

# Community Pharmacy Somerset

## NHS Pharmacy First Special Bulletin 2

### 10 January 2024

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Dear Pharmacy Teams,

Let us start with a great big thanks to all of you for signing up for the Pharmacy First service, nearly everyone in our county has now signed up to deliver as contractor pharmacies. Wow!

Secondly, we appreciate signing up is the easy bit, it is the hard work to get ready for the services that is the massive work challenge. We know you are already making solid and steady progress in that with a view to being ready to help patients from the start of February.

This bulletin is our attempt to support you locally along the way.

We also appreciate that as pharmacists and wider teams you will be looking to your own Head Offices/Pharmacy Superintendents or indeed to the NPA if you are an independent member there, for support and the landing of the right materials at the right time for you to work through. Keep on and you will get there!

Your LPC have been supporting the NHS Somerset system to assist readiness for the new services start-up, paving the political way for you to crack on in February. NHS Somerset has been briefing our local leadership GP colleagues and will ensure every practice gets briefed on the Pharmacy First service before it starts.

Your LPC has also commissioned an additional opportunity for you to boost your patient-hands-on Ear Nose & Throat (ENT) practice and confidence. We landed a Somerset training offer with you last week and the sign up has been impressive, to date pharmacists in Somerset have booked the majority of places available, but if you move fast you can still likely get to take advantage. It is on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February and you will find further details and how to book below.

So, to say it again, wow, the commitment to get ready has been mightily impressive!

On behalf of your LPC, your local NHS and for Somerset people and patients, our deepest thanks.

Michael

CEO@Community Pharmacy Somerset

Where to start:

We suggest you read and get familiar with the requirements for you to deliver a first-class Pharmacy First Service.

See the [CPE Pharmacy owner checklist: getting going with the Pharmacy First service](#) and [CPE Pharmacist checklist: getting going with the Pharmacy First service](#) which provide step-by-step guides with deadlines for preparing to provide the service.

Also see the [CPE O40/23 Initial briefing for pharmacy teams – the Pharmacy First service.](#)

### Getting Started: Stage 1

1. All pharmacies must register to provide the Pharmacy first service via their MYS portal. To receive a one-off payment of £2000, you MUST register by 11.59pm on 30 January 2024.
2. If you register for the service after 11.59pm on 30<sup>th</sup> January, you can still provide the service but you will NOT qualify for the £2000 one off payment.

[Register and Claim](#)

### Be Prepared and Gain Knowledge: Stage 2

1. All pharmacists, including locums must read the service specification.
2. All pharmacists, including locums must read all the associated final PGDs for the seven common conditions.
3. Get familiar with the service by accessing the resources at the [CPE Pharmacy First Service webpage.](#)
4. Download the [NHS Pharmacy First self-assessment framework](#) and access the recommended learning and resources for the learning and knowledge gaps you have identified via the [CPPE NHS Pharmacy First service webpage.](#)

[CPE Pharmacy First service webpage with links to service specification, clinical pathways and final PGDs](#)

### Delivering The Service: Stage 3

1. Pharmacists – book and attend the Otoscope training if you feel that it would benefit your practice. Options for training include:

Training provider	Title of workshop	Date and time	Booking link
ECG healthcare	<p>CP Pharmacy First Training (otoscope) (blended face to face and online)</p> <p>Also featuring 'Drop in sessions' with your LPC – Yvonne and Michael will be there to listen to your concerns and answer any questions you have around the Pharmacy First and other new services.</p>	<p>Sun 11 Feb 2024:</p> <p>9:00 – 10:45 (full)</p> <p>11:00 – 12:45</p> <p>13:15 – 15:00</p> <p>15:15 – 17:00</p>	<p><a href="#">Book here</a></p> <p>Password: CPSWPEN</p> <p>Coupon code: CPPF23</p>
Cliniskills	<p>Pharmacy First, otoscope training webinar (blended face to face and online)</p>	<p>18th Jan 2024:</p> <p>18:00 – 19:30</p>	<p><a href="#">Book here</a></p>
Cliniskills	<p>ENT training (online – does not include otoscope training – see above)</p>		<p><a href="#">Book here</a></p>
CPPE/CPE	<p>NHS Pharmacy First – Ear, Nose and Throat clinical assessment skills (otoscope) (face to face)</p>	<p>Sun 28 Jan 2024:</p> <p>9:30 – 12:45 (full)</p> <p>13:45 – 17:00 (full)</p>	<p><a href="#">Book here</a></p>

- Upskill your community pharmacy technicians to fully engage in service delivery and clinical assessment skills to support new services being offered through community pharmacy by

encouraging them to complete the [CPPE Community pharmacy technician: advancing your role programme](#).

Find out more about this programme at the NHSE/CPPE webinar on Thu 16 January 7–8pm.  
[Book your place at the webinar here](#).

3. Brief your teams—they may come across patients who are eligible for the service who they can encourage to engage. Emphasise that walk in patients are allowed to access the service as well as referrals.
4. Communicate regularly with your team; hold daily huddles to discuss the service, who is eligible and any opportunities missed.
5. Brief your surgeries that you are ready to start the service and communicate what can the surgery teams do to assist you.

#### **Claim for the service: Stage 4**

1. All claims for Pharmacy First service must be submitted via your MYS portal monthly.
2. Remember the threshold to maximise the payments your pharmacy can receive by doing the minimum amount of pharmacy first provisions as set out at the [CPE Pharmacy First service webpage](#).

## **Contact us:**

Link to: [Community Pharmacy Somerset website](#)

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