

**Wednesday 18th January 2023**

## Community Pharmacy Somerset Bulletin

**This briefing is critical reading as it contains important information and actions required to support you, your team and your business.**

**Dear Community Pharmacy Somerset contractor colleagues,**

Welcome to the latest edition of the Somerset LPC bulletin; thank you for everything you continue to do to provide first class services to the population of our beautiful county.

In this edition we report on the results of a survey which endorses the confidence the public has in the great services that community pharmacy teams provide. We outline your current priorities for the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2022-23. We also draw your attention to:

- Updated Somerset Emergency Hormonal Contraception Patient Group Directions (PGDs) - important actions to complete **now** if you provide this service.
- NHS priorities and operational planning guidance
- National Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Recruitment 2024-25 intake via Oriel
- HEE Clinical examination skills training for community pharmacists
- Newly qualified pharmacist programme cohort 4 now open for applications

We hope you enjoy this bulletin and find it helpful.

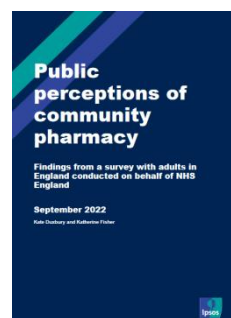
**Kindest regards. Community Pharmacy Somerset.**

**\*\*Confirmation of the great service you provide\*\***

**In a survey conducted last summer and published recently 9 out of every 10 patients were positive about NHS community pharmacies\*\***

As community pharmacies play an increasingly greater role in looking after peoples' health, the results from an Ipsos survey; '[Public perceptions of community pharmacy](#)' conducted between 21-27 Jul 2022 has found that the vast majority of patients (91%) who had used a community pharmacy in the previous year said they received good advice. As you and your teams play a greater role in looking after peoples' health this is a great endorsement and provides crucial information to the Government and NHS leaders.

**Access and read more about [the reaction to the Public perceptions of community pharmacy survey results here](#).**



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### **\*\*\*IMPORTANT ACTIONS FOR ALL PHARMACIES\*\*\***

***NHS.net email is used for essential services such as Turning Point, GP-CPCS referrals outside of Somerset and in cases of PharmOutcomes outage. Please continue to remind your whole team, including relief staff and all locums, to check your NHS.NET email regularly throughout each day your pharmacy is open and action the messages.***

## Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2022-23



Pharmaceutical Services  
Negotiating Committee

PSNC's [PQS hub page](#) continues to be updated as additional information, resources and FAQs to support the PQS 2022-23 are published.

## Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) Introduction

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.

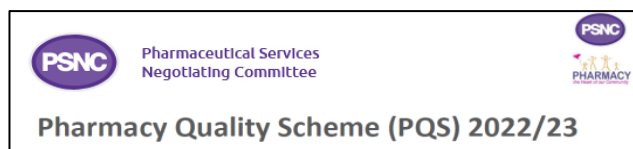
- In previous years Somerset community pharmacy contractors have been amazing by achieving the criteria, supporting patients and claiming all PQS payments that they can.
- Your LPC appreciates that many contractors will also be looking to their HQ for specific PQS completion guidance; we would also flag that those independents who are NPA members will be receiving PQS support packs too.

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

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

## 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.
- [PSNC PQS 2022-23 page](#) containing further information, resources and links to support you through the PQS 2022-23.

### 1. Current priorities in the PQS 2022-23 for you to focus on now [Action]



Date	Actions
From 16 Jan 2023 - NHS Profile manager can be updated	<b>Addressing Unwarranted Variation in Care domain - Palliative and End of Life Care Action Plan</b> <b>As soon as possible after 16 Jan 2023 and by the end of 31 Mar 2023:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The contractor must update <a href="#">NHS Profile Manager</a> if they routinely hold the 16 palliative and end of life critical medicines listed below and in the in the <a href="#">PQS Drug Tariff</a> and can support local access to parenteral haloperidol.</li><li>• If NHS Profile Manager is updated centrally by head office, it will need to be confirmed that this will be done by the end of 31 Mar 2023.</li></ul>

- If contractors are not a stockholder of these 16 palliative and end of life critical medicines, they are not required to update NHS Profile Manager. But they do need a **Palliative and end of life care action plan** in place to aid a patient, relative/carer in obtaining medication as swiftly as possible by redirecting them to the nearest open community pharmacy that stocks the 16 critical end of life medicines and/or parenteral haloperidol.

