

Local Pharmacy Catch-up

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Issue 9

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

Hello and Welcome to the September issue of the LPC newsletter.



Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter this month and please share it with your pharmacy teams and any locum pharmacists who don't receive it directly.

Firstly I would also like to announce a change to our LPC membership. Election for a new independent rep took place in August and I am delighted to announce that Clare Stott, has been elected.

There has been a lot going on in community pharmacy over the last month and I particularly want to mention NHS flu vaccination service. It is vital that as many pharmacies as possible deliver this service and encourage as many pharmacists as possible to complete the training and declaration of competence. Please see the LPC website for details on how you can take part.

The new common ailments service will be commencing from the 1st October across Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire. It is great to see that we have one service that covers all of our area that will be less confusing for patients and encourage wider participation. Please make sure you read the SLA and return a signed copy as soon as possible to the area team.

Lastly I would like to mention that on November 18th the LPC will be running a Think Pharmacy event jointly with South Staffordshire LPC. This event will be open to commissioners and contractors to showcase pharmacy now and what we can deliver as a profession in the future. The event will be held in the evening for contractors at Uttoxeter race course. Please look out of your invitation over the next few days.

*Regards
Nita.*

Support Stoptober in your pharmacy!



Last year Trent Health Pharmacy held a mouth cancer awareness day in conjunction with Stoptober, be inspired and do the same in your pharmacy!

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Local Community Pharmacist
Raises Funds for Charity

Crisis Fundraising

Mike Morrell from Morrells Pharmacy, Milehouse, Newcastle-Under-Lyme is taking part in raising funds for crisis homeless charity supporting his daughter.

A word from Mike;

Dear Colleagues

My daughter Lily is walking 35 miles to raise funds for Crisis the homeless charity. To support her in her efforts I am having my head shaved on 23rd October at 1pm at my pharmacy. If you would like to support our efforts contact me, Mike Morrell on 01782 717545 or go to www.justgiving/LilyswalkforCrisis2015

It is a sobering thought that last week a report suggested 100,000 children are defined as homeless in this country

Thank you for your time and any support you can give

Have you completed the short mental health toolkit survey on PharmOutcomes yet?

PharmOutcomes® Delivering Evidence
Home Services Reports Claims Admin Gallery He
Service Design Mental Health Toolkit Feedback

If you haven't done so already, we need as many people to complete this really short survey, there are only FOUR questions! If we get a good response NHSE may provide funding for more excellent training events for pharmacies! So please log in and complete this short survey.

Many thanks



PSNC News



Notifications to GP Surgeries

The National Flu service is now well under way. We need to deliver this service to a high standard and ensure that we vaccinate as many eligible people as possible.

We have had a number of reports from local GP surgeries that Pharmacies have not been sending notifications appropriately. Please follow these instructions when sending notifications:

The National Advanced Service Specification only the following items are to be notified to practices:

- the patient's name, address, date of birth and NHS number (where known);
- the date of the administration of the vaccine;
- the applicable Read V2, SNOMED CT or CTV3 codes; and
- any adverse reaction to the vaccination and action taken/recommended to manage the adverse reaction.

PharmOutcomes is set up to notify the above information by email to the GP practice's registered nhs.net email address, and contractors are NOT required to provide any further information about flu vaccination provided under the NHS service.

One further point - PharmOutcomes has identified a few practices as not having a registered nhs.net email address; these were recorded for all practices in Shropshire & Staffordshire last winter however it is possible that some may have changed - if you encounter this message then notification will need to be sent fax or by hand to the practice within the required 48 hours. You may also find practices outside of Shropshire & Staffordshire also don't have registered addresses.

Please notify the LPC any practices this happens for and we will pass the information on to NHS England.

Supplies of Vaccines

Be prepared and do not run out of stock! If you are running low on supplies and are experiencing any difficulties in obtaining vaccines inform your LPC and we will provide links to where to get them from.

