

Community Pharmacy Bulletin



3 September 2021



NHS England and NHS Improvement – South West

Contents

Coming Up.....	1
Headlines from the Week	2
Pharmacy Quality Scheme 2021/22.....	2
New Medicine Service 2021/22	2
The Pharmacy Access Scheme (PhAS).....	3
Directions for the 2021/22 Flu Vaccination Service 2021/22 Issued	3
Medicine Supply Notification (MSN).....	3
Useful Information.....	4

Coming Up

	September	October	November
Week 1		Supplementary Application for New Year's Eve (31 December 2021) deadline 3 October 2021 ----- Core and Supplementary Applications for New Year's Day (1 January 2022) deadline 2 October 2021	
Week 2			
Week 3			
Week 4	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		

	September	October	November
Week 5			

Headlines from the Week

NHS England

- [End to temporary suspension of patient signatures on pharmacy, dental and eye care forms](#)

NHS England South West Regional Team

- None

PSNC Bulletin

- [Staff vaccination requirements when working or deployed in care homes](#)
 - [Inclisiran added to a new section of the Drug Tariff](#)
 - [PQS quality criterion starting from 1st September 2021](#)
 - [Adjusted price for Cetirizine 1mg/ml sugar-free oral solution](#)
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Pharmacy Quality Scheme 2021/22

(taken from Primary Care Bulletin – 3 September 2021 (Issue 150))

The [Pharmacy Quality Scheme \(PQS\) 2021/22](#) commenced from 1 September 2021.

Under the scheme and in collaboration with the [new service requirements for Primary Care Networks and IIF](#), Community Pharmacy will again be asked to focus on medication safety and improving patient outcomes by increasing access to primary care services and creating a more sustainable NHS. This PQS is year 3 of a five-year deal and builds upon previous criteria.

The criteria include working collaboratively with GPs in PCNs to support patients starting to take a new medicine (NMS), increase uptake within their population of flu vaccinations, delivering a high-risk medicine (anticoagulation) audit, driving high uptake of flu vaccination, training and actions to address health inequalities, a weight management referral service, antimicrobial stewardship, remote consultation skills and supporting the clinically effective and sustainable use of inhalers.

PCNS should collaborate with pharmacy teams locally to jointly work on these initiatives.

New Medicine Service 2021/22

(taken from Primary Care Bulletin – 3 September 2021 (Issue 150))

From 1 September 2021, pharmacy teams will be supporting more patients who are starting to take new medicines. The new therapeutic areas include heart failure, high cholesterol, Parkinson's Disease, epilepsy, gout and osteoporosis.

To support pharmacy teams to provide the best patient outcomes for individuals that might have missed this support because of the pandemic restrictions, [a catch-up NMS](#) has been introduced from 1 September 2021.

Further therapeutic areas will be piloted through the Pharmacy Integration Fund as part of a fully integrated service model. General practice and pharmacy staff are encouraged to work collaboratively to make best use of this development to support patients in the eligible groups.

The Pharmacy Access Scheme (PhAS)

(taken from Primary Care Bulletin – 3 September 2021 (Issue 150))

The Pharmacy Access Scheme (PhAS) was introduced as part of the 2016/18 CPCF funding settlement, in order to ensure that a baseline level of patient access to NHS community pharmaceutical services in England is protected. The updated 2022 PhAS as part of the 2021/22 CPCF agreement will apply from 1 January 2022.

The objective of the 2022 PhAS is to create a scheme that is more targeted and representative of the pharmacy market as it is now, and that better targets support to pharmacies that are deemed essential for local provision of physical NHS pharmaceutical services. [A list of pharmacies eligible for the 2022 PhAS has been published, together with updated eligibility criteria and a guidance document by DHSC.](#)

The 2022 PhAS retains a review process, managed by NHSEI; to deal with any inaccuracies in relation to pharmacy premises addresses or any unforeseen circumstances affecting access, such as a permanent roadblock. The review application window to submit applications is between 4 January 2022 and 4 February 2022. Further details of how to apply for a review will be provided in November and December 2021.

Directions for the 2021/22 Flu Vaccination Service 2021/22 Issued

(taken from PSNC News Alert – 1 September 2021)

Community pharmacy contractors meeting the requirements for the provision of the Community Pharmacy Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Advanced Service can now begin providing this service, following confirmation of the signing of amendments to the Secretary of State Directions from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).

A National Protocol has also been confirmed to support the flu vaccination programme for 2021/22. This national protocol will enable contractors to better use the skill mix within their pharmacies when delivering flu vaccinations.

[Read more about the confirmation of the Directions.](#)

Medicine Supply Notification (MSN)

Please find attached Medicine Supply Notifications for:

- A Tier 2 medicine supply notification for Nalcrom® (sodium cromoglicate) 100mg capsules

The table below provides a summary of the attached MSN:

Medicine	Out of stock until	Alternatives
Nalcrom® (sodium cromoglicate) 100mg capsules	From early September until w/c 1st November 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unlicensed imports have been sourced.• If unlicensed imports are inappropriate, refer patients to specialists for consideration of an alternative product.

There have also been changes to the resupply dates of the medicines listed below.

Original MSN reference	Date of original MSN/SDA	Supply issue	Resupply date originally communicated	Updated resupply date as of w/c 30 August 2021
MSN/2021/019	30/03/2021	Chloral hydrate 143.3mg/5ml oral solution	September 2021	End of November 2021
MSN/2020/011	12/03/2020	Fluoxetine 10mg tablets	Late 2020	June 2022
MSN/2020/041	17/07/2020	Metronidazole (Acea) 0.75% gel	September 2020	Mid-September 2021

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>
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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.southwestcontrolledrugs@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/2021/042

Nalcrom[®] (sodium cromoglicate) 100mg capsules

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 02/09/2021

Summary

- Nalcrom[®] 100mg capsules will be out of stock from early September until w/c 1st November 2021.
- Sodium cromoglicate 100mg/5mL oral solution unit dose ampoules remain available but cannot support a large uplift in demand.
- Unlicensed imports of sodium cromoglicate 100mg capsules have been sourced. Lead times may vary.
- Specialist advice should be sought on switching to alternative products (see clinical information below).

Actions Required

Where patients have insufficient supplies until the resupply date, clinicians should consider:

- prescribing unlicensed imports of sodium cromoglicate 100mg capsules. Prescribers should work with pharmacy teams to ensure orders are placed within appropriate time frames as lead times may vary (see supporting information below); or
- referring patients to specialists for consideration of an alternative product, taking into account local prescribing guidelines, age and condition being treated, if unlicensed imports are not appropriate (see supporting information below).

Supporting information

Guidance on ordering and prescribing unlicensed imports

- The following specialist importers have confirmed they can source unlicensed sodium cromoglicate 100mg capsules (please note there may be other companies that can also source supplies):
 - Alium Medical
 - Mawdsleys Unlicensed
 - Target Healthcare
 - Waymade PLC
- Any decision to prescribe an unlicensed medicine must consider the relevant guidance and NHS Trust or local governance procedures. Please see the links below for further information:
 - [The supply of unlicensed medicinal products](#), Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)
 - [Professional Guidance for the Procurement and Supply of Specials](#), Royal Pharmaceutical Society
 - [Prescribing unlicensed medicines](#), General Medical Council (GMC).

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

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

- When prescribing a product that is not licensed in the UK due to a supply issue with the licensed alternative, prescribers must indicate on the FP10 prescription that an unlicensed product is required. This can be done in one of the following two ways:
 - Electronic prescriptions – if the required unlicensed product is shown on electronic prescribing systems, GPs should select:
 - Sodium cromoglicate 100mg capsules (imported)
 - Paper prescriptions – where the unlicensed product is not shown on electronic prescribing systems, GPs should use a paper prescription and annotate with the following wording: “**special order**”.

Clinical Information

Please refer to the BNF/BNFc and SPCs for further information:

- [Nalcrom® \(sodium cromoglicate\) 100mg capsules.](#)
- [Sodium cromoglicate 100mg capsules BNF.](#)
- [Sodium cromoglicate 100mg capsules BNFc.](#)

Further resources:

- [BNFc section on Food Allergy.](#)
- [British Association of Dermatologists leaflet on Urticaria Pigmentosa \(cutaneous Mastocytosis\).](#)
- [NICE evidence searches of mastocytosis.](#)
- [Orphanet evidence summary of systemic mastocytosis.](#)

Specialists have advised that where there are insufficient supplies of Nalcrom® 100mg capsules, each patient will need to be individually assessed for consideration of an alternative agent(s), taking into account the condition (e.g. food allergy, cutaneous mastocytosis) being treated and previous treatments tried.

Potential options include:

- Non-sedating H₁ antihistamines.
- H₂ receptor antagonists. (**Please note**, this is currently being managed as a supply disruption, further information can be found in the DHSC monthly supply issue update which can be found at this website: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/department-of-health-and-pharmaceutical-market-strategy-group-pmsg-supply-updates/>
You will need to have an account with the Specialist Pharmacy Service website and be logged in to access this page. Once logged in, copy and paste the above link into the browser.)

Enquiries

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