**The 16 critical end of life medicines are:**

- Cyclizine solution for injection ampoules 50mg/1ml
  - Cyclizine tablets 50mg
  - Dexamethasone solution for injection ampoules 3.3mg/1ml
  - Dexamethasone tablets 2mg
  - Haloperidol tablets 500 mcg
  - Hyoscine butylbromide solution for injection 20mg/1ml
  - Levomepromazine solution for injection ampoules 25mg/1ml
  - Metoclopramide solution for injection ampoules 10mg/2ml
  - Midazolam solution for injection ampoules 10mg/2ml
  - Morphine sulfate oral solution 10g/5ml
  - Morphine sulfate solution for injection ampoules 10mg/1ml
  - Morphine sulfate solution for injection ampoules 30mg/1ml
  - Oxycodone solution for injection ampoules 10mg/1ml
  - Oxycodone oral solution sugar free 5mg/5ml
  - Sodium chloride 0.9% solution for injection ampoules 10ml
  - Water for injections 10ml.
- By the end of 31 Mar 2023, contractors must have a **Palliative and end of life care action plan** in place to use when they do not have the required stock of the 16 critical medicines listed above or parenteral haloperidol available for a patient.
  - The action plan must include collated information from pharmacies in their area to be able to aid a patient, relative/carer in obtaining medication as swiftly as possible by redirecting them to the nearest open community pharmacy that stocks the 16 critical end of life medicines and/or parenteral haloperidol.
  - The action plan for 2022-23 must be available for inspection from the end of 31 Mar 2023 at premises level.

**The action plan must include:**

- An awareness of any locally commissioned services for palliative care including any on call and delivery arrangements.
- A list of community pharmacies stocking the 16 critical medicines for palliative/end of life care in their area and noting the ability to check the Directory of Services (DoS) to find pharmacies stocking these medicines.
- Details of where parenteral haloperidol can be accessed locally, e.g. through any local commissioning arrangements.
- Awareness of other support services that may be useful for patients/relatives/carers.

	<p>See the following resources for full details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Page 13 of the <a href="#">Drug Tariff Part VIIA - Pharmacy Quality Scheme (England) 2022-23</a></li> <li>Addressing Unwarranted Variation in Care domain of the <a href="#">PSNC Pharmacy Quality Scheme website</a> for full details</li> </ul>
04 Feb 2023 - deadline to start antibiotic review (8 weeks till 31 Mar 2023).	<p><b>Prevention domain - Antimicrobial Stewardship</b></p> <p>See the following resources for full details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Page 10 of the <a href="#">Drug Tariff Part VIIA - Pharmacy Quality Scheme (England) 2022-23</a></li> <li>Prevention domain of the <a href="#">PSNC Pharmacy Quality Scheme website</a> for full details.</li> </ul>
06 Feb 2023 – PQS declaration window opens at 9am.	<p><b>PQS 2022-23 declaration period opens</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contractors must claim payment to the NHSBSA using the MYS application for the PQS 2022-23 during the declaration period which is <b>between 9am on 06 Feb 2023 and 11.59pm on 03 Mar 2023</b>.</li> <li>Contractors must have evidence to demonstrate meeting the gateway criteria and the domains that they have claimed for <b>by the end of 31 Mar 2023</b>.</li> <li>NHSBSA has published the questions which will be included in the 2022-23 PQS declaration so contractors can view these ahead of making their declaration.</li> <li>The questions are available on the <a href="#">NHSBSA PQS hub page</a>; contractors should scroll down to the 'Declaration questions' section where they can access the questions in a Word document.</li> <li><a href="#">Find out more about making a PQS Declaration at PSNC website</a></li> </ul>
03 Mar 2023 - Declaration window closes at 11.59pm.	<p><b>PQS 2022-23 declaration closes.</b></p>

## 2. CPPE resources to support the PQS 2022-23 [Action]



### Pharmacy Quality Scheme

[Home](#)
[Risk management and safeguarding](#)
[Respiratory](#)
[Healthy living support](#)
[Prevention](#)

- CPPE has provided [Pharmacy Quality Scheme webpages](#) to support you to meet the training requirements of the scheme.
- There is a page for each domain including information on the learning and assessments developed or hosted by CPPE and/or links to required learning from other providers, as relevant.
- 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 **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. The tracker works for GPhC registered pharmacy professionals and non-registrants with a [non-GPhC registrant account](#).

