



Welcome to the newsletter	1	PQS Domain 3 Weight Management	2
Current System Pressures	1	Real-Time CGM for diabetic patients	3
Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs)	2	Training & Development Opportunities	3
NHS 111 Provider - Devon	2	Independent Prescribing	4
Christmas & New Year Opening Hours	2	Independent Prescribing Scoping Survey	4

**Welcome to the December edition of the LPC Golden Pages (spot our infamous Christmas Cracker Jokes!)**

Here we are galloping towards the end of another extremely busy and challenging year and the pressures are certainly not lessening as we are moving into the busiest supply weeks of the year and the ongoing demand and supply issues for antibiotics.

The LPC would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our pharmacy teams for your hard work and achievements during 2022, and hope that you will all be able to take some time out for a well-earned break.

**Current system pressures**

Two of the pillars of primary care; pharmacy and general practice are currently experiencing high levels of patient demand which is being fuelled by concerns over Strep A and antibiotic availability.

The Secretariat team has pulled together a selection of resources to help in your daily practice.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of December, MIMS learning published a free CPD module. This provides reminders for health care professionals on the signs and symptoms of scarlet fever and invasive group A streptococcus (GAS) infection and gives the management advice from the UK Health Security Agency. The learning can be accessed using the following link: [Free CPD module on MIMS Learning covers invasive group A streptococcus | GPonline](#)

Understandably parents are concerned, providing information and safety-netting advice gives reassurance and protection. The Healthier Together site has comprehensive safety-netting and parent information sheets for primary health care professionals [Safety netting & parent info sheets :: Healthier Together \(what0-18.nhs.uk\)](#) particularly useful is the tonsillitis/sore throat sheet [Tonsillitis/sore throat :: Healthier Together \(what0-18.nhs.uk\)](#)

Due to the current supply issues with liquid antibiotic formulations, the specialist pharmacy service has provided guidance on the use of solid oral dosage forms in place of oral suspensions in children: [Using solid oral dosage form antibiotics in children – SPS - Specialist Pharmacy Service – The first stop for professional medicines advice](#)

The Pharmacy Quality Scheme, Prevention domain provides the opportunity to audit and review your practice around respiratory tract infections, no time like the present! [UKHSA-letter-TARGET-patient-information-leaflets-Resources-to-support-the-2022-23-and-2023-24-Pharmacy-Quality-Schemes.pdf \(psnc.org.uk\)](#)

The Treating Your Infection Respiratory Tract Infection (TYI-RTI) patient information leaflet has been designed to be used with patients who are experiencing self-limiting RTIs. This leaflet supports implementation of recommendations in the NICE guidelines on processes for antimicrobial stewardship, behaviour change for antimicrobial stewardship and antibiotic prescribing for respiratory tract infections. See link below.

[Resources for the community pharmacy setting: RTI leaflet for community pharmacies \(rcgp.org.uk\)](#)

Useful read: <https://pharmaceutical-journal.com/article/ld/everything-you-need-to-know-about-group-a-streptococcus-infections>

**NICE provides a great 2-page visual summary for each of these conditions; the links are below:**

[Overview | Sore throat \(acute\): antimicrobial prescribing | Guidance | NICE](#)

[Overview | Sinusitis \(acute\): antimicrobial prescribing | Guidance | NICE](#)

[Overview | Otitis media \(acute\): antimicrobial prescribing | Guidance | NICE](#)

[Overview | Cough \(acute\): antimicrobial prescribing | Guidance | NICE](#)



\*\*\*\*\* *Why are there no pain killers in the jungle? – The PARROTS-ATE-THEM-ALL.* \*\*\*\*\*

**Hot off the press:-**

**Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs)** have been issued for phenoxymethylpenicillin medicines.

The SSPs will enable community pharmacists to supply patients with alternative forms of phenoxymethylpenicillin. The SSPs and the alternatives that can be supplied in accordance with them are shown in the table below. The SSPs are now available to view on the [dedicated SSP webpage](#), along with supporting guidance

---

**NHS 111 Provider - Devon**

The LPC emailed to all the community pharmacy shared NHS email accounts details of the new provider for 111 services in Devon and the healthcare professional phone number.

A copy of the email is included in the newsletter pack being posted out to all community pharmacies. The LPC are unable to put the details on their website as the phone number is not public facing.

---

**Community Pharmacy Christmas and New Year 2022-23 Opening Hours**

The SW NHSE regional pharmacy team has now published the opening times for community pharmacies over the Christmas and New Year period. We have links to the current information on the Devon LPC website along with the door posters you need to use and copies of the activity forms.

<https://devonlpc.org/pharmacy-resources/resources-a-f/bank-holiday-opening/>

**Action for Pharmacies:** Regarding daily pick-up patient prescriptions - please remember to make arrangements and ensure that the prescriber is aware of your opening hours.

Please use your Profile Manager <https://organisation.nhswebsite.nhs.uk/sign-in> login to update NHS UK <https://www.nhs.uk/> and DoS to reflect the opening & closing times of your pharmacy as stated within these sheets, plus any other changes.

For those pharmacies who have been commissioned by NHSE to open over the Christmas and New Year holiday period please use the online South West Community Pharmacy Bank Holiday Activity Form using the following link [Bank Holiday Activity Form](#) (please note this link has been updated recently, previous versions will no longer work) to record your activity for the hours you have been asked to open and submit to the team by no later than Friday 13 January 2022. NHSE will only be accepting your recorded activity through the online activity form. Payments will only be made for online submissions so please use this route to ensure you are paid.

Any pharmacies open after 5pm are also asked to email in their activity form to show demand hour by hour after 5pm to help inform future commissioning decisions. Email to: [england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net](mailto:england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net)

**NB:** NHS England has confirmed that all community pharmacy **Directory of Service (DoS)** and **NHS website** profiles will automatically be set to show as **closed** on Sunday 25th December 2022 (Christmas Day).

**What you need to do**

***If your pharmacy will be open on Sunday 25th December (Christmas Day), please update NHS Profile Manager in the 'Temporary changes to opening times' section, to indicate the hours that your pharmacy will be open. If you do not do this, your pharmacy will show as 'Closed' on Sunday 25th December.***

***If your pharmacy will be closed on Sunday 25th December, you do not need to do anything.***

---

\*\*\*\*\* *A guy walks into a pharmacy: "I have extreme headaches, my belly cramps, I feel like I'm about to vomit and my back hurts like something tears the muscles apart. Do you have something? Pharmacist: Nope, I feel fine!* \*\*\*\*\*



---

**Pharmacy Quality Scheme Domain 3 – Healthy Living Support: Weight Management**

PSNC has agreed that contractors will only have to participate in one mandatory national health campaign for 2022/23. This campaign will be on **Weight Management**; find below further details regarding the campaign. It supports work that many teams will be undertaking to meet the PQS requirements.

### Campaign Timing:

- Campaign Starts on **Tuesday 3rd January 2023**
- Campaign Ends **Sunday 29th January 2023**.

### Campaign Resources:

- Contractors can order pharmacy specific posters, wallet cards ('info' cards with a QR code signposting people to the Better Health website and free tips and tools to lose weight) and a dispenser for these cards on the [Campaign Resource Centre](#) website.
- Alternatively, pharmacy teams can choose to use **digital resources** as part of the campaign, which are also available to download on the Campaign Resource Centre website also. These include digital screens for pharmacies, web banners and email signatures.

### Recording of Conversations:

- As part of the Healthy Living support domain of the 2022/23 Pharmacy Quality Scheme, pharmacy teams are required to proactively discuss weight management with **a minimum of 25 patients and refer at least four patients (who meets the criteria for referral) to either a Local Authority funded tier 2 weight management service or the NHS Digital Weight Management Programme**. Pharmacy teams could use the campaign materials as conversation starters to assist them with meeting these requirements.
- There is a requirement for all pharmacies to upload their data for this Health Campaign onto PharmOutcomes, you can find the manual tally sheet on the LPC website.
- NHSE will then require you to complete the evaluation survey on PharmOutcomes from Monday **13 February to 24 February 2023** to report your figures; even if it is a nil return (further details to be provided).

Find a **guidance leaflet** on the LPC website to support community pharmacy teams' conversations with patients. Links to the three Devon local authority commissioned Healthy Lifestyle services are on the [LPC website](#) to help you with signposting and creation of the action plan required under the PQS domain.

---

### Real-Time Continuous Glucose Monitoring (RT-CGM) for diabetic patients

NICE Guidance has changed, rt-CGM is now on Drug Tariff – you will see patients starting to come in asking for Dexcom ONE. Dexcom ONE is now recommended locally, in line with the new CGM commissioning policy [here](#).

The sensors may be prescribed on FP10, but the transmitters cannot – they are available Free of Charge to pharmacies to provide to patients. You must ensure that you have transmitters available to give out at the patients request. You can order these using the details on the attached poster.

For further support visit: [uk.provider.dexcom.com/pharmacy](http://uk.provider.dexcom.com/pharmacy) or email [pharmacyuk@dexcom.com](mailto:pharmacyuk@dexcom.com)

---

### Training and Development opportunities

#### Funded NHS leadership programmes for pharmacy technicians 2023 – HEE Winter training offer now live

In line with The Pharmacy Technician and Pharmacy Support Staff Workforce Development Strategy, work is underway to make sure that the current workforce of pharmacy technicians benefits from increased post-registration opportunities to develop their leadership skills.

Recognising the need for a cohort of senior pharmacy technician leaders and the contribution they make to patients and health care systems, working with the NHS Leadership Academy, Health Education England (HEE) are funding leadership training offers for pharmacy technicians on the Mary Seacole and Rosalind Franklin programmes.

Such training will enable the pharmacy technician workforce in all sectors across England to develop their leadership skills whether they are in their first leadership role or in a mid-level leadership role.

[Health Education England and the NHS Leadership Academy are pleased to announce that applications for the Mary Seacole and Rosalind Franklin programmes starting from February 2023 are now open.](#)

55 places on the Mary Seacole programme and 12 places on the Rosalind Franklin programme will be available to pharmacy technicians who meet the required eligibility criteria:

### Funding

Leadership training on both courses is available to pharmacy technicians who meet the eligibility criteria. The Mary Seacole places are fully funded by Health Education England and the Rosalind Franklin are fully funded in partnership with the NHS Leadership Academy.

Please visit the [HEE website](#) to find out more about this exciting new offer.

For any further enquiries, please contact [clinicalleadership@leadershipacademy.nhs.uk](mailto:clinicalleadership@leadershipacademy.nhs.uk).

---

### Independent Prescribing

There are still funded places for Independent Prescribing Courses at the University of Bath. Start date: February 2023 Apply by 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023 Fully remote course [Apply here](#)

Start date: March 2023 Apply by 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023 Combination of remote and face to face workshops (application process not yet live due to go live mid-January 2023).

The link below takes you to information from Health Education England regarding IP courses. Select the Pharmacy Integration Programme option.

<https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/pharmacy/independent-prescribing>

---

### Devon LPC Community Pharmacist Independent Prescribing Scoping Survey

We'd like to scope your intent to train as an independent prescriber. Whether or not you are already an IP, are currently training to be an IP, are interested in becoming an IP, are not interested in becoming an IP or if you are unsure please complete this survey as soon as possible. It does not take more than a minute and the information is so important for us and the local system to plan ahead to ensure we maximise the opportunities for service delivery available from 2026 when all new pharmacy graduates will be independent prescribers

***Summary information may be shared with the Devon ICS and Health Education England but your individual responses or identifiable information will not be shared.***

This survey has also been sent out to pharmacy contractors in Somerset, Avon and Gloucestershire by their respective LPCs. Here is the link to the survey <https://form.jotform.com/223384038893060>

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact [sue@devonlpc.org](mailto:sue@devonlpc.org).

Thank you for your time in completing this survey.

---

\*\*\*\*\* A chemist walks into a pharmacy and asks the pharmacist, "Do you have any acetylsalicylic acid?"



– "You mean aspirin?" asked the pharmacist.

– "That's it! I can never remember that word." \*\*\*\*\*

---

### DEVON LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEE [www.devonlpc.org](http://www.devonlpc.org)

<b>Chief Officer:</b>	Sue Taylor	Email: <a href="mailto:sue@devonlpc.org">sue@devonlpc.org</a>
<b>Office Manager:</b>	Kathryn Jones	Email: <a href="mailto:Kathrynj@devonlpc.org">Kathrynj@devonlpc.org</a>
<b>Service Development &amp; Implementation Lead</b>	Anna White	Email: <a href="mailto:anna@devonlpc.org">anna@devonlpc.org</a>
<b>Director of Strategy</b>	David Bearman	Email: <a href="mailto:dbearman1@aol.com">dbearman1@aol.com</a>
<b>Professional Support Pharmacist:</b>	Tom Kallis	Email: <a href="mailto:Tomk@devonlpc.org">Tomk@devonlpc.org</a>

Devon LPC Secretariat, Room 16, Partridge House, A38, Kennford, EXETER EX6 7TW

Telephone: 01392 719604 **Locums and pharmacy teams members are welcome to read our newsletter.**

If you would like us to add or remove your email address from our database, please email [admin@devonlpc.org](mailto:admin@devonlpc.org)

