

**Wednesday 10th May 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 pharmacy colleagues in Somerset,

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.

On Tuesday the Government and NHS [promised a £645m investment in community pharmacies over the next two years](#). Find out more about what is known about this at the moment at the [PSNC website](#). We will bring you further information as it is announced.

We hope you enjoy this bulletin and find it helpful.

Kindest regards, Community Pharmacy Somerset.

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

***A reminder that NHS.net email is used for services such as Turning Point, some GP-CPCS referrals and during 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. 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):
  - [Somerset Independent Living Centres](#)
  - [Older People's Mental Health](#)



## 2. The Basics (Contraception and Sexual health) and C-Card+ training Wed 31st May [Information]

- Quaker meeting House, Taunton, 10-4pm, Wed 31st May 2023.
- This training event will combine Basic Sexual Health information and the C-Card training. It is designed for staff whose role involves brief or ongoing interventions with young people (aged 13-19 years old) and who need a working knowledge of the services, resources, signposting for contraceptive and sexual health services in Somerset
- [Find out more and register here.](#)

## 3. CPPE online workshops, clinical updates and resources for your CPD [Information]

- 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.](#)
- For further details about [CPPE online workshops from April to September 2023 click here](#) (workshops from July to September will be available for booking from 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023).



CPPE learning gateways and [Clinical factsheets](#) support you in keeping your knowledge and skills up to date in order to provide high-quality pharmacy services.

CPPE learning gateways are organised into three headings, from where you can select your topic to navigate to your desired page.

Find the links to the learning gateways the top of the [CPPE homepage](#) (subdivided into: **NHS priorities, Clinical pharmacy, Public health**) as follows:

### NHS priorities learning gateway:

#### NHS priorities

Whether it's to prepare for the next Pharmacy Quality Scheme deadline, or to increase your confidence in helping people with a learning disability, this section provides topic-specific pages that link to current NHS priorities. This section will support you in keeping your knowledge and skills up to date in order to provide high-quality pharmacy services and be service-ready.

- Antimicrobial resistance
- Care homes
- Child health
- Consultation skills (advanced)
- Consultation skills (foundation)
- COVID-19
- Culturally competent person-centred care
- Education
- Environmental sustainability
- General practice
- Genomics
- Health and Justice pharmacy (prisons and secure)
- Leadership
- Learning disabilities
- Management
- Medication review
- Medicines reconciliation
- NHS Community Pharmacist Consultation Service
- Older people
- Patient safety
- Pharmacy technicians
- Prescribing
- Remote consultations
- Repeat dispensing
- Return to practice
- Revalidation
- Safeguarding
- Sepsis
- Summary Care Records
- Transfer of care
- Urgent care

## Clinical pharmacy learning gateway:

### Clinical pharmacy

Our clinical portfolio is expanding on a frequent basis, helping you to advance your knowledge and skills and deliver medicines optimisation in practice for all sectors of pharmacy. From two new focal points a year to our small group learning for hospital pharmacists –

Optimise – this section focuses on clinical pharmacy, diseases and therapeutics.

- › Acute coronary syndromes
- › Anticoagulation
- › Atrial fibrillation and arrhythmias
- › Biochemistry
- › Cancer
- › Coronary heart disease
- › Dementia
- › Dermatology
- › Diabetes (type 1)
- › Diabetes (type 2)
- › Epilepsy
- › Gastrointestinal
- › Glaucoma
- › Gout
- › Heart failure
- › Hypercholesterolaemia
- › Hypertension
- › Infections
- › Liver
- › Mental health
- › Minor ailments
- › Musculoskeletal
- › Neurology
- › Osteoporosis
- › Pain
- › Palliative care
- › Parkinson's disease
- › Renal
- › Respiratory
- › Stroke and transient ischaemic attack
- › Surgery
- › Urinary incontinence and retention
- › Venous thromboembolism and embolism

## Public health learning gateway:

### Public health

The public health agenda is embedded in pharmacy, yet topics such as emergency contraception or stop smoking support are as prevalent as ever. As well as our public health workshops, use this section to access a wide range of resources to assure and maintain your competence, all underpinned by the Declaration of Competence system.

- › Alcohol
- › Contraception
- › Emergency hormonal contraception
- › Health Checks
- › Healthy Living Pharmacies
- › Immunisation
- › Menopause
- › Oral health
- › Sexual health
- › Smoking
- › Substance misuse
- › Weight management
- › Women's Health New

[CPPE Coaching support](#) is available to General Pharmaceutical Council registrants working in the NHS in England. It is a non-chargeable service that assists pharmacy professionals in dealing with work-related issues, problems and barriers.

Links to [CPPE monthly highlights can be found here.](#)

## Operations

### 1. World Hypertension Day 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023 [Information]



- World Hypertension Day is on 17th May 2023. The theme this year is Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer, focusing on combatting low awareness rates worldwide  
For further information including useful resources about blood pressure monitoring and calibrating devices please visit the [World Hypertension Day website.](#)

### 2. PSNC Regulatory Changes Webinar 16<sup>th</sup> May – Book now! [Action]

- Gordon Hockey, Director of Legal, will be hosting a PSNC webinar about upcoming changes to the Pharmaceutical Regulations on **Tuesday 16th May at 7pm.**
- The webinar will cover the regulatory changes due to come into force from 25th May 2023.

Gordon will outline the flexibilities for contractors to close for rest breaks and the provisions against which Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) may agree local hours.

- He will also look at business continuity plans to deal with temporary closures, and review the options for 100-hour pharmacies to reduce their core hours.
- [Find out more and book here.](#)

## Customers

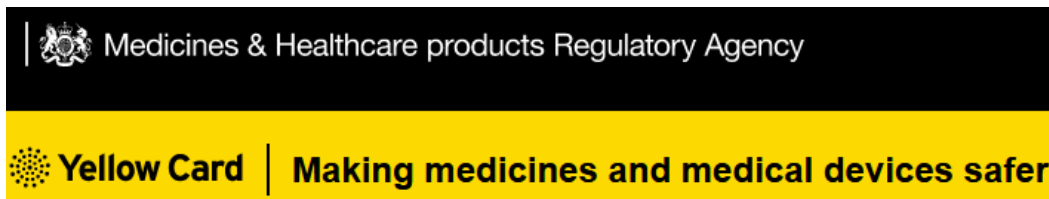
### 1. MHRA reminder of rare, but very serious side effects of nitrofurantoin – essential advice to give to patients and carers [Action]



- The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) have issued a reminder of the [rare, but very serious pulmonary and hepatic side effects of nitrofurantoin](#) together with a reminder of the advice that healthcare professionals must give to patients and carers when supplying nitrofurantoin on prescription or via a PGD
- **Essential advice for healthcare professionals to give to patients and caregivers prescribed nitrofurantoin:**
  - Nitrofurantoin is an effective antibiotic used to prevent and treat infections of the bladder, kidney, and other parts of the urinary tract, but it has been linked to side effects affecting the lungs and liver
  - If you are taking nitrofurantoin, seek medical advice if you experience trouble breathing, shortness of breath, a lingering cough, coughing up blood or mucus, or pain or discomfort when breathing. These may be symptoms of a side effect affecting the lungs
  - Talk to your doctor or another healthcare professional promptly if you develop yellowing of the skin or eyes, upper right abdominal pain, dark urine and pale or grey-coloured stools, itching or joint pain and swelling. These may be symptoms of a side effect affecting the liver.

#### MHRA Yellow Card Scheme:

A reminder that **everyone** is encouraged to report suspected side effects to medicines, vaccines, e-cigarettes, medical device incidents, defective or falsified (fake) products to the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency to ensure safe and effective use via the [Yellow Card Scheme](#).



## Finance

### 1. VAT services exemption changes from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 [Information]

- From this month, healthcare services carried out by pharmacy staff under the supervision of pharmacists have become exempt from VAT.
- HM Revenue and Customs has issued a [note detailing the change to the VAT treatment of medical services](#). It explains that, from 1st May 2023, the VAT exemption on medical services has

been extended to include services undertaken by non-registered staff that are directly supervised by pharmacists.

- [Find out more here.](#)

## LPC Contact details

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