## Operations

### 1. Updated Somerset Emergency Hormonal Contraception Patient Group Directions (PGDs) [Action]



- The Somerset County Council Community Pharmacy PGDs for [Levonorgestrel](#) and [Ulipristal](#) have been updated (January 2023).
- In order to continue to provide this service all pharmacists providing this service must:
  - Read the [updated EHC PGDs](#) and sign the page at the end of each one to confirm they have read and understood the PGD and agree to supply / administer the medicine only in accordance with this PGD. The pharmacist's line manager also needs to sign.
- Each pharmacist must also:
  - Ensure they have completed their mandatory training to provide this service (see appendix 2 of the PGDs) and keep this up to date at the required time intervals.
  - Review and complete their [Declaration of Competence](#) and continue to review this regularly (recommended at least every 2 years) and after an update to the PGDs.
  - Keep a copy of the PGD signed by all pharmacists providing the service and their line manager in each pharmacy, available for inspection by a Somerset County Council representative on request.
- The pharmacy should be registered with Somerset Council for provision of this service - contact [yvonne.somersetlpc@gmail.com](mailto:yvonne.somersetlpc@gmail.com) for details.

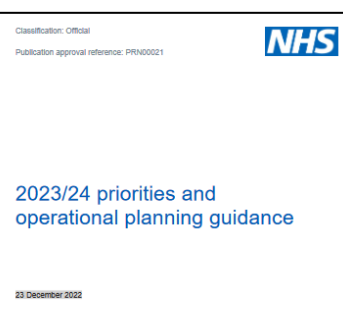
### 2. Data Security and Protection toolkit guidance [Action]



- PSNC has published new guidance to help community pharmacy contractors to complete the 2022-23 Data Security and Protection toolkit. The toolkit is used to make a pharmacy's information governance (IG) declaration and the deadline for completion is 30 Jun 2023.
- Key differences in this year's toolkit include:
  - improvements to the toolkit's layout, question wording and pharmacy-specific tips
  - the toolkit displays the answers submitted by the pharmacy in the previous submission the contractor simply confirms if the information remains accurate or amend if necessary.
- Contractors are advised to read the guidance and consider the Toolkit in their workload planning.  
[Read the PSNC toolkit guidance](#)

### 3. NHS priorities and operational planning guidance [Information]

- The [NHS 2023-24 priorities and operational planning guidance](#) was published on 23 Dec 2022.
- The guidance reconfirms the ongoing need to recover core services and improve productivity, making progress in delivering the key NHS Long Term Plan ambitions and continuing to transform the NHS for the future.



- The guidance describes three key tasks in 2023-24:
    - The immediate priority is to recover core NHS services and productivity.
    - As NHS services recover, progress is needed in delivering the key ambitions in the NHS Long Term Plan.  
Continue with transforming of the NHS for the future.
  - The take home message is that there is a large and increasing role for pharmacy in NHS planning.
- 4. Updated RPS illustration summarising the substitution options provided by the SSPs for phenoxymethylpenicillin products [Information]**
- The RPS has updated their [Illustration of “serious shortage protocol” supply options for antibiotic shortages \(Version 7\)](#) that summarises the substitution options provided by the SSPs for phenoxymethylpenicillin products.
  - Details of the dosages and formulations are available from the original [SSP documentation](#).

## Finance

### 1. Top tips to claim for and reconcile SSP payments [Information]

- PSNC has been working with NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) to understand if claims for Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) are being submitted correctly.
- A large number SSP claims continue to be deemed invalid by the NHSBSA due to incorrect endorsements applied by PMR systems and/or pharmacy staff.
- [View the PSNC SSP claim top tips here.](#)

## Professional development and wellbeing

### 1. National Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Recruitment 2024-25 via Oriel [Action]



- Applications are now open via the Oriel IT platform for the National Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Recruitment Scheme for the 2024-25 training year.
- Whether you are training a foundation trainee pharmacist (formerly known as pre-registration pharmacist) now, have done previously and would like to do this again, thinking of doing this for the first time or would like to know more, please read on.

#### Cross-sector foundation trainee pharmacist training programmes

- Applications for cross-sector foundation trainee pharmacist training programmes in community and hospital pharmacy are being co-ordinated by the Somerset pharmacist workforce development lead. The benefit of this approach is that we can link employers and partners together to provide cross-sector training partnerships.
- If you would like to participate in a community-hospital pharmacy foundation training partnerships in 2024-25, either as an employer or a placement partner, or would like to know more about what this involves, please email: Juliet Barrowman, Somerset pharmacist workforce development lead at: [Juliet.barrowman@ydh.nhs.uk](mailto:Juliet.barrowman@ydh.nhs.uk) by **13 Feb 2023 at the latest (but earlier please, if possible)**.

#### Community pharmacy single-sector foundation trainee pharmacist training programmes



- Details of how to proceed are outlined below.

#### **Foundation training resources available from Health Education England include:**

- **Employer Guidance** including an [Employer handbook](#) and a [short video](#) to support employers with registering to participate and further details and online form at the [Employer registration page](#).
- On this page you will also find a link to [information submitted by employers in 2022](#).

