Community Pharmacy Essex Newsletter

June 2024

**DEADLINES AND ACTION OCCURING IN JUNE 2024**

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<https://cpesx.org.uk/>

Data Security and Protection Toolkit

DEADLINE 30th JUNE 2024

Already included reminders in previous newsletters, the Data Security Protection (DSP) toolkit needs to be completed and published by 30th June, please do not leave to the last minute and ensure you press submit

**From recent meetings with the NHS England pharmacy contracts team we believe that completion of the toolkit is being monitored and failure to complete and publish the toolkit may result in breach and/or remedial notices being issued.**

Please make sure that you complete the toolkit accurately for **your** pharmacy, for example with regards to staff training; We have attended contract monitoring and other performance visits where staff have been asked about data security training, and the answers provided do not always match that claimed in the DSP toolkit submission.

There are links below for training resources and a recording of this year’s Community Pharmacy England webinar

[Data security training - Community Pharmacy England (cpe.org.uk)](https://cpe.org.uk/digital-and-technology/data-security/data-security-training/)

[Data Security and Protection Toolkit Workshop - Community Pharmacy England (cpe.org.uk)](https://cpe.org.uk/our-work/updates-events/our-webinars/data-security-and-protection-ig-toolkit-workshop/)

**Community Pharmacy England Advice Audit: Request to gather evidence**

Community Pharmacy England (CPE, formerly PSNC) is asking pharmacies to record data about patients seeking informal advice (outside of the Pharmacy First service) over the course of any **single** day between 3rd June and 16th June 2024.

The audit has been designed to be as straightforward for pharmacy teams as it can be.

This is **not** a compulsory audit, and Community Pharmacy Essex has reflected back to CPE the apparent conflict between advising community pharmacy contractors not to undertake unfunded work and then requesting an unfunded audit into unfunded work.

<https://cpe.org.uk/quality-and-regulations/clinical-governance/clinical-audit/psnc-pharmacy-advice-audit/>

**Expression of Interest process for future Covid-19 vacs service campaigns**

NHS England has announced a new expression of interest (EOI) process for pharmacy owners who want to participate in future COVID-19 vaccination campaigns from September 2024 to March 2026. The EOI process is now open, and interested pharmacy owners can review the service specification and guidance documents. We welcome this recognition of an extended duration, and will pursue opportunities for those who are not in a position to submit an EoI at this time but who may wish to provide the service at a later date.

**Please note the deadline for this is midnight on Thursday 27th June 2024. We recommend submitting earlier than this in case of IT issues.**

<https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/dispensing-contractors-information/nhs-england-covid-19-vaccination-programme-1-september-2024-31-march-2026-site-sign-process>

**Pharmacy First Service**

We have now seen the February (1st month) national data for the Pharmacy First Service, however we recognise that this is likely to contain some inaccuracies following the MYS synchronisation problems and the introduction of Multi-Factor authentication (MFA): We will have more confidence in the data when we have a full quarter.

We promoted the service at the recent Basildon and Brentwood Alliance Time to Learn event, and have events booked in for North East Essex over the summer. If any of you are aware of suitable events in your area please let us know and we can provide materials, pull-up banners etc to support.

We had a committee meeting on May 15th, and members have fed back some of their experiences and comments they have received.

“Pharmacists are following the algorithm, however when patients are not happy, they then go to GP instead.”

“Practices are not obliged to refer patients, but if the system is straightforward, they may be more likely to. E-mail prompts are sometimes easier. Collaboration and talking to the practices are key. “

“Pharmacy First referrals were high at the beginning but have reduced slightly recently. Some have found that there have been staff changes and pharmacy teams have revisited to remind them of the process.”

“Pharmacies appear to be meeting their quotas of number of clinical pathways consultations passing the gateway point.”

If any pharmacy teams wish to purchase otoscopes, ear tips and pulse oximeters, please contact office@cpesx.org.uk for more information.



**Karen’s BIG birthday!!!**

As ever dedicated to the core, Karen came into the office to celebrate her birthday recently, we will leave it to you to work out how old she was!

**Conference and AGM 2024**

This year the AGM will be held separately to the annual Conference, and it will be virtual. Details of the date and postal votes will shared soon.

**Conference – development day**

Community Pharmacy Essex will be holding its conference in October this year on SUNDAY 27th OCTOBER 2024 at IVY HILL HOTEL, near Margaretting CM4 0EH and it is anticipated as part of the day we will also be organising some development sessions, including face to face vaccination training, patient care/services and top tips.

**Meetings taking place soon**

**Pharmacy Forum Meetings**

Wednesday 19th June 2024 – Pearl Dragon, Southend-on-Sea

Thursday 20th June 2024 – Banquet, Colchester

Monday 24th June 2024 – Kervan Kitchen, Brentwood

Thursday 27th June 2024 – Lian, Witham

Sunday 27th October 2024 – Annual Conference at Ivy Hill Hotel, Margaretting, CM4 0EH

*Details of all our events are widely circulated to Essex Community Pharmacies and appear on our website****.***

**Office Contact Points**

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***(Monday to Thursday 9am to 4pm)***

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