About this bulletin

To minimise the number of emails sent to practices, NHS England and NHS Improvement – South West 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 affecting payments, as well as updates on issues relating to GP contracts. We recognise that CCGs with delegated authority may also issue information to practices regarding their areas of specific responsibility, however, the bulletin remains relevant to the practices in those areas in terms of the public health areas for which NHS England and Improvement remain responsible.

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

Contents

- Key Deadlines
- Items for all Practices
  - Urgent action - Serious Shortage Protocols published for fluoxetine
  - Online consultations in primary care: implementation toolkit
  - Standards body launches new survey on digitising old GP records
  - Funded Two Day introduction to Quality Improvement for General Practice Nurses
  - Direct Booking of Appointments from NHS 111
- Items for Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Practices Only
  - None
- Items for Somerset Practices Only
  - None
- Items for Devon Practices Only
  - None
- Items for Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Practices only
  - None
Key Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CQRS declarations for payment in the same month</th>
<th>9th of each month</th>
<th>Via CQRS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maternity, paternity, parental or sickness absence</td>
<td>Last working day of each month</td>
<td>Via email to <a href="mailto:england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net">england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net</a></td>
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• **Items for all Practices**

**Urgent action - Serious Shortage Protocols published for fluoxetine**

As part of the work to manage the current shortage for fluoxetine capsules, we are writing to inform you that Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) have been issued for:

- Fluoxetine 10mg capsules
- Fluoxetine 30mg capsules
- Fluoxetine 40mg capsules

The SSPs will enable community pharmacists in England to supply patients with a different formulation as follows:

SSP for **Fluoxetine 10mg capsules**, supply in order of priority either –

- Fluoxetine 10mg tablets; or
- 2.5ml of fluoxetine 20mg/5ml oral solution SF; or
- 2.5ml of fluoxetine 20mg/5ml oral solution

SSP for **Fluoxetine 30mg capsules**, supply

- 1 x 10mg fluoxetine tablet, plus 1 x 20mg fluoxetine capsule

SSP for **Fluoxetine 40mg capsules**, supply

- Fluoxetine 2 x 20mg capsules

These Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) are now published on the NHS Business Service Authority (BSA) website under a dedicated SSP page along with supporting guidance. The SSP is currently due to expire on the 31st October 2019. Should this change, the SSPs will be updated accordingly and published on this page.

**If you have any questions regarding the SSPs please contact the NHS Prescription Service:**

- **Email:** nhsbsa.prescriptionservices@nhsbsa.nhs.uk
- **Telephone:** 0300 330 1349
- **Textphone:** 18001 0300 330 1349
You may also be interested to read the Department’s press release on new restrictions on parallel exports to tackle HRT shortages:


Please be aware this communication is also being circulated separately onto **ALL Community Pharmacies in England**

Many thanks for your support with this important issue.

**Online consultations in primary care: implementation toolkit**
NHS England has published a document that provides a range of ideas and options for implementing online consultations in primary care.


**Standards body launches new survey on digitising old GP records**
The Professional Record Standards Body has launched a new survey, which asks patients, carers, and GP practices about the benefits and potential challenges of digitising old GP records. https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/27NVZW

**Funded Two Day introduction to Quality Improvement for General Practice Nurses**
Please see the attached two day programme introducing Quality Improvement to general practice nurses in Taunton on the 19 & 20 November 2019.

**Direct Booking of Appointments from NHS 111**
In this week’s 10 minute podcast from PCC, John Hutchison of the integrated urgent care team at NHS England and NHS Improvement explains why efforts are being stepped up to enable patients to book some urgent care appointments with GP practices from NHS 111. See the attached link for the podcast and details of events being held in October and November, where delegates will hear from early adopters of direct booking.


- **Items for Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Practices only**
  None

- **Items for Somerset Practices only**
  None

- **Items for Devon Practices only**
None

- Items for Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Practices only
None