

Local Pharmacy Catch-up

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Issue 6

North Staffs & Stoke
PHARMACY COMMITTEE



Pharmacy in North Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent working as part of the NHS, with CCGs and the public health department to deliver services for our local communities.

A Word from the Chair

Welcome to the June issue of the LPC newsletter.



I hope that you are all enjoying this lovely summer weather so far! All pharmacies are required to promote Skin Awareness throughout August and September so please be prepared for the heatwave and ensure you have all the correct information and resources at hand to enable safe and effective advice throughout the summer. North Staffs & Stoke are very fortunate to have secured funding to provide free training events throughout the year to improve and update your skills and knowledge. If you missed the diabetes training event do not fear there is another training event on 8th July for Skin conditions. This training event ties in with the public health campaigns for skin awareness and you will receive a free resource pack to help you promote the campaign. So, if you would like to attend just go to the LPC website and complete a booking form. You must book on before Friday 3rd July so we know numbers for catering.

I have heard recently about a very worrying case of young people taking part in the 'Paracetamol Challenge' via social media sites. The "craze" has already resulted in one teenager being hospitalized. The teenager's devastated parents said she did not collapse until days after taking the over-the-counter medicine, she sadly died a few days later. "We are urging parents to talk to their children about the potential dangers of taking paracetamol, and to discourage their children from engaging in any online activity in support of this dangerous craze." Alan Ward, head of schools at East Ayrshire Council. Please be vigilant of any requests for excessive amounts of paracetamol and provide the necessary advice and warnings of the overuse of paracetamol which can result in liver damage causing nausea and vomiting. In extreme cases, it can lead to inhibited brain function, haemorrhaging, fluid on the brain and death.

Regards Nita

Skin Conditions Training
Event -Book Now via the LPC
Website!

www.northstaffslpc.co.uk

Go to *Events* and book your
place! One booking form per
person!

Wednesday 8th July

The Medical Institute

6.30pm Food

7.15pm-9.00pm

Training Session

**Deadline to book Friday 3rd
July**

**If you are a HLP this training
session will really benefit you
in your skin awareness
campaign for August.**

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Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Partnership NHS Trust

timetoquit

You may be aware of the changes in smoking services for Staffordshire. There is now one provider only, SSOTP (time to quit) of which you can subcontract from. For more information regarding this new service contract go to the LPC website and look in the 'Services' section to find 'smoking cessation'.
<http://www.northstaffslpc.co.uk/our-news/time-to-quit-new-smoking-service-contract/>



The Common Ailments Scheme has been extended to 30th September 2015 in all areas. It will be reviewed over the next few months with a new SLA expected to be drawn up for a re-launch in October. Please look out for any training events in September in preparation for the relaunch.

Flutter Device Prescriptions



You may start to see FP10 prescriptions for the flutter 'Oscillatory Positive Expiratory Pressure Device'. On pharmacy systems they are listed as 'Flutter Mucus Clearing/Clearance Device' code: 3102000. These devices are allowed on FP10 and are not classed as a special item.

Controlled Drugs Update

Change in Controlled Drugs Accountable Officer

Following the re-organisation within NHS England, the role of the Controlled Drugs Accountable Officer has now been transferred from Brigid Stacey to Sam Travis. Sam is now the Accountable Officer for NHS England North Midlands which covers Shropshire, Staffordshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.

All contact details for the Accountable Officer remain the same:

☎ 0113 825 4630

✉ england.cd_x24n@nhs.net

Update on Schedule 2 & 3 Controlled Drugs and EPS

Legislation will come into force on 1 July 2015 to allow controlled drugs listed under schedules 2 and 3 to be prescribed and dispensed using EPS

However, it should be noted that although this means using EPS for Schedule 2 & 3 controlled drugs will be legal, it will be some time later that it becomes technically possible as all EPS enabled dispensing system suppliers have to amend their systems before a GP system (which also need amending) can prescribe to a nominated dispenser. The HSCIC will be assuring supplier systems conform technically to legislative change requirements.

<http://systems.hscic.gov.uk/eps/news>

Krokodil (desomorphine) Alert

Please be aware of a new drug surfacing in and around Stoke-On-Trent. There have been reported hospital admissions due to Krokodil / Desomorphine, one resulting in leg amputation. This drug which originated in Russia, is an opioid derivative of codeine. Like heroin and other opioids it has a sedative and analgesic effect and is highly addictive. There are numerous impacts on an individual's health that Krokodil may have on an individual such as:

- Blood vessel damage
- Open ulcers, gangrene, phlebitis
- Skin and soft tissue infections
- Skin grafts/surgery
- Limb amputations
- Pneumonia
- Blood poisoning
- Rotting gums/tooth loss
- Bone infections
- Speech and motor skills impairment
- Memory loss and impaired concentration
- Liver and Kidney damage
- DEATH

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Medicines Optimisation 'Promotes good quality prescribing which involves the use of medicines which are evidence based, cost-effective and safe.'



What is CPD4ALL?

The Medicines Optimisation Team ensures more communication between GPs and Community Pharmacies when changes in prescribing medicines are implemented. When the Medicines Optimisation Team Technicians from Stoke-on-Trent CCG and North Staffs CCG make medication changes and suggestions in GP practices that they will call in to/phone local community pharmacies closest to the surgery they are working in. This will notify pharmacies of the changes being made to try to avoid any potential stock issues, such as unused medicines or stock shortfalls.

The Technician will ensure they speak to a regular member of pharmacy staff (the regular pharmacist or technician) not a Locum so that the message is communicated to the whole pharmacy team. The Medicines Optimisation Team have assured the LPC that they will communicate regularly throughout the year for each change they propose and not just once at the start of a year.

Are you aware of the local joint formulary?? Ever wondered why GPs prescribe some drugs and not others?

The North Staffordshire Joint Formulary (NSJF) has been developed jointly between North Staffordshire CCG, Stoke-on-Trent CCG, University Hospital of North Staffordshire NHS Trust and North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust. It is applicable to all prescribers working within primary care or hospitals across North Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent. The main aim of the Joint Formulary is to promote safe, effective and economic prescribing in both general practice and hospital. Use of the Joint Formulary will also help to ensure seamless prescribing for patients between Primary and Secondary Care, thereby reducing the confusion and possible errors that can happen when medications are changed.

Link to formulary on public access CCG website:

<http://www.stokeccg.nhs.uk/joint-formulary>

<http://northstaffscg.verseone.com/joint-formulary>

Antibiotic guidelines and advice to patients.

The North Staffordshire area has been one of the highest prescribers of antibiotics for many years and the CCG have been tackling this issue through a number of strategies. Please go to the LPC website where you can find some useful guides on antibiotics and why they are not always needed

(<http://www.northstaffslpc.co.uk/resources/medicines-management-at-a-glance-guides/>). Please share with your colleagues and spread the word to patients to help the ongoing battle against increasing antibiotic resistance. Commonly patients are given the wrong information about seeking antibiotics from their GP for conditions that could actually be managed without. Ensure your pharmacy is giving the correct advice by sharing the guidance with your pharmacy colleagues.



Community Pharmacy Programme

Do you want to feel more confident in your professional role? Do you want to advance your pharmacy career? If the answer is yes, then why not enrol on our community pharmacy programme.

During the first year you will study 5 clinical areas, develop skills in critical appraisal and study a public health module.

During the second year you can either continue with the second year of the

programme or opt to complete the Independent Prescribing programme to complete your Diploma. The Community Pharmacy Programme is delivered on-line, at a distance and

assessment is through work based coursework. Apply now for a September start.

You can also complete this programme via our flexible CPD Plus+ pathway allowing you to build a very open and flexible route to a postgraduate award. This route also provides flexible start and completion dates throughout the year to suite you. For more information visit:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/pharmacy/pg/modules/communitypharmacy/>

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EPS Go- Lives

Biddulph Valley Surgery – 23rd July

Biddulph Doctors- 29th July

Sarah Banks IT Project Manager from NHS Midlands and Lancashire Commissioning Support Unit has provided some very useful information to help and support the transition into EPS.

Sarah recommends that all pharmacies save a link to the tracker in their favourite's and that they register for the incident alerts.

Here is the link to the **prescription tracker**, this is a very useful tool to ensure that your prescriptions are not 'lost' on the spine or that they may go to another pharmacy.
<http://systems.hscic.gov.uk/eps/library/rxtracker>

Link to a factsheet for pharmacies:
<http://systems.hscic.gov.uk/eps/dispensing>



PSNC News

Summary Care Record access to be rolled out to community pharmacies

Community pharmacists across England will be given the opportunity to access the Summary Care Record (SCR), in new plans announced today. This follows a successful proof of concept trial of community pharmacy access to the NHS Summary Care Record (SCR). NHS England has commissioned the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) to support all community pharmacies in England to implement access to the SCR.



