) is scheduled on Wednesday 11th January 2023, 19:30-21:30 at The Canalside Conference Centre, Bridgwater.
- This workshop is for pharmacists, pharmacy technicians or trainee pharmacists and **supports the Respiratory domain of the PQS 2022-23**.
- Please book now as places are limited. [Booking link](#).

## LPC Contact details

### Contact details:

- CEO: Michael Lennox. Tel: 07798 861866. Email: [michael.somersetlpc@gmail.com](mailto:michael.somersetlpc@gmail.com)
- Engagement Officer: Yvonne Lamb.  
Tel: 07932 952497. Email: [yvonne.somersetlpc@gmail.com](mailto:yvonne.somersetlpc@gmail.com)
- Administration Office. Email: [somersetlpc@gmail.com](mailto:somersetlpc@gmail.com)



[@SomersetLPC](#)



[@SomersetLPC](#)