

# GP Bulletin

Date 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019 / Issue 307

## About this bulletin

To minimise the number of emails sent to practices, the Local Regional Team is using this weekly bulletin as its main method of communicating with practice managers covering the 350 practices in Bristol, Somerset, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire, Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. The bulletins contain important information for practice managers, which might include requests for information and deadlines, as well as updates on issues relating to GP contracts.

Copies of the bulletins and attachments are available on our website:  
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/south/info-professional/medical/dcis/gp-bulletin/>

If you have any questions or wish to provide feedback, please contact the Primary Care Team: [england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net](mailto:england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net)

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- Items for Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Practices only
  - None

## Key Deadlines

CQRS declarations for payment in the same month	9 <sup>th</sup> of each month	Via CQRS
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DSQS return	Friday 22 March 2019	Via email to <a href="mailto:england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net">england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net</a>
Maternity, paternity, parental or sickness absence	Last working day of each month	Via email to <a href="mailto:england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net">england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net</a>

## • Items for all Practices

### DSQS

We want to remind all dispensing practices that the second DSQS return needs to be sent in to us by close of business on Friday 22 March 2019 in order for us to process it before 31 March 2019. Once the Responsible GP has signed the form to confirm that the information provided is correct, it should be scanned and emailed to [england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net](mailto:england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net)

When calculating the number of DRUMs undertaken, please bear in mind the following:

- don't forget to include patients who have left the practice or are now deceased in your searches
- patients should only be counted once, even if they have had two (or more) DRUMs during the year. Technically it is the number of patients who have had at least one DRUM in the year that needs to be reported.

If you have any queries please contact the pharmacy team via [england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net](mailto:england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net)

### Cervical Sample Taker codes on cervical screening samples

Contact: [england.swscreeningandimms@nhs.net](mailto:england.swscreeningandimms@nhs.net)

With the Be Clear on Cancer Cervical Screening Campaign in full swing, it is likely that you will have more women wishing to book in for cervical screening. For some women this may be the first time they have attended for screening, for others they may be well overdue their screening appointment. To encourage those women to return when they are next called, one of the key factors for this is ensuring a positive experience at their cervical screening appointment. The positive experience extends to not having to be recalled for a 3 month repeat due to the sample being recorded as inadequate by the laboratory. Following the introduction of the PHE Cervical Sample Acceptance Policy in 2017, cervical samples without an identifiable, correct cervical sample taker code may be reported as inadequate, and the woman is recalled for a repeat sample in 3 months' time. This can cause anxiety and concern for the woman involved, increase the likelihood that she will not return for another sample and reduce the availability of cervical screening appointments for women who have recently been invited for screening.

**To reduce the likelihood of a sample being recorded as inadequate, sample takers MUST have their own individual sample taker code and use it on the samples they take.** We regularly receive reports from the laboratories with samples submitted without codes, incorrect codes and inappropriate use of codes. One in four women don't attend for their routine cervical screening test, and having a sample rejected and being recalled for a repeat sample is something every GP Practice can do to improve the uptake of cervical screening and prevent the number of women diagnosed with cervical cancer every year.

## **Cervical Cancer Screening Online Course**

Avon LPC have devised a free training courses for pharmacies to increase confidence when delivering campaigns and have developed a module for cervical screening.

This has been made available to surgeries across England which can be accessed [HERE](#).

Course Objectives:

- To increase understanding of the symptoms of cervical cancer. To recognise the warning signs of cervical cancer
- To understand the importance of screening and the role the surgery team can play
- To understand what resources are available and how you can make an impactful display
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None
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None
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None
- **Items for Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Practices only**  
None