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| ChristmasNewsletter        December 2021 |

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| Dear pharmacy team,2021 feels like it has disappeared in a blur. We have never known pharmacies to have been so busy and to have delivered so much and we would like to thank all of you on behalf of the LPC for the crucial role you have played in caring for your local communities. We just hope that over the Christmas period you are all able to enjoy some time with your families and friends and reflect on the huge achievements of the year as too often we forget to look back and feel proud of our accomplishments. |

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| We have, through our pharmacy network delivered some of the highest numbers of Covid-19 vaccinations and boosters across the South West along with being involved in delivering key projects such as the NHS Community Pharmacist Consultation Service.   GP referrals for CPCS are consistently the highest in the country and in November we broke the 3,000 referral per month from General Practice for the first time ever with 3,116. |

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| This would not have been achieved without the hard work and dedication applied to the project by Judith.  The impact of this cannot be underestimated as that means we are directly freeing up appointments for more complex patients.  In addition we are the first area of the country to go live with referrals from an Urgent Treatment Centre. |

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| We have also seen success come from the addition of the PGDs to support UTIs, Impetigo and other conditions being commissioned across BANES, however the huge achievement in BANES has been the commissioning of an NHS Independent Prescriber service which will allow, for the first time ever, our community pharmacists to use their IP qualification in their pharmacy to prescribe for acute episodes of care on the NHS. To support this the LPC will be working with our BANES pharmacists to ensure access to IP training courses. This is a significant step forward for community pharmacies and we will be sharing the learning from this project Nationally. |

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| The BNSSG Project is also delivering high numbers of consultations with approximately 1,000 consultation per month being carried out. Support for this from Roger has enabled the pharmacies to feel confident in approaching this service. This positive outcome for the CCG means they are now keen to invest further in pharmacies by expanding the range of conditions and inclusion criteria for existing all with the aim to take pressure off GPs and the Out of Hours care system.  2022 will therefore see the rapid deployment of the PGDs in BANES along with the expansion of services in BNSSG. |

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| These project require support across Primary Care and out PCN Community Pharmacy leads are important in working across a number of community pharmacies to bring people together.   Barbara has continued to support these relationships by continuing during 2021 to host and support relationship meetings between pharmacies and surgeries.  These are crucial to enable the system to keep communicating and helping one another.  It allows pharmacies and surgeries to share their experiences and concerns along with planning for the future. |

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| We also saw the introduction back in February of the Discharge Medicines Service to support patients recently discharged from hospital.  This service is showing real benefit for patient care and our evidence is helping to support the business cases for the Acute Trusts to invest in IT systems to seamlessly refer patients on discharge.  To support you with this service, Debbie keeps a watchful eye on the data and contacts pharmacies if they have missed a referral.  This means as an LPC we are over 92% stage 1 completion. On top of all this, during 2021 we continued our clinical and business training online via Zoom and successfully delivered our Annual Conference and Award ceremony to over 100 delegates using this method . Moving forward, once it is safe to do so we are keen to provide face to face training again, however we are committed to always having an online course available for those who cannot make it to our venues.2021 will be the year people remember when we began to get our freedoms back and the NHS launched its largest vaccination programme ever.  It has certainly been challenging but the public have responded positively and I feel have recognised pharmacy for the key role we play in their healthcare.  2022 will require us now to maximise this opportunity and lead on clinical care in the community for our patients.Finally I wish you and your families  a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and we look forward to working with you all in 2022.Seasons greetings, Richard                 LisaChief Officer        ChairAvon LPC   |

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| [**Click here for a printable version for your pharmacy**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=5bcd6bde8e&e=3e5221b889) |

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