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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 1st February |

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| **NEW this week** |

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| HEE Funded IP courses |

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| **Funded Independent Prescribing training for community pharmacists**Health Education England (HEE) has published details on their initial offer of funded Independent Prescribing (IP) courses for pharmacists. This offer will be suitable for community pharmacists who are already in a position to apply and meet the eligibility criteria and where applicable, have agreement from their employer to apply for this funding. |

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| Prescribing Course |

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| **Prescribing Course** There are up to 10 spaces available on the next cohort for the prescribing course at the University of Bath. Students will be registered on the 28th February but the induction workshops are on the 9th and 10thMarch 2022.  All workshops are mandatory so students must ensure they can attend all days before applying and details of these are on the link below.Please note there are a number of forms required (a list of these can be found by following the link below). Please note on the "Confirmation of sponsor form" – **if you are applying for HEE Funding please annotate this with ‘HEE PhIF Community Pharmacy’ but you can leave all other sections blank.**The application site is open and will close on the 15th February 2022.Applications will be dealt with on a first come first served basis.If you have any questions please contact Jo Clark J.H.Clarke@bath.ac.uk |

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| [**Click here for the application site**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=dd32d79ca4&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Infection Control Guidance |

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| **Infection Prevention Control guidance still applies to pharmacies**We would like to remind community pharmacy teams that the UK Health Security Agency's (UKHSA's) infection prevention control (IPC) guidance continues to apply to patients and staff within healthcare settings, including community pharmacy, to ensure that everyone is protected. Resources supporting the IPC guidance, including posters to use at entrances to notify visitors that they must wear a face covering, are available for download. |

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| [**Click here to download resources**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=0b45e11ea1&e=3e5221b889) |

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| PQS Declaration |

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| **PQS declaration: delay in opening of portal and PQS questions published**The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) has announced that there will be a delay in opening the Manage Your Service (MYS) portal for the 2021/22 Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) declarations. The declaration window will now open at **3pm on Thursday 3rd February 2022**and close on **Wednesday 2nd March 2022 at 11:59pm.**The NHSBSA has published the questions that will be included in the 2021/22 PQS declaration so that community pharmacy contractors can view these ahead of making their declaration. |

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| [**Click here for the questions**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=6efbb9b732&e=3e5221b889) |

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| SSP Claim Changes |

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| **Changes to making Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP)Claim - EPS tokens and NCