

## Newsletter – January 2024

In this update: Welcome, Pharmacy First, Services, Trainee Pharmacy Recruitment, LPC Spotlight, Communications

### Welcome to the Community Pharmacy Thames Valley Newsletter



#### Welcome to Community Pharmacy Thames Valley

January 31st sees the launch of the biggest service initiative for community pharmacy in many years. The LPC is working hard to ensure that all external stakeholders understand what this means for them in terms of referral pathways, and we are committed to supporting our 330 pharmacies and their teams with engagement events, and learning and development tools, to ensure that Thames Valley contractors have the best possible start. We hope you will take advantage of the range of training options available, and look forward to meeting many of you at our face-to-face events in the coming weeks. Find out more below and on our website [cptv.org.uk](http://cptv.org.uk) and please don't hesitate to contact us if we can help in any way. *David Dean, Chief Officer*

### News



#### Pharmacy First – Service Details

The new Pharmacy First service is scheduled to start on 31st January 2024. Pharmacies that have not yet registered to deliver the service are encouraged to do so on MYS, and claim their £2,000 set-up payment, by 30<sup>th</sup> January.

This new Advanced Service involves pharmacists providing advice and NHS-funded treatment, where clinically appropriate, for seven common conditions: sinusitis, sore throat, acute otitis media, infected insect bite, impetigo, shingles, and uncomplicated urinary tract infections in women. Consultations for these seven clinical pathways can be provided to patients presenting to the pharmacy as well as those referred by NHS 111, general practices and others. The service will also incorporate the existing elements of the Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS), i.e. minor illness consultations with a pharmacist, and the supply of urgent medicines (and appliances), both following a referral from NHS 111, general practices and other authorised healthcare providers (i.e. patients are not able to present to the pharmacy without a referral).

In the clinical pathway consultations with a pharmacist, people with symptoms suggestive of the seven conditions will be provided with advice and will be supplied, where clinically necessary, with a prescription-only treatment under a Patient Group Direction (PGD) or in one pathway, an over-the-counter medicine (supplied under a clinical protocol), all at NHS expense.

#### Resources and documentation:

- [Service specification, clinical pathways and PGDs](#)
- [Pharmacy Owner Checklist](#)
- [Pharmacist Checklist](#)
- [Initial Briefing for Pharmacy Teams](#)
- [GP & LMC Briefing](#)
- [CPPE Pharmacy First web page which includes the Self Assessment Framework](#)
- [PharmOutcomes Pharmacy First Service Guide](#)

#### Webinars

- [Introducing Pharmacy First LPC Webinar \(held 9th January\)](#)
- [Getting to Know the Service Webinar \(held on 13th December\)](#)

For future webinars and further details visit the [CPE Pharmacy First page](#)



## Pharmacy First Training

The following training events and resources are available:

- **ENT Events**

- [Frimley \(Bracknell, Slough & RBWM\)](#)

- Sunday, 18th February 2024, 9.30–12.45

- Windlesham Golf Club, Grove End, Bagshot, GU19 5HY

- [BOB \(Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire & Berkshire West\)](#)

- Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024, Sessions throughout the day

- High Wycombe Holiday Inn, Handy Cross, HP11 1TL

- [Cliniskills Training \(including ENT module\)](#)

- [Face-to-face Pharmacy First LPC Engagement Events](#)

- 18<sup>th</sup> January – High Wycombe Holiday Inn

- 24<sup>th</sup> January – Leonardo Hotel Oxford

- 30<sup>th</sup> January – Holiday Inn Reading South

- [Virtual Outcomes](#) (see flyer overleaf)



## NHS Pharmacy First Latest FREE\* Online Course



Do you know that the **Pharmacy First** Service consists of **3 elements** - 2 existing (CPCS) and 1 new one?

Do you know **what your pharmacy** needs to have in place and what **training your pharmacists** need to do?

Do you want to know the **key points** from the **7 clinical pathways**?

This training will answer **all** these questions and more.

To access the **FREE\*** course visit:  
[https://www.virtualoutcomes.co.uk/  
pharmacy-training/](https://www.virtualoutcomes.co.uk/pharmacy-training/)

VirtualOutcomes NHS Pharmacy First Courses

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NHS Community Pharmacist Consultation Service

Pharmacy Tech Training

Registered Pharmacy Professional Training

Healthy Living Pharmacy

Medicines Counter Assistant Course

**NHS Pharmacy First**

Discharge Medicines Service

Gastroenterology



## Pharmacy Contraception Service

From 1st December 2023, the Pharmacy Contraception Service incorporates initiation and repeat supplies of contraception and any pharmacy providing the service must now provide both. CPE held a webinar on 5<sup>th</sup> December focused on the new aspects of the service, including the requirements, training options, and available resources to support pharmacy owners and their teams, to view on-demand [click here](#).

For more information visit the [CPE Pharmacy Contraception service page](#).



## Hypertension Case-Finding Service

A reminder that, from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023, the Hypertension Case-Finding Service can be provided by any suitably trained and competent pharmacy staff (previously, only pharmacists and pharmacy technicians could provide the service). CPE held a webinar on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 focused on how to make greater use of the whole pharmacy team and ways to maximise the number of eligible patients taking up ambulatory blood pressure monitoring (ABPM). To view on-demand, [click here](#).



## Minor Ailments Scheme (BOB ICB)

A local Minor Ailments Scheme, open to pharmacies in the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West (BOB) ICB area, is now live. Targeted at patients on low income and their dependents, for a concise list of OTC medicines, the service will run over the winter until 31st March 2024.

This service is paid in addition to the CPCS referral fee, or can be used for walk-in patients that are eligible. The Service Specification is [available here](#).

To register, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West pharmacies can sign up by completing [this form](#). (Please note this service is not available to East Berkshire (RBWM, Slough, Bracknell) pharmacies, who fall under the Frimley ICB.)



## Trainee Pharmacist Recruitment

All trainee pharmacists for 2025/26 must be recruited via the National Recruitment Scheme, Oriel, which opened for employers on 11th January 2024 and will close on 1st March 2024.

To support pharmacies in preparation for 2025/26 foundation training, and in registering training programmes on Oriel, the NHS England WT&E South East pharmacy team are hosting a series of ad-hoc online support sessions throughout January and February.

- [Thursday 18th January 7pm – 8pm](#)
- [Tuesday 23rd January 1pm – 2pm](#)
- [Friday 2nd February 12pm – 1pm](#)
- [Tuesday 13th February 7pm – 8pm](#)
- [Thursday 22nd February 1pm – 2pm](#)
- [Monday 26th February 1pm – 2pm](#)

If you have any queries please contact Xenia Bray, Pharmacy Foundation Training Lead on [x.bray@nhs.net](mailto:x.bray@nhs.net)



## Oxfordshire Services



### Oxfordshire EHC

The Oxfordshire Council has recently received feedback that some pharmacies signed up to the Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) Call-off Contract, have been turning individuals away, or charging for EHC. The purpose of this service is to remove barriers as much as possible by making sure that EHC is available to all individuals who might need it and that it is free of charge. Therefore, can all pharmacies signed up to deliver free EHC under the contract with Oxfordshire County Council ensure:

- That the pharmacist on duty is aware of the conditions of the contract and has the necessary training and qualifications to provide free EHC.
- If there is no pharmacist onsite or the medication is unavailable, please signpost the individual to the nearest pharmacy, Sexual Health Clinic, School or College Health Nurse, or GP, who can give them the free EHC.
- EHC should be provided FREE of charge to individuals requesting it.
- From April 2022, all age restrictions were removed and there is no upper age limit.
- EHC can be given to individuals aged under 16 if they are assessed as competent as per the Fraser Guidelines and safeguarding questions have been satisfied.
- There are 2 PGD's in place with options to give –  
Levonorgestrel (Levonelle) between 0 – 96 hours  
Ulipristal Acetate (EllaOne) between 0 – 120 hours
- Always look to give Levonelle as the first choice of drug if the conditions are met.
- All pharmacies signed up to the DAPL contract were sent copies an [EHC poster](#) in 2023, please display it in your pharmacy window so that individuals know with confidence that they can access free EHC from you. The QR code on the posters directs to the OCC website page for EHC which provides a full list of pharmacies where they can expect to access free EHC.



### Oxfordshire Public Health Training Opportunities

The Oxfordshire Public Health team offer a range of training opportunities to healthcare professionals and volunteers working in the county. This includes courses such as Making Every Contact Count (MECC), lifestyle topic-based training such as weight management, smoking cessation, alcohol identification brief advice, and domestic abuse.

More information and details on how Oxfordshire pharmacy teams can sign up is [available here](#).



## Approved Provider List

Oxfordshire County Council commissions some Public Health services via Oxfordshire-based community pharmacies. This is done via a contract called the Dynamic Approved Provider List (DAPL) Agreement, and currently includes up to three services: Emergency Hormonal Contraception, Pharmacist Supervised Consumption of Opiate Substitution Therapy, and Needle Exchange Programme – also referred to as Sterile Works from Oxfordshire Premises (SWOP). If you are interested in joining the DAPL, please register your interest, stating which service(s) you wish to apply for, by emailing [lfy.Enemuo@Oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:lfy.Enemuo@Oxfordshire.gov.uk)

## LPC Spotlight



### Gary Warner

In each edition of the newsletter, we feature a member of the team. This month we are pleased to introduce Gary Warner, who is our Regional Representative at Community Pharmacy England (CPE). Gary is an active community pharmacist, working in his own pharmacy practices, and is also Technical Director for the PharmOutcomes platform. Gary qualified as an independent prescriber in 2008, specialising in the treatment of substance misuse, and was Chair of the Service Development Subcommittee at CPE for a number of years. As a winner of a Chief Medical Officer's Award and author of a number of peer-reviewed publications evidencing the impact of community pharmacy services, Gary is a proud advocate of all that pharmacy can do for patients and commissioners. If there are any issues you would like to raise with Gary please email: [office@cptv.org.uk](mailto:office@cptv.org.uk)



## Independent LPC Committee Member

Following recent changes to contractor composition, we now have a vacancy for an LPC Committee member representing independent contractors. If you would like to stand, please complete and return the [self-nomination form](#), or complete the [online version](#). The deadline for submissions is 12 noon on Wednesday 31st January 2024 and we would like to encourage all independent contractors to consider standing.

More information about the LPC and the role of committee members can be found in the [CPE New Members Guide](#). If you would like to discuss the role in more detail or have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact David Dean, Chief Officer on [chiefofficer@cptv.org.uk](mailto:chiefofficer@cptv.org.uk) or 07702 209197.



## Communications



### Signal **Signal Messaging Group**

We run a [Signal Group](#) for CPTV pharmacy contractors, team members and locums that is useful for quick queries and support, sharing ideas and finding medicines in short supply. To be added to the group you need to install the Signal app first, then send your name, pharmacy and the mobile number that you signed up with to [office@cptv.org.uk](mailto:office@cptv.org.uk). Please note we don't allow advertising in any form (including job vacancies, locum requests or any other business activity).



### **Mailing List**

Join our mailing list to receive our weekly News Digest (circulated each Thursday) by signing up on the front page of our website ([www.cptv.org.uk](http://www.cptv.org.uk)) or emailing your name, pharmacy and email address to Amanda on: [office@cptv.org.uk](mailto:office@cptv.org.uk).

### **Contact Us**

We are here to support all CPTV contractors and pharmacy teams. If there is anything we can help with, please don't hesitate to contact us:

David Dean, Chief Officer – 07702 209197 – [chiefofficer@cptv.org.uk](mailto:chiefofficer@cptv.org.uk)

Kevin Barnes, Contractor Support Officer – 07777 671596 – [cso@cptv.org.uk](mailto:cso@cptv.org.uk)

Amanda Dean, Engagement Officer – 07702 683277 – [office@cptv.org.uk](mailto:office@cptv.org.uk)