

Community Pharmacy Bulletin



16 July 2021



NHS England and NHS Improvement – South West

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Coming Up

	July	August	September
Week 1	<p>Public Health England COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign evaluation survey on PharmOutcomes closes 5 July 2021</p> <p>-----</p> <p>CPCS GP Referral pathway engagement deadline to claim for payment 5 July 2021</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Pharmacy Leadership Diversity Webinar 7 July 2021 7.00pm</p>	<p>Public Health England COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign materials to be removed from display 1 August 2021</p> <p>-----</p> <p>PSNC Covid -19 Cost Claims workshop 2 August 2021 7.30pm</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Expressions of Interest for Christmas and New Year Applications 2 August 2021</p>	
Week 2	<p>Snapshot wellbeing survey of the primary care workforce closes 12 July 2021</p>		

	July	August	September
Week 3	Staff Vaccination Survey 12 July 2021, 9am ----- PSNC Covid -19 Cost Claims workshop 14 July 2021 7.30pm		
Week 4	CPCS Technical Toolkit and IT supplier webinar for contractors 22 July 2021 7.00pm – 8.30pm ----- Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF) screening questionnaire ends 24 July 2021 ----- Rural Regulations Workshop 26 July 2021 2.00pm ----- PSNC Webinar on Dispensing Controlled Drugs 27 July 2021 7.00pm	Aligning the Upper Age for NHS Prescription Charge Exemptions with the State Pension age consultation closes 26 August 2021 11.45pm	Supplementary Application for Christmas Eve (24 December 2021) deadline 25 September 2021 ----- Core and Supplementary Applications for Boxing Day (26 December) deadline 27 September 2021
Week 5		August Bank Holiday 30 August 2021	

Headlines from the Week

NHS England

- None

NHS England South West Regional Team

- None

PSNC Bulletin

- [Have you completed the DMS Declaration of Competence?](#)
- [Distribution arrangements for staff COVID testing](#)
- [Updates to PSNC's payment timetable and deadline tracker](#)
- [Storage of LFD test kits as the weather warms up](#)
- [Patient Safety Group virtual conference now on-demand](#)
- [MHRA Class 4 Notice: Sevredol 10mg and 20mg tablets](#)
- [July 2021 Price Concessions](#)
- [CPCS Technical Toolkit and IT supplier webinar for contractors](#)
- [New patient-facing pharmacy profiles on the NHS website](#)

Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF) Screening Questionnaire

(taken from Primary Care Bulletin 16 July 2021 (issue 143))



Over 6,917 pharmacies had completed the 2021/22 Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF) screening questionnaire by 14 July 2021. Community pharmacy contractors are reminded that the mandatory screening questionnaire must be completed via the [NHSBSA MYS portal](#) by Saturday 24 July 2021.

Community Pharmacy Details for Phase 3 of the Vaccination Programme

The Community Pharmacy details for Phase 3 of the vaccination programme have been [published](#). These three documents set out the process for any community pharmacy site to 'express interest' in becoming a CoViD Vaccination Site as part of Phase 3.

If you would like to know more about Phase 3 of the vaccination programme and the 'Expression of Interest' (EOI) process you can join a South West Community Pharmacy Webinar on **Wednesday 21 July at 7pm**. To join:

- Join on your computer or mobile app - [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Or call in (audio only) – 0800 048 9812 (Phone Conference ID: 719 015 522#)

We will ask some of our current community pharmacy sites to share their experiences and there will be an opportunity to talk through what we know about Phase 3 currently and how you will be supported as a community pharmacy vaccination site.

The Community Pharmacy Vaccination Site Teams in the South West have done a fantastic job so far in Phase 1 & 2 of the vaccination programme:

- There are now 66 community pharmacy vaccination sites
- The teams are working with Pfizer and AZ
- They have administered over 750,000 vaccinations
- This is 11% of the South West vaccinations

If you want to know more about being a Community Pharmacy Vaccination Site, please join one or both of the webinars mentioned above.

Advice on Face Coverings in Pharmacies after Pandemic Restrictions Eased

As made clear in the [Downing Street press briefing](#) on the 12th July 2021, most legal restrictions will be removed from 19th July 2021, including the legal requirement to wear face coverings in shops and pharmacies.

Although face coverings and social distancing will be optional from this date, NHSE&I highlighted in their Primary Care Bulletin on 8th July 2021 that current [Infection Prevention Control \(IPC\) guidance](#) remains in place, meaning that face coverings should be used by patients (if tolerated) and visitors when entering a care setting, including community pharmacies and in areas where triaging for COVID-19 is not possible.

[Learn more about the current advice on face coverings](#)

Aligning the Upper Age for NHS Prescription Charge Exemptions with the State Pension age.

(taken from Primary Care Bulletin 8 July 2021 (issue 142))

The government is seeking views on [changing the age at which older people in England become eligible for free prescriptions](#), from 60 to 66 years of age. The [consultation](#) is open until 11.45pm on **26 August 2021**

Your Chance to Inform Staff Training in Primary Care

(taken from Primary Care Bulletin 8 July 2021 (issue 142))

Health Education England and NHS England and NHS Improvement would like to [hear from pharmacists](#) about their experiences of remote triage, care navigation, online and video consultations in general practice. Your input will allow us to design effective training to support all primary care staff and trainees to confidently work with these approaches.

If you would like to be interviewed, please contact Frances Brown at Nightingale Research at francesbrown@nightingaledesignresearch.com by the 14 July 2021.

Find out more about the study. For any questions about the project contact the Digital First Primary Care team at england.digitalfirstprimarycare@nhs.net.

Speak up! Do you Know Who to Contact if you Have a Concern About Misuse of Controlled Drugs?

NHS England is currently undertaking an investigation involving significant misuse of drugs by a healthcare professional in South West England.

This investigation has identified that two years ago, a community pharmacist identified concerns about the healthcare professional and reported these to a medical practice but did not share this information with the Accountable Officer. It appears that misuse of drugs then continued for a further two years, until the same concern was reported by a community nurse through the correct channels and appropriate action could be taken to protect patients.

We understand from the community pharmacist that they did not know how to contact the Controlled Drugs Accountable Officer in order to raise their concerns.

Community pharmacists are asked to note that NHS England South West Region now routinely include the contact details for the regional Controlled Drugs Accountable Officer on the useful information section with the weekly newsletters. Please make a note of these details so that if you need to report any concerns about the misuse of controlled drugs, you can do this promptly and via the correct channels.

Medicine Supply Notifications (MSNs)

Please find attached Medicine Supply Notifications for:

- A Tier 2 medicine supply notification for Gentisone HC® (Gentamicin 0.3% w/v and Hydrocortisone acetate 1% w/v) Ear Drops

The table below provides a summary of the attached MSN:

Medicine	Out of stock until	Alternatives
Gentisone HC® (Gentamicin 0.3% w/v and Hydrocortisone acetate 1% w/v) Ear Drops	Out of stock from w/c 12th July 2021 until w/c 25th October 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Betnesol-N® eye/ear/nose drops • Otomize® ear spray • Otosporin® ear drops • Sofradex® ear/eye drops <p>See MSN for further details.</p>

Please note that supply issues that have been categorised as tier 1 or 2, DHSC and the MSRG have requested that the NHSE&I commissioning routes are used to reach community pharmacy and GP Practices. More serious supply issues are communicated via the Central Alerting System for action.

If you have any stock queries please contact: DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.

Useful Information

INFORMATION



NHS England & Improvement – South West Region Community Pharmacy Contract Management Team contact information

Team Member	Telephone	Address
Jenny Collins	07979 308749	<p>South West Region Postal Addresses</p> <p>NHS England and Improvement – South West Peninsula House Kingsmill Road Tamar View Industrial Estate Saltash, PL12 6LE</p> <p>Or</p> <p>NHS England and Improvement – South West Sanger House, 5220 Valiant Court Gloucester Business Park, Brockworth Gloucester, GL3 4FE</p> <p>Or</p> <p>NHS England and Improvement – South West Jenner House, Avon Way Langley Park Chippenham, SN15 1GG</p> <p><i>Please note all our offices are currently closed, please do not send post and use email wherever possible</i></p> <p>Email: england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net</p>
Sharon Greaves	07900 715295	
Les Riggs	07730 371074	
Mary Cotton	07920 288191	
Michele Toy	07568 431890	
Sarah Lillington	07920 834445	
Sharon Hodges	07702 411295	
Tracey Howes	07730 380479	
Chris Yengel	07769 963478	
Kath Hughes	07730 374739	
Hayley Colledge	07900 713005	
Lesley St Leger	07730 381871	
William Anderson	07783 821721	
Stacey Burch	07730 391418	

NHS England & NHS Improvement Regional Controlled Drugs Accountable Officer

Name	Telephone number	Main contact details
Jon Hayhurst	07718130490	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reporting incidents and concerns www.cdreporting.co.uk• Advice and support• Authorised witnesses for destruction england.southwestcontrolleddrugs@nhs.net

Webpages

Please see our websites for more information and any blank templates, forms and documents :

[Cornwall & Isles of Scilly, Devon, Bristol, Dorset, North Somerset, Somerset and South Gloucestershire](#)

[BaNES, Gloucestershire, Swindon or Wiltshire](#)

[Interpretation and Translation Services](#)



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2021/034

Gentisone HC[®] (Gentamicin 0.3% w/v and Hydrocortisone acetate 1% w/v) Ear Drops

Tier 2 – medium impact*
Date of issue: 12/07/2021

Summary

- Gentisone HC[®] ear drops will be out of stock w/c 12th July 2021 until w/c 25th October 2021.
- Alternative combination topical ear products containing an aminoglycoside with a steroid remain available.

Actions Required

Clinicians should:

- not initiate new patients on Gentisone HC[®] ear drops;
- consider prescribing an alternative combination topical ear product containing an aminoglycoside with a steroid, ensuring that the patient is not intolerant to any of the ingredients (see Supporting Information); and
- if the above option is not considered appropriate or for patients with complex disease, advice should be sought from specialists on management options.

Supporting information

Alternative products and availability

Brand	Components	Availability
Betnesol-N [®] eye/ear/nose drops	Betamethasone sodium phosphate 0.1%, Neomycin sulphate 0.5%	In stock – can support a full uplift
Otomize [®] ear spray	Dexamethasone 0.1%, neomycin sulphate 0.5%, glacial acetic acid 2%	In stock – can support a full uplift
Otosporin [®] ear drops	Hydrocortisone 1%, neomycin sulphate 3400 units/mL, polymyxin B sulphate 10,000 units/mL	In stock – can support a partial uplift
Sofradex [®] ear/eye drops	Dexamethasone 0.05%, framycetin sulphate 0.5%, gramicidin 0.005%	In stock – can support a full uplift

Clinical Information

Further advice on the management of otitis externa can be found here:

- [NICE CKS - Otitis externa](#)

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/>

- [BNF Treatment Summary – Ear](#)

Please refer to the SPCs for further information on all preparations:

- [SPC Gentisone HC[®]](#)
- [SPC Betnesol-N[®]](#)
- [SPC Otomize[®]](#)
- [SPC Otosporin[®]](#)
- [SPC Sofradex[®]](#)

Enquiries

If you have any queries, please contact DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.