



## Weekly News Digest - 8th August 2024

### **Public Disorder**

If your pharmacy is affected by public disorder, your safety and that of your staff, patients and premises is, of course, paramount. If you do need to close your pharmacy temporarily, please let the ICB know on [frimleyicb.southeastcommunitypharmacy@nhs.net](mailto:frimleyicb.southeastcommunitypharmacy@nhs.net). For CPE's temporary closure and business continuity planning guidance, [click here](#).

### **GP Action - Maintaining a Safe Pharmacy Service**

Following a BMA ballot, many GP practices are 'working-to-rule', which may mean fewer GP appointments, resulting in more people seeking help and advice from their community pharmacy. The safety and effective supply of medicines will remain a top priority for pharmacies, and you may need to activate part of your business continuity plan if patient demand exceeds operational capacity. If your pharmacy is affected, you should communicate this to your patients, making sure it is clear why the pharmacy team is under even more pressure than normal. More information and resources are available from CPE - [click here](#).

### **Bank Holiday Opening**

**August** - Posters and a link to a map showing Thames Valley pharmacies open on the August Bank Holiday are available on [our website](#). Please ensure your DoS and NHS Profiles are up to date, and that you display the relevant poster to direct patients if you are closed. [Click here](#).

**Christmas** - The NHS SE Commissioning Hub are collating Christmas and New Year pharmacy opening. At this stage they are asking about intentions to open (outside of any Enhanced Service arrangement). Depending on the responses received, they will ask separately (at the end of August) about willingness to open under the Enhanced Service (paid). Please complete the online declaration no later than **20 August 2024**. [Click here](#).

### **2024/25 Flu Vaccination**

The NHS flu vaccination campaign will start on Thursday 3rd October 2024 and the NHS will not pay for vaccinations administered outside the authorised dates. CPE and UKHSA have published resources for pharmacies to use to inform patients about the late start to the programme and the reasons behind this change. [Click here](#).

### **Frimley CP PCN Engagement Leads**

Expressions of Interest are being sought for 3 Community Pharmacy PCN Engagement Leads - one each for Bracknell, RBWM and Slough. Starting in September, the roles will help develop channels of engagement between community pharmacies and PCNs, support the local implementation of Pharmacy First, and expand the Hypertension and Contraception services. Leads will be expected to carry out their role on one day per calendar month. Funding of £400 per month has been agreed (until 31/3/2025). To apply (by 26th August) - [click here](#).

### **Independent Prescribing Courses 2024-25**

Applications are now open for funded Independent Prescribing (IP) courses for pharmacists in 2024/25. Courses are available until the end of March 2025, with start dates, course length and number of face-to-face days required depending on the university provider. For more details [click here](#).

### [CPPE Leading for Change Programme](#)

This fully-funded 6 month leadership programme is open to pharmacists and pharmacy technicians working in community pharmacy. It is made up of four online modules: Achieving your potential; Developing and managing services; Inspiring and achieving the best from your team; and Pharmacy within the wider healthcare system. There will be two cohorts starting in October. For more details and dates please [click here](#).

### [PrescQIPP](#)

PrescQIPP is an independent resource set up to support quality prescribing in the NHS and help to make sure that treatments prescribed to patients are safe, effective and good value for money by offering information, guidance and support on prescribing to a large community of NHS professionals, and providing a forum for sharing experience and learning. To find out more [click here](#), or register free using your nhs.net email address - [click here](#).

### [Community Pharmacy Technician: Advancing your Role](#)

CPPE's Community Pharmacy Technician: Advancing your Role is a fully funded learning programme designed to help community pharmacy technicians develop the skills and confidence to support the delivery of effective clinical services in community pharmacy. A recording of a recent webinar providing more information on the programme is [available here](#).

### [SPS Spotlight Monthly Digest - July Edition](#)

The SPS Spotlight Monthly Digest provides updates on existing materials and activities from across SPS, and signposts to upcoming events and activities. It includes resources to support healthcare professionals working in all areas of the health system and gathers activity from across SPS groups including: Medicines Advice, Medicines Use and Safety, Quality Assurance, and Medicines Procurement. [Click here](#).

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## Training & Events

### [CPPE Workshops - September to December 2024](#)

CPPE Workshops for September to December 2024 are now available to book. These include: NHS Pharmacy First: Clinical assessment – essential skills, Asthma: optimising adherence to medicines, Atrial Fibrillation: improve detection and person-centred care, and COPD. For a full calendar and booking links, [click here](#).

### [Paediatric Antimicrobial Prescribing in Primary Care](#)

**13.00-14.00, 12th September 2024, Online**

The aim of this NHS online webinar is to promote the appropriate prescribing of antimicrobials in children. If you are looking to improve your knowledge of paediatric antimicrobial prescribing, join this webinar to find out about the rational use of antibiotics to improve the overall quality of paediatric care. To register [click here](#). (A recording will be available, to receive this please register for the event.)

### [CPPE Optimising Infection Management](#)

**19.00 – 21.00, 26th September 2024, Bracknell Open Learning Centre, RG12 7GR**

This face-to-face workshop will support pharmacy professionals in community delivering the NHS Pharmacy First service. It will look briefly at local prescribing data, explore red flag symptoms and self-care advice for sinusitis and urinary tract infections, and identify opportunities to support delivery of the UK Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) National Action Plan. [Click here](#).

### [The Future of Pharmacy - CPE Owner Event](#)

**19.30-21.00, 26th September 2024, London EC1A 9LQ**

This CPE event will give pharmacy owners an opportunity to hear from Janet Morrison, Chief Executive and her

team about the work CPE is doing to try to ease the critical pressures pharmacies are facing. Attendees will have lots of opportunity to share their views and put questions to the team. [Click here](#).

### **[Pharmacy Show 2024](#)**

**09.00 – 18.00, 13th October 2024 or 09.00 - 16.30 on 14th October 2024**

The Pharmacy Show champions the sector and invites all pharmacy professionals to come together for a host of education and networking opportunities. Pharmacists and pharmacy staff are entitled to a free ticket. For more details [click here](#).

### **[Vaping: a workshop for health and social care professionals](#)**

**18.00 - 19.15, 7th November 2024, Online**

Smoke Free Oxfordshire are offering this free webinar for health care professionals interested in finding out more about vaping as a tool to quit smoking. The training will be carried out online by the National Centre for Smoking Cessation and Training (NCSCT). To register [click here](#).

### **[Pharmacy First & Psoriasis Training](#)**

Your LPC-funded Virtual Outcomes online learning suite now includes modules on Hints, Tips and Learnings from the first few months of the Pharmacy First service, which will help you ensure that you are getting the most out of the service for your patients and your pharmacy; and Psoriasis, along with host of other pharmacy-specific modules. To access, enter your ODS code at: <https://www.virtualoutcomes.co.uk/pharmacy-training/>

### **[Accuracy Checking Pharmacy Technician Programme – funded places](#)**

The NHS have announced funding for 40 community pharmacy places on the CPPE Accuracy Checking Pharmacy Technician programme (ACPT). The ACPT programme is open to pharmacy technicians who are registered with the GPhC, work in a premises in England, and meet the entry criteria [detailed here](#). To find out more [click here](#).

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Community Pharmacy Thames Valley

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