#### **Submission Deadline**

- The deadline to submit form(s) is **11.59pm on 01 Mar 2023 (late submissions will not be accepted)**.
- Employers who have submitted an expression of interest (EOI) form for any HEEGP 2024-25 foundation training programmes will be notified by the HEEGP by 20 Jan if your EOI has been successful – there is no need to submit the place to Oriel.

#### **Employer drop-in sessions**

- The HEE South Team will be holding a series of drop-in sessions to run through some top tips for programme registration and answer any questions. The sessions will take place on:
  - 02 Feb, 1 - 2pm
  - 06 Feb, 1 - 2pm
  - 09 Feb, 7 - 8pm
- [Please register for the session you would like to attend here](#).

## **2. HEE Clinical examination skills training for community pharmacists [Action]**



- Clinical examination skills training to increase the confidence of community pharmacists to manage the types of clinical cases that are increasingly presenting in the community pharmacy setting is now available.
- Content is being delivered in a flexible way designed to meet the needs of community pharmacists.
- The training will consist of a series of short modules based on 4 key themes:
  - Dermatology
  - Cardiology
  - Ear, Nose and Throat
  - Paediatrics
- All modules will end with an assessment and pharmacists will be given a certificate of completion when they pass.
- Before accessing the modules pharmacists will be required to complete a 'gateway module' on structured history taking and identification of serious conditions.
- Training to be delivered between now and March 2024. We would encourage all community pharmacists to take up this fantastic opportunity. For those of you who are considering doing your independent prescribing training, completing these modules will put you in a great starting place.
- To find out more and register your interest in this training, please [click here](#).



### 3. Newly qualified pharmacist programme cohort 4 now open for applications [Action]



- This twelve-month programme is fully-funded by Health Education England (HEE) as part of the [Newly Qualified Pharmacist pathway \(NQPP\)](#), which aims to link the initial education and training of pharmacists (IETP) reforms to a continuum of development into post-registration and acts as a stepping-stone towards enhanced and advanced practice.
- The programme is designed to support newly qualified pharmacists to become better equipped and confident to adapt and deliver safe and effective patient care at this pivotal stage of their career and prepare to train as an independent prescriber to complete their NQPP.

#### Who is eligible to apply?

- The programme is for:
  - Pharmacists who have registered with the GPhC since 2020 and are employed or work self-employed as a locum in community pharmacy (except Boots, who run their own programme), or
  - Primary care (PCN or GP practice), or
  - Health in justice.
  - Pharmacists who have registered before 2020 and are returning from a career break or changing sectors are also eligible to apply.
- If you know anyone who is eligible, please pass this information on to them.

#### Benefits of joining the programme:

- **A flying start to your professional development journey**
- **Structured professional development**
- **Education supervisor support**
- **Increased confidence**
- **It is a fully funded programme provided especially for you.**

#### Key dates for cohort 4

- Applications opened on: 02 Jan 2023.
- Applications close on: 13 Mar 2023.
- Start date: 27 Mar 2023.

[Find out more and apply here.](#)

### 4. Join the NHS1000 miles challenge [Action]



- The NHS's 75th birthday will take place during 2023 and people across the country are being asked to join the [NHS1000 mile challenge](#) to mark the occasion.
- Those taking part are asked to walk, run, swim or cycle (or a combination) the distance of 1,000 miles in the year. That's an average of 2.74 miles per day.
- Participants are encouraged to keep a record of their weekly miles and are invited to share their progress on Twitter on Sunday nights at 7.30pm using the hashtag #NHS1000miles.

- As well as being a great way to mark the birthday, physical activity is good for your body and mind - and it's completely free to take part.

#### 5. CPPE online workshops for your Continuing Professional Development – book now! [Action]

**ACTION  
REQUIRED**

CPPE Online Workshops  
January - March 2023

CPPE   
CENTRE FOR PHARMACY  
POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

Please [click here](#) to view all CPPE workshops

#### 6. Somerset NHS Foundation Trust library and knowledge services for primary care [Information]

- Library and knowledge services for primary care are available from Somerset NHS Foundation Trust to give you access to evidence resources for your practice and CPD.
- Access via the QR codes below (you can click on the QR codes to go direct to the links), or download the [Library and knowledge service for primary care flyer](#).

Libguide for Primary Care



Library Website Home Page



#### 7. Somerset Emotional Wellbeing (SEW) [Information]

- A series of [Mental and emotional wellbeing support podcasts](#) has been provided by Dr Andrew Tresidder, Pastoral Care Cell Clinical Lead, Somerset CCG & Dr Peter Bagshaw, Somerset CCG to support everyone working in healthcare.
- New episode(s):
  - [Samaritans \(Blue Monday\)](#).
  - [Changing habits](#).



## LPC Contact details

### Contact details:

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