

Newsletter



October 2023

New Community Pharmacy local branding, and a new newsletter look

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https://cpesx.org.uk/









#### **Annual conference 2023**

We were really pleased to see so many Contractors attending the Community Pharmacy Essex Annual General Meeting and Conference on Sunday 1st October at Ivy Hill Hotel, Margaretting. The Sunday daytime format was a change from recent years and was generally well received. Guests had the opportunity to attend 2 workshops in the morning, which included updates from our local Essex Police controlled drug liaison officers, better understanding of NHS111 CPCS referrals with Sanjeev Rana from IC24, one of our local 111 providers, and new approaches to management of migraine with Dr Farooq Maniyar.

Conference Guest speakers, Ade Abimbola, NHS England Regional Pharmacy Integration lead, and James Wood, Community Pharmacy England gave updates on their respective organisations' current work just after lunch, following that the AGM ratified the annual report and financial statements for 2022–23.

During the afternoon there was a face-to-face oral contraception training session delivered by Sue Luty from Provide CIC, to prepare contractors and their teams for both the locally commissioned Emergency Hormonal Contraception services and the national pharmacy oral contraception Advanced Service. Thanks to all those that attended, and as every to our generous sponsors.

https://cpesx.org.uk/about-us/annual-conference-agm-2023/





### Community Pharmacy Essex new Logo

Following the "Wright review" and various recommendations

that were presented, we are pleased to confirm we have now incorporated the new logo. We have also updated the look of our website <a href="www.CPEsx.org.uk">www.CPEsx.org.uk</a>, X (Twitter) account

@CommPharmEssex and several documents including, of course our newsletter.

# Hypertension Case-Finding Service: Commencement of PPV activity

Don't say we didn't warn you!

From 9th October, the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) Provider Assurance Team (PAT) are carrying out post-payment verification (PPV) reviews on the Hypertension Case-Finding Service. These reviews, commissioned by NHS England, will look particularly at Pharmacies claiming for:

- Overall high numbers of blood pressure checks;
- o High numbers of opportunistic checks in people under 40 years of age
- High numbers of clinic blood pressure readings but few or no ABPM reported\*
- o High volumes of patients with very high clinic blood pressure readings.

\*We do have access to the data from MYS and can see that there are quite a few contractors who have identified patients with high clinic readings and then referred these directly to GP practices without conducting ABPM. This is different to the service specification flowchart and will likely be queried by the Provider Assurance Team. If you want some help with this, please let us know at the earliest opportunity so we can schedule a support call/visit.

We are aware that <u>some</u> GP practices are asking pharmacies to refer patients back for ABPM, especially in Mid and South Essex where there is a GP ABPM incentive scheme: Please let the practice know that the service specification for the pharmacy service requires the pharmacy to carry this out where indicated, and that you cannot vary the national specification. Again, we can help with this if needed.

https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/hypertension-case-finding-service-commencement-of-ppv-activity/



## 2023 mandatory workforce survey

The 2023 Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey, conducted by North of England Commissioning Support Unit (NECS) on behalf of NHS England will run from 23rd October 2023 to 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023. Just to remind you that this survey is now a contractual requirement and replaces the previous requirement to participate in a national clinical audit.

While we are on the subject of workforce we should perhaps remind you of the GPhC minimum standards regarding non-registered roles in pharmacies and the status of trainees, as this invariably crops up in contract monitoring, incident investigations and performance management meetings.

#### The standards state:

"Support staff must be enrolled on a training course as soon as practically possible and within three months of starting their role. They must complete the course promptly, normally within three years, at a pace which is compatible with safe practice. If it takes longer, providers should consider the reasons for the delay and whether or not an extension is appropriate. They should record their decision and the reasons for it."