CPPE Declaration of Competence

Log into CPPE and find the DOC for the flu service you will find a list of competences they suggest you obtain before undertaking the flu service. Competences include; consultation skills, safeguarding, immunization in pharmacies, PGD, influenza. The learning, which is suggested learning, for these competencies do not have to be done via the CPPE, hence if you have completed a training course that covers these competences you can write the details of your training programme on the DOC form. Keep the DOC safe and be able to produce it if the GPhC inspector and Area Team visits the pharmacy.

Local Pharmacy Catch-up

Local Intelligence on Illegal Substances

We have recently received a report from our Forensic provider, with information regarding a number of new(ish) powders and crystals that are being illegally supplied within the Staffordshire area, though mainly in the North of the county.

Alpha-PVP and Alpha-PBP (MDPV Alpha-PVP and Alpha-PBP are all very similar in chemicals structure).

Although all of these drugs are derivatives from Cathinone and are Class B controlled drugs in a similar fashion to Mephedrone – they are quite different in chemical composition to other Mephedrone type drugs and there have been reported dangers associated with their use.

Recently over the last few months we have seen a new wave of drugs based on the Alpha-PVP type structure including Fluoro-A-PVP, PV8, PV9 PVT and many more combinations – these all are Class B drugs under the same generic legislation.



Management of Diabetes During Illness in the Community

Changes under the heading “Supplementary Information” - there are 2 meters that can test for both blood glucose and ketones, namely Freestyle Optium and GlucoMen LX, the most cost effective strips being the Glucomen LX Ketone Test Strips; also 2 urine testing strips that can be prescribed, namely Ketostix and Mission Ketone, the most cost effective of which are the Mission Ketone strips.

Quantity Synchronisation to Reduce Medicines Waste

Care homes usually work with a 28 day medication cycle. Therefore, please check if there are any medicines that are being prescribed as original packs of greater than 28 days, e.g. macrogol sachets are available in packs of 30. If the dose is one daily, there is the potential for two sachets to be wasted every month.

Have you ever been asked your opinion on herbal medicines during a patient consultation?

The European Medicine Agency have launched helpful and patient friendly summary leaflets for common herbal medicines with more to be published soon. They contain a summary of the scientific conclusions reached by the Committee on Herbal Medicinal Products (HMPC) on the medicinal uses of common herbal medicines.

http://www.ema.europa.eu/ema/index.jsp?curl=pages/news_and_events/news/2015/07/news_detail_002385.jsp&mid=WC0b01ac058004d5c1

New Patient Information Leaflet – For Supply of Fosfomycin

As you will be aware three community pharmacies across both North Staffordshire CCG and Stoke-on-Trent CCG currently hold stock of fosfomycin trometamol for lower UTIs to meet supply on FP10 from a GP practice. These pharmacies are:

- Trent Health Pharmacy LTD, 339 Ash Bank Road Werrington. ST9 0JS Tel: 01782 302372
- Cornwells Chemist, High Street, Newcastle, Staffordshire. ST5 1RB Tel: 01782 616519
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 25-27 Stoke Road, Shelton. ST5 2QW Tel: 01782 848670

As a result of a 6 month review of the SLA for supply the Patient Information Leaflet has been amended to reflect that fact that not all Community Pharmacies provide a prescription collection and delivery service. Please find attached to this newsletter, a copy of the new PIL for your information.

The service aims to ensure that any patients with a microbiological recommendation to have fosfomycin prescribed have access to the stock on the day that is prescribed/needed to begin treatment without a delay. This is because it is a special order product and there is usually a delay of 48 hours between ordering and delivery of stock.

If a patient presents with a prescription for fosfomycin trometamol (and you are not part of the SLA for supply), contact one of the above pharmacies and send the patient to have the prescription dispensed there.

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Link to EPS Newsletter

The HSCIC has now published a newsletter with all the up to date EPS information you need to know! Here are a few highlights from July's issue:

- **CD Prescribing and Dispensing Implementation**
- **Electronic Repeat Dispensing**

- **Enhanced Prescription Tracker**

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

Go Live Dates!

[Dr. Rabie & Partners \(M83023\)](#)
Kidsgrove – 15/10/15

[Werrington Village Surgery \(M830\)](#)
Werrington- 21/10/15

[Higherland Surgery \(M83140\)](#)
Newcastle-Under-Lyme -26/10/15

[Moss Green \(Y00592\),](#)
Bentilee Neighbourhood
Centre
Dawlish Drive- 3/11/15

Nomination Forms

The Commissioning Support Unit for NHS Midlands and Lancashire have received information from a few practices that pharmacies have been sending patient nomination forms to their surgery and have been asking them to set the nomination. **Please do not send patient nomination forms to your GP Practice!**

Once the patient has signed the nomination form the pharmacy should set the nomination via their own computer system.

For guidance on EPS please go the LPC website.

<http://www.northstaffslpc.co.uk/resources/electronic-prescription-service-eps/latest-eps-news/>

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

Temporary Access Smart Cards

The HSCIC is aware of the potential business continuity risks associated with lost or stolen Smartcards and has issued guidance to local RA teams so that locked [Temporary Access Cards \(TACs\)](#) can be provided to pharmacies that consider themselves at risk.

TACs are Smartcards with a pre-defined set of pharmacist access rights. They can be activated by the sponsor or Local Smartcard Administrator, in conjunction with the pharmacist who requires the card. Contact your RA team if you are interested in obtaining a TAC.

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Palliative Care Service

Please note the previous 'Palliative Care Drug Packs' service was discontinued towards the end of 2012.

The service was re-designed with the aim of re-establishing a network of pharmacies that would hold stock of the main EOL medicines. The Tier 1 Pharmacies commissioned to provide this service would then dispense as per normal on receipt of a valid FP10 prescription. The prescription could be for any combination or quantity of the named EOL medicines and therefore a new prescribing template was not set up on clinical systems for this reason. A Tier 2 service has also been piloted in the last 12 months (offering second line options).

Following evaluation of the tiered service, the Area Team are now re-launching as a single service, with additions to the range of medications to be kept in stock and an adjustment to the pharmacies now offering the service.

Click [HERE](#) to view letter.

Information for pharmacies commissioned to deliver substance misuse services from CRI

You may be aware that Stoke City Council has recently tendered their substance misuse services. This tender is now completed, and CRI will no longer service patients from 1st November. The new provider will be Lifeline. Please see the details attached. For those pharmacies who currently have an agreement to offer substance misuse services to CRI patients (i.e. Stoke-on-Trent patients) you will receive a SLA in the post next week which you need to sign ASAP. These agreement will cover you until 31st October 2015. The agreement is exactly the same as previous years. The LPC are now working with the new providers, Lifeline, to assist them with service implementation, SLA and payments provisions from the pharmacy perspective.

Please contact Tania cork with any queries.

EHC - Could you be losing out on payments due to incorrect claims?

Each month public health are returning many claims to the LPC for verification. Please read this and ensure you are completing the correct modules as payment cannot be guaranteed if you do not do this.

EHC Patient Registration - must be completed.

EHC Stage 1 Consultation- must be completed for every patient interaction and this is the module which generates your professional fee.

EHC Stage 2 Supply - complete the module which corresponds to the drug supplied. This generates payment for medication. Too many pharmacies are only completing half of the required modules and payment is now being withheld until claims can be verified. This is generating unacceptable workload for Public health colleagues as well as for your LPC as we are being asked to confirm payments every month with various contractors.

Pharmacy First Common Ailments Event.

The new version of the common ailments service has now gone live from the 1st October.

Please make sure you are familiar with the changes to the service.

Some of the key changes:

- Patient Eligibility- now includes those with a pre-payment certificate.
- The supply must be made in the consultation room.
- Patient Consent- If the consultation is conducted live onto Pharmoutcomes then tick the consent box, if it is carried out on paper then must get patient written consent.
- Patient NHS number is needed (However if not obtainable in certain circumstances the supply can still be made).

