

To: All Thames Valley Pharmacies

Weekly News Digest – 25th January 2024

- **Pharmacy First Resources**
 - Short training videos are now available on each of the 7 clinical pathways – [click here](#)
 - For resources to promote the service [click here](#)
 - Videos and slides from the CPE webinars “Getting Ready for Launch” (held on 15th January) and “Getting to Know the Service” (held on 13th December) are available to view on-demand – [click here](#)
 - CPE are running drop-in sessions on Teams for any contractor queries, from 1-2pm on 29th & 30th January and 6th & 8th February - [click here](#)
 - Various resources are now available to share with your GP Surgeries:
 - Virtual Outcomes module for GP Practices – [click here](#)
 - Quick reference GP referral sheet – [click here](#)
 - Template letter/email to GP Practices introducing the service – [click here](#)
- **LPC Independent Member Vacancy** – a reminder that, following recent changes to contractor composition, we have a vacancy for an LPC Committee member representing independent contractors. Further details and a self-nomination form are available on our website. The deadline for submissions is 12 noon on Wednesday **31st January 2024** and we would like to encourage all independent contractors to consider standing. [Click here](#)
- **Minor Ailments Scheme, BOB ICB** – a reminder that 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 until 31st March 2024. For details and to register [click here](#).
- **Antibiotic Course Length** – the ICB have asked us to share these resources on reducing antibiotic course length to help explain this priority and why you may be seeing prescriptions for 15 rather than 21 tablets. [Click here](#).
- **BOB ICS Primary Care Strategy** – BOB ICS have developed a draft Primary Care Strategy and are keen to hear from Community Pharmacy colleagues to hear feedback and ideas to help refine this draft strategy further so that it works for the people who live and work in BOB. To view the draft and share your views [click here](#).
- **Supervised Consumption and Needle Exchange Oxfordshire** – a reminder that the deadline to upload service activity data for the October-December 2023 quarter is **28th January 2024**. Please ensure all data is uploaded to PharmOutcomes before this date to ensure payments are made in full for these services.
- **Dulaglutide (Trulicity)** – if you are unable to access supplies of Trulicity through your wholesaler, please contact the Lilly Product Supply Helpline on 0800 012 1178 and they will try to source the doses required.
- **Trainee Pharmacist Recruitment** - all trainee pharmacists for 2025/26 must be recruited via the National Recruitment Scheme, Oriol, which closes 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. For details and dates [click here](#)

- [MHRA Drug Safety Update](#) – the January edition of the Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) monthly newsletter, which includes new safety and educational materials on Valproate, restrictions around the prescribing of Fluoroquinolone antibiotics, and risks associated with Omega-3-acid ethyl ester medicines, is now available - [click here](#)

Events

- [Community Pharmacy Technician – Advancing Your Role](#) – **7th February, 12.30-13.00**, or **12th February, 13.00-13.30 or 19.00-19.30** - CPPE are running these information sessions, on a choice of dates, for contractors and technicians to find out more information about the “Advancing your role” course – [click here](#)
- [Pharmacy First Training \(including face-to-face ENT session\)](#) (BOB ICB) – **Sunday 17th March 2024** – BOB ICB and the LPC have arranged this ECG-led blended learning programme, including a face-to-face ENT session, for Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West pharmacies. ENT sessions will be held at the Holiday Inn High Wycombe on 17th March, with a choice of sessions throughout the day - [click here](#)
- [Let’s Talk About Vaccines](#) – **Tuesday 19th March 2024, 18.00-20.30** - this training session from BOB ICB looks to help build confidence, skills and knowledge to open up discussions with patients about vaccination decisions. The 2.5-hour online, interactive session is free to health, social care and voluntary sector staff across Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West. Daytime sessions are also available. [Click here](#)