As part of the workforce survey you may want to review those staff that you are claiming as trainees, to ensure they are enrolled on an appropriate course and within the timescales for completion.

https://cpe.org.uk/quality-and-regulations/annual-workforce-survey/

#### **New Lateral Flow Device Advanced service launches November**

A new Advanced service to supply eligible patients with COVID-19 Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test kits has been announced, this is to offer eligible patients who have risk factors for progression to severe COVID-19 (those who may be eligible for anti-viral treatments) to obtain LFD test kits from participating community pharmacies.

Pharmacy owners will be able to sign up on the NHSBSA's MYS portal from 6th November 2023, after which they will be able to provide the service.



We are trying to ascertain from our ICB colleagues how many patients may be eligible in each system so pharmacies can decide whether to offer the service or not: Initially we would suggest that if you already hold stocks of LFD tests for sale to the public then it is probably worthwhile signing up to the programme.

https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/new-lfd-advanced-service-launches-next-month/

# Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF) Full Questionnaire

All Community Pharmacies were required to complete the online 10 screening questions as part of the NHS England Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF) by the end of July 2023. The requirement to complete an electronic return has been in the Terms of Service since 2020.

Pharmacies that did not complete the screening questions, where responses have raised further questions or if there are any concerns about the pharmacy relating to patient safety, may be required to complete the full CPAF questionnaire.

This will be available for identified pharmacy owners to complete between 6 November and midnight on 3 December 2023 on the Manage Your Service (MYS) website. Selected pharmacies should have been notified via email from the NHS Business Services Authority in the week prior to the go-live date.

If you have a query about accessing or using this questionnaire, please email <a href="mailto:pharmacysupport@nhsbsa.nhs.uk">pharmacysupport@nhsbsa.nhs.uk</a> including your pharmacy ODS/F code and pharmacy contact details.

Of course, we remain available to support any contractor with their full CPAF questionnaire and any other related concerns.



## **Advanced Smoking Cessation Service**

During November a webinar is being organised to give you details about the advanced smoking cessation service (the hospital discharge service), including a refresher about the specification and the referral process. This 1-hour webinar is specific to Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, however all community pharmacists are be welcome to attend.

Please can you complete the poll to indicate whether you would prefer the webinar to take place at lunchtime or during the evening as mentioned in the covering e-mail.

## Ask the Pharmacist week 30th October to 6th November 2023



This is a NPA awareness campaign and this year the theme is 'Meet Your Local Pharmacy Team' for more details and resources please see link below.

https://www.npa.co.uk/ask-your-pharmacist-week-2023

## Request for photo images for our website please

The Community Pharmacy Essex library has been altered to reflect our new branding and logo, with this in mind it would be great to keep it fresh, therefore a plea for your help..... Can you please share any photos of your pharmacy, team members, promotional areas, services provided, the weather, your van etc, so that we can build up a "photo bank" that could be used to upload onto our website. These can be as creative as you like, and we will gladly acknowledge contributions: Our readership goes further than you might expect!



### **Clobazam Martindale Pharma Oral Suspension**

Ethypharm have contacted the Office recently as several pharmacists have had queries about Clobazam Oral solution. It has changed its name from Tabelom to Clobazam Martindale Pharma Oral suspension, nothing else has changed and the packaging still looks the same so please reassure parents that this is their usual medicine.

# Meetings taking place soon

BeNEER Respiratory Meeting at Banquet Chinese, Colchester with Dr Shoka and Sarah Fowler: Long Covid one year on

Wednesday 8th November 2023

FP34 training webinar with Liam Stapleton

Wednesday 15th November 2023

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81895170924

West Essex Forum at Waltham Abbey Marriott with Dr Sanjeev Rana Tackling SABA over-use

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023

Mid-Essex forum at Lian Restaurant Witham with Dr Sanjeev Rana Tackling SABA over-use

Wednesday 31st January 2024

Details of all our events are circulated to all Essex Community Pharmacies. To reserve places please ensure you e-mail <a href="mailto:office@cpesx.org.uk">office@cpesx.org.uk</a> in advance of the events.



# Office Contact points

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