New conditions-

- Chicken pox
- Warts and verrucas
- Fungal skin conditions (formerly athletes foot)

There will be limits on how many times a patient can have treatments for any one condition.

Please make sure you send your SLA into Andy Pickard to enable you to provide this service. You have been sent leaflets and posters to advertise the service. It may be useful to hand some to your GP surgery.



Local Pharmacy Catch-up

Drug Tariff Price Concessions



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

Drug	Pack size	Price concession
Celiprolol 200mg tablets	28	£19.83
Cimetidine 400mg tablets	60	£6.09
Clindamycin 150mg capsules	24	£12.75
Diclofenac Sodium 50mg gastro-resistant tablets	28	£2.73
Digoxin 125microgram tablets	28	£3.45
Digoxin 250microgram tablets	28	£3.75
Digoxin 62.5microgram tablets	28	£4.45
Fosinopril 20mg tablets	28	£15.40
Lamotrigine 5mg dispersible tablets sugar free	28	£8.99
Mefenamic acid 500mg tablets	28	£12.20
Trazodone 50mg/5ml oral solution sugar free	120ml	£117.00

A new smartphone app for reporting side effects to the Yellow Card Scheme has now launched.

The free app enables healthcare professionals, patients, or carer's to report any suspected side effects directly to us—a convenient and secure alternative to using paper Yellow Card forms or the Yellow Card website.

Download the app via [iTunes Yellow Card](#) for iOS devices or via [PlayStore Yellow Card](#) for Android devices.

Medicines and Healthcare
Products Regulatory Agency

Drug Safety Alerts

[Lacri-Lube Eye Ointment - small black particles on or around the nozzle of the tube](#)

(Allergan Limited) Small number of complaints have been received about small black particles found on or around the nozzle of the tube (EL (15) A/08).

Alert type:

Drug alert

Medical specialism:

Pharmacy

[Latanoprost \(Xalatan\): increased reporting of eye irritation since reformulation](#)

In 2013, the Xalatan pH was reduced from 6.7 to 6.0 to allow for long-term storage at room temperature. Following this reformulation there has been an increase in the number of reports of eye irritation from across the EU. We received no Yellow Card reports of eye irritation in people using Xalatan in the year before the reformulation, compared with 22 reports in the year after reformulation.

It is important that patients continue their treatment.

Therefore advise patients to tell their health professional promptly (within a week) if they have eye irritation (eg excessive watering) severe enough to make them consider stopping treatment. Review treatment and prescribe a different formulation if necessary.

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HLP Campaign Calendar for 2015 / 2016

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

Champix Training

The Medical Institute, Hartshill.

- **Tuesday 20th October**
- **Wednesday 25th November**

6.30pm arrival.

CPPE DoC Update August 2015

CPPE have made some improvements to the DoC process on their website.

They have added a 5th step to the DoC process and this allows you to confirm on the CPPE website that you have signed your DoC and the date you signed it. Once you complete Step 5 you will see this green tick icon beside the topic.

This also shows up on your “My CPPE” Learning Record – go into your learning record and then select the newly added “DoC services” filter and you will see a list of services, within each service will be a list of any relevant learning you have completed and where you have completed a DoC you’ll also see the green tick icon. 

Following this update, when you look at the list of services via your record you will also be prompted to allow CPPE viewer and allow CPPE to talk to PharmOutcomes (unless you have already authorised it) – simply follow the onscreen instructions.

CPPE Viewer has been updated so that when enabled it will allow the viewer to see your DoCs along with the date signed and any learning you have completed. Many commissioners are happy for you to simply confirm that you have completed a DoC in the enrolment module on PharmOutcomes. However, if a commissioner wants to see the DoC this new function will allow them to view the DoC without the need for you to print it out and send it.