

To: All Thames Valley Pharmacies

Weekly News Digest – 7th March 2024

- **[PharmOutcomes Multi Factor Authentication](#)** - To enhance security, PharmOutcomes have introduced a new Multi Factor Authentication (MFA) requirement. For details please see:
 - [PharmOutcomes MFA Guidance](#)
 - [PharmOutcomes MFA FAQs](#)If you have any further questions or need additional support with MFA, please contact PharmOutcomes on: 0345 450 6279 (Option 1).
- **[Pharmacy First](#)** – following a technical issue, NHSBSA has extended the deadline to claim for February Pharmacy First consultations to 5pm on 15th March.
A reminder for those that registered for Pharmacy First by 11.59pm on 30th January 2024 that:
 - you need to complete at least five Clinical Pathway consultations that pass the Gateway Point by 31st March 2024 to retain the £2,000 initial fixed payment; and
 - the minimum number of Clinical Pathway consultations that pass the Gateway Point increases to five in March 2024 to be eligible for the £1,000 monthly fixed payment.
- **[2024 Pharmacy Pressures Survey](#)** – CPE are keen to hear from Pharmacy Owners and Pharmacy Teams in this year's pressures survey, the results of which will be used directly in their negotiations. The survey should take no more than 10-15 minutes to complete, and closes on 2nd April 2024. [Click here](#).
- **[CPPE Workshops](#)** - the CPPE Workshop calendar for April to June 2024 has been released. This includes the following new topics:
 - NHS Pharmacy First: Clinical assessment – essential skills online workshop
 - Lewy body dementia
 - Optimising adherence to medicines in asthma
 - Supporting people living with dementia
 - Neurology in primary care
 - Preparing to train as an independent prescriberFor the full calendar and booking links, [click here](#).
- **[Hypertension Case-Finding Service](#)** – DHSC will launch a publicity campaign on 11th March 2024 to promote the Hypertension Case-Finding Service. Pharmacies providing the service can obtain a free pharmacy campaign pack from the Campaign Resource Centre. [Click here](#).
- **[Bank Holiday Hours](#)** - please ensure that your DoS and NHS.UK profiles are updated with your opening hours for the upcoming Easter Bank Holiday dates (29th/31st March & 1st April). This can be done via the new NHS Profile Manager - [click here](#).
- **[Tegretol MR](#)** – a reminder if you are unable to access supplies of 200 or 400mg Tegretol MR tablets through your wholesaler, please contact the Novartis Customer Care Department on 0845 7419442 who will be able to arrange a direct supply to the pharmacy if necessary.

- [NICE Update](#) - the February edition of the NICE monthly newsletter for primary care staff is now available. This includes clinical knowledge summaries, links to events, blog posts, and more. [Click here](#).
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- **Events**

- [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. The training is now fully booked but if you would like to join the waiting list for cancellations, please email Amanda on office@cptv.org.uk.
- [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](#)
- [BOB ICS Polypharmacy Community of Practice](#) – **13.00-14.00, 20th March** – this will be the 5th meeting of the group, focusing on bone health and the prescribing bisphosphonates, which is open to all interested health professionals in the BOB ICS area, whose purpose is to foster a system-wide culture of collaboration, learning and innovation to reduce problematic polypharmacy for those most at risk from harm. [Click here](#).
- [Data Security and Protection Toolkit \(2023/24\) Workshop](#) - this CPE webinar aims to help community pharmacy owners to complete the Data Security and Protection Toolkit for 2023/24. Hear from representatives CPE and the NHS DSPTK team, who will discuss the Toolkit questions, talk delegates through the available guidance materials, and answer questions about making the declaration. [Click here](#).