More information, available at: dld.bz/dHAqK

EPS: New Service Live Reports

The Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) has made live service status information available to community pharmacy contractors through their Smartcard. The Service Status pages show the availability of national infrastructure services, such as EPS, Spine, N3 and the Care Identity Service, which manages Smartcard access. This means that a pharmacy team experiencing problems accessing or processing an electronic prescription can see at a glance if there is a national service issue and, if it is not,



Users can be confident that they should contact their supplier's helpdesk. More information about the service reports is available at: dld.bz/dGVkp

New Repeat Dispensing resources

A **Repeat Dispensing Referral Form** has just been added to the Repeat Dispensing section of our website. This can be used by pharmacy teams to refer patients suitable for the Repeat Dispensing service to their GP practice. Additionally, NHS England has this week published **Electronic Repeat Dispensing - Guidance**. This document clearly describes how Electronic Repeat Dispensing works and is aimed at CCGs and GP practice teams. Pharmacy contractors may want to use the document in discussions with local GP practices. Both of these new resources can be found at: psnc.org.uk/repeatdispensing

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Drug Tariff Price Concessions



The Department of Health granted the following price concessions for June 2015:

Pack size	Price	
Baclofen 10mg tablets	84	£6.50
Clonidine 25microgram tablets	112	£9.50
Chlorphenamine 2mg/5ml oral solution (new)	150ml	£2.49
Diclofenac Sodium 50mg gastro-resistant tablets (new)	28	£2.68
Digoxin 125microgram tablets	28	£4.99
Digoxin 250microgram tablets	28	£4.45
Digoxin 62.5microgram tablets	28	£4.20
Exemestane 25mg tablets (new)	30	£29.00
Fosinopril 10mg tablets	28	£13.85
Fosinopril 20mg tablets	28	£15.49
Lisinopril 20mg / Hydrochlorothiazide 12.5mg tablets	28	£7.75
Lofepramine 70mg tablets	56	£20.00
Mebeverine 135mg tablets	100	£11.99
Mefenamic acid 250mg capsules	100	£12.75
Mefenamic acid 500mg tablets	28	£11.50
Sodium Cromoglicate 2% eye drops	13.5ml	£5.25
Trimethoprim 100mg tablets	28	£6.99
Trimethoprim 200mg tablets	14	£5.70
Trimethoprim 200mg tablets	6	£2.44

Deletions from Part VIIIA Effective from August 2015

Carbocisteine 125mg/5ml oral solution 300ml Category C
Mucodyne syrup

Cefixime 100mg/5ml oral suspension 100ml Category C
Suprax

Rupatadine 10mg tablets 30, Category C Rupafin

Carbocisteine 125mg/5ml oral solution 300ml Category C
Mucodyne syrup

Cefixime 100mg/5ml oral suspension 100ml Category C

Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency

Drug Safety Alerts

[High-dose ibuprofen and cardiovascular risks](#)

EU review confirms that the cardiovascular risk of high-dose ibuprofen (≥ 2400 mg/day) is similar to COX 2 inhibitors and diclofenac. Avoid use of high-dose ibuprofen (≥ 2400 mg per day) in patients with established:

- ischaemic heart disease
- peripheral arterial disease
- cerebrovascular disease
- congestive heart failure (New York Heart Association [NYHA] classification II-III)
- uncontrolled hypertension

SGLT2 inhibitors (canagliflozin, dapagliflozin, empagliflozin): risk of diabetic ketoacidosis

For advice on treating patients who are taking an SGLT2 inhibitor (canagliflozin, dapagliflozin or empagliflozin) go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/slt2-inhibitors-canagliflozin-dapagliflozin-empagliflozin-risk-of-diabetic-ketoacidosis>

[Intrauterine contraception: uterine perforation—updated information on risk factors](#)

The most important risk factors for uterine perforation are insertion during lactation and insertion in the 36 weeks after giving birth.

For more information visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update>

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HLP Campaign Calendar for 2015 / 2016

June/ July 2015		Sexual Health - Contraception
August/ September 2015		Skin Care – Sun Awareness and skin conditions
October/ November 2015		Stoptober and Respiratory conditions- Sleep apnoea
December 2015 / January 2016		Substance Misuse
February 2016 / March 2016		Dementia

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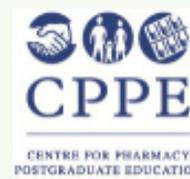
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Upcoming CPPE events



Dates for your diary - These events are open to all GPhC registrants and can be booked via the CPPE website.

Please note that food is served at 7pm and the learning event starts at 7 30pm.

Safeguarding Workshop:

28th September 7 30 – 9 30pm, Keele Hall

30th September 7.30 – 9.30pm, Lichfield

Future events - Watch out over the summer for dates to be released for our new Parkinson's Disease focal point.

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