

**Wednesday 8th March 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.

We would like you to read and absorb the whole content of this bulletin, **in particular we draw your attention to the following items:**

- [Somerset LPC independent prescribing survey.](#)
- [Suicide Alertness training – please promote this to your whole team and book now.](#)
- [Reminder: Dexcom One Transmitter to be added to March 2023 Drug Tariff.](#)
- [PSNC webinar on-demand: Data Security and Protection Toolkit 2023.](#)
- [Reminder: Submit your national valproate audit 2022/23 data by 31st March 2023.](#)
- [Kooth - online wellbeing advice and counselling support for young people.](#)

We hope you enjoy this bulletin and find it helpful.

Kind regards,

Community Pharmacy Somerset

### **Contents:**

#### **Professional development and wellbeing:**

- [Suicide Alertness training – please promote this to your whole team and book now \[Action\]](#)
- [Independent prescribing course funding for pharmacists \[Information\]](#)
- [RPS/Royal College of GPs NHS CPCS Clinical Training for community pharmacists - Book now! \[Action\]](#)
- [HEE Clinical examination skills training for community pharmacists \[Action\]](#)
- [CPPE Accuracy checking pharmacy technician programme \(ACPT\) \[Information\]](#)
- [CPPE Antidepressants NMS pilot page \[Information\]](#)
- [Somerset Emotional Wellbeing \(SEW\) \[Information\]](#)
- [New CPPE online workshops for your CPD – book now! \[Action\]](#)

### Customers:

- **Kooth - online wellbeing advice and counselling support for young people [Action]**

### Operations:

- **Diabetes UK request for input [Action]**
- **Reminder: Submit your national valproate audit 2022/23 data by 31st March 2023 [Action]**
- **New regulations to accompany the introduction of HRT PPCs [Information]**

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

- **Current priorities and important dates for the PQS 2022-23 for you to focus on now [Action]**
- **CPPE resources to support the PQS 2022-23 [Action]**

### Finance:

- **Reminder: Dexcom One Transmitter to be added to March 2023 Drug Tariff [Action]**
- **PSNC webinar on-demand: Data Security and Protection Toolkit 2023 [Information]**

### **\*\*\*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.***

## **Professional development and wellbeing**

- 1. Suicide Alertness training – please promote this to your whole team and book now! [Action]**



- On average, one person dies by suicide every 90 minutes in the UK. We can all gain the skills to make a difference, and keep people safe.
  - Somerset Council is funding **Suicide alertness training** for people who want to understand more about suicide, how to know when someone may be having thoughts of suicide, how to talk directly and comfortably about suicide and offer practical support.
  - **Date and time: Wednesday, 22 March 2023, 19:15 - 21:45 GMT – [Book your place now.](#)**
  - Although it states 'half-day' training, this is a special **evening session** organised for our Somerset pharmacy teams. If you are unable to make this date and time, you will find alternative dates and times at the booking page.
  - Please promote this to all your pharmacy team as this training is for everyone living or working in Somerset. Any of us may find ourselves in a situation where we could save a life.
- 2. Independent prescribing course funding for pharmacists [Information]**
    - Following implementation of reforms to the initial education and training of pharmacists, newly qualified pharmacists will join the GPhC register as pharmacist independent prescribers (PIP) from 2026.
    - As part of the **[Pharmacy Integration Programme 2021-24](#)**, Health Education England (HEE) is

funding independent prescribing training for pharmacists. HEE will only fund the course fees for eligible pharmacists at the [universities outlined on their website](#). (Please note that not all GPhC accredited courses are included).

- Training as a, independent prescriber will enable pharmacists to support patients from diagnosis to prescribing, and to provide advice and follow-up, while also helping them to feel confident and prepared for the new challenges of their role.
- [Find out more about this opportunity, including advice on how to find a Designated Prescribing Practitioner, at the HEE website.](#)

#### **Somerset LPC independent prescribing survey [please complete]**



- Whilst not all pharmacists may want to become prescribers, your LPC stakeholders to help the existing pharmacist workforce to train as a PIP and develop new prescribing services based in community pharmacy.
- If you are a pharmacist working in Somerset, please complete the [Somerset LPC independent prescribing survey](#), whether or not you are already an IP, are training now, are planning to train as an IP or do not plan to train as an IP.
- If you have already completed the survey there is no need to repeat it.

#### **3. RPS/Royal College of GPs NHS CPCS Clinical Training for community pharmacists - Book now! [Action]**



- How confident are you in managing clinical conditions referred to you via the NHS Community Pharmacist Consultation Service?
- The Royal Pharmaceutical Society and Royal College of GPs are providing funded interactive webinars to help you to develop your knowledge and skills in core clinical areas, to give you the skills to diagnose, intervene, and help patients directly.
  - Course #6 - Women's Health
  - Course #5 - Clinical Skills
  - Course #4 - Paediatrics
  - Course #3 - Respiratory - LAST CHANCE TO ATTEND!
  - Course #2 - Dermatology - LAST CHANCE TO ATTEND!
  - Bonus Dermatology Webinar: Common childhood skin conditions
  - Course #1 - Eye Care - LAST CHANCE TO ATTEND!
- All these CPCS courses are free to attend!
- [Find out more and book here.](#)

#### **4. HEE Clinical examination skills training for community pharmacists – we strongly advise you to take up this funded opportunity – limited places available [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.
- [Find out more and register your interest in this training here.](#)

#### 5. CPPE Accuracy checking pharmacy technician programme (ACPT) [Information]

- Pharmacy technicians registered with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) are invited to take part in the 12-month CPPE Accuracy checking pharmacy technician (ACPT) programme, which aims to help you develop the skills required to be a safe final accuracy checker.
- The programme also supports you to improve your leadership skills in directing the dispensary team and supporting the multi-disciplinary team in delivering patient-facing services.
- Each place costs £330 including VAT. Check the [eligibility criteria](#) and [find out more and apply at the CPPE website.](#)

#### 6. CPPE Antidepressants NMS pilot page [Information]

- From later in 2023 (date to be determined), subject to positive evaluation of an ongoing pilot, the NMS will expand to include antidepressants to enable patients who are newly prescribed an antidepressant to receive extra support from their community pharmacist.
- Further details on this change will be available in due course.
- In the meantime, if you would like to update your knowledge and skills to support patients taking antidepressants, CPPE has a useful [Antidepressants NMS pilot page](#) with links to relevant learning that was used as part of the NMS pilot.

#### 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):
  - [Deep dive into CBT](#)
  - [Bridging the gap](#)



## 8. New CPPE online workshops for your CPD – book now! [Action]

- CPPE workshops up until the end of June 2023 are available for booking. New topics include:
  - [Supporting people living with frailty.](#)
  - [Medicines reconciliation in transfer of care.](#)
  - [Familial hypercholesterolaemia.](#)

**ACTION  
REQUIRED**

CPPE online Workshops  
February to June 2023

CPPE   
CENTRE FOR PHARMACY  
POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

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

## Customers

### 1. Kooth - online wellbeing advice and counselling support for young people [Action]

**ACTION  
REQUIRED**

- Kooth is an NHS commissioned service in Somerset providing free, safe and anonymous, online wellbeing advice and counselling support for young people between the ages of 11-18+ (up to 25 if in leaving care/SEND).
- Kooth offers wellbeing support 365 days a year via a range of self-help materials and peer to peer support which young people are able to contribute to. Kooth also has an online wellbeing team from 12pm- 10pm on weekdays and 6pm- 10pm on weekends offering 1:1 text- based online counselling via live chat or messaging.
- Please promote this service in your pharmacies.
- [Here is a link](#) to some digital resources you may want to display in your pharmacy. If you need any in print resources please email [lfinn@kooth.com](mailto:lfinn@kooth.com)
- **For more information** about Kooth and how CYP can access support watch [a short video](#) (8.5 minutes) - passcode: \$^&X8rCd

## Operations

### 1. Diabetes UK request for input [Action]

**ACTION  
REQUIRED**

- Diabetes UK has PSNC whether there are any examples of community pharmacy supporting the management or prevention of diabetes (they are aware of the elements within the Advanced services and HLP which will support those endeavours).
- If you are you currently or have you been involved in any work aimed to improve outcomes for those at risk of health inequalities in diabetes in your community pharmacy, please complete the [Diabetes UK survey](#) to help them to understand how pharmacy teams are providing any such services.

## 2. Reminder: Submit your national valproate audit 2022/23 data by 31st March 2023 [Action]



- You are reminded that by 31st March 2023, you must have completed the 2022/23 national clinical audit on valproate over a six-week consecutive period, and have submitted the data via the Valproate audit 2022/23 tab on the Manage Your Service (MYS) portal.
- [Find out more at the PSNC website.](#)

## 3. New regulations to accompany the introduction of HRT PPCs [Information]

- The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has introduced new pharmaceutical regulations, to take effect on 1st April 2023, to accompany the introduction of the Hormone Replacement Therapy Prepayment Certificate (HRT PPC).
- The HRT PPC is a new, limited scope, less expensive, prepayment certificate applicable only to listed HRT items. Its limited scope may present a problem when both an HRT item and another medicine are prescribed on the same prescription.
- The regulations outline options for contractors/pharmacists facing this issue.
- For further information visit the [PSNC website](#).

## 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.

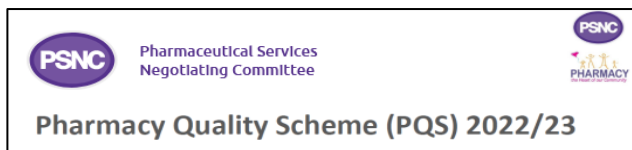
- In previous years Somerset community pharmacy contractors have been amazing by achieving the criteria, supporting patients and claiming all PQS payments that they can.
- Your LPC appreciates that many contractors will also be looking to their HQ for specific PQS completion guidance; we would also flag 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: [yvonne.somersetlpc@gmail.com](mailto:yvonne.somersetlpc@gmail.com) or [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 and important dates for the PQS 2022-23 for you to focus on now [Action]



Date	Actions
31st March 2023	Deadline for ensuring the requirements of the gateway and quality criteria (excluding those that need to be met by the day of the declaration (see above)) have been met.
31st March 2023	MYS audit collection tool closes at 11.59pm for the antimicrobial stewardship criterion.
3rd April 2023	Contractors will be paid their PQS payment.
5th April 2023	Deadline to have claimed payment for the provision of at least 20 NMS since 1st April 2022 (the Advanced services gateway criterion).

### 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 you may be required to repeat training and e-assessments that you have completed previously, depending on the stated validity period and

when you 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](#).

## Finance

### 1. Reminder: Dexcom One Transmitter to be added to March 2023 Drug Tariff [Action]



- A reminder that Dexcom One Transmitter will be added to Part IXA of the March 2023 Drug Tariff.
- Clinics or hospitals will provide Dexcom One starter packs free-of-charge to patients at the point of initiation. The starter packs contain a 10-day sensor and a 3-month transmitter to give time for the first prescription of sensors to be generated. Sensors packs are available in 2 pack sizes (1 pack which lasts 10-days and 3-pack which lasts 30 days) and each transmitter lasts for three months.
- From 1st March 2023, patients will require a prescription in order to obtain additional sensors and transmitters on prescription.
- **To avoid any reimbursement issues, pharmacy contractors should avoid holding extra stock of sensors and ensure claims for February are submitted on time.**
- [Find out more here including details of the new Dexcom products and reimbursement prices.](#)

### 2. PSNC webinar on-demand: Data Security and Protection Toolkit 2023 [Information]

- Community pharmacy contractors can now access a recording of PSNC's recent online workshop to help with completion of the Data Security and Protection Toolkit for 2022/2023.
- [Watch the on-demand version of the webinar here.](#)

## 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