

To: All Thames Valley Pharmacies

Weekly News Digest – 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024

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- **Pharmacy First Resources**
  - Pharmacy First training (BOB) – there are still some spaces available on our blended learning Pharmacy First training, which includes a face-to-face ENT session on 17<sup>th</sup> March in High Wycombe. To book [click here](#) and use code CPTV (in caps). (Once you have selected your session, go to the basket in the top right to check out.)
  - Antibiotic prescribing resources – the RCGP Library provides free access to webinar recordings and other resources covering topics such as: how to discuss antibiotic use with patients, improving antibiotic management of respiratory tract infections and skin conditions, and remote consultations – [click here](#)
  - Resources to share with your GP Surgeries:
    - Virtual Outcomes module for GP Practices – [click here](#)
    - Template letter/email to GP Practices introducing the service – [click here](#)
- **LPC Independent Committee Member Vacancy** – nominations are now closed for the independent vacancy on the LPC committee. We are delighted to say we have 5 excellent candidates – Mitesh Aggarwal, Khal Khaliq, Ronak Patel, Vikash Patel and Taofik Shodunke. For personal statements of the candidates [click here](#). We invite all independent contractors to vote for their preferred candidate by 5pm on 23<sup>rd</sup> February - [click here](#)
- **Community Pharmacy Technician training** – making to most of your pharmacy team is going to be vital to the success of Pharmacy First. The Community Pharmacy Technician: Advancing your Role programme is a fully funded course that helps community pharmacy technicians develop the skills and confidence to deliver effective clinical services in community pharmacy. To find out more, join a CPPE information session (see events below), or [click here](#)
- **Trainee Pharmacist Recruitment** – Debbie Street, Workforce Lead, [debbie.street@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto:debbie.street@ouh.nhs.uk) would like to remind pharmacies that:
  - The deadline for applications on Oriel is **1 March 2024** – if you do not put your place on Oriel, you CANNOT have a trainee for 2025-26.
  - You need to have plans for supporting your foundation trainee with their prescribing learning environment and Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP).
  - There is a limited amount of financial support for DPPs for community pharmacists who want to undertake their Independent Prescribing qualification to ultimately become our future DPPs. Please contact Debbie if you are interested in accessing this support, would like to be a DPP if you are an existing IP, or if you need help with Oriel and/or a DPP. For future planning it would also be useful if you could let Debbie know if you are applying to have foundation trainee placements on Oriel.
- **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](#)
- **Important Dates** – CPE publish a useful list of important dates for CPCF relating to national services such as Pharmacy First, Covid & Flu vaccination, DMS, NMS, etc. [Click here](#)

- [BOB Medicines Optimisation Bulletin \(BOB MOB\)](#) – the February BOB newsletter, which provides National and System updates, as well as events news and training resources, is now available – [click here](#).
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## Events

- [Community Pharmacy Technician – Advancing Your Role](#) – **12<sup>th</sup> February, 13.00-13.30 or 19.00-19.30** - CPPE are running these information sessions 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> March. To book [click here](#) and use code CPTV (in caps). (Once you have selected your session, go to the basket in the top right to check out.)
- [Let’s Talk About Vaccines](#) – **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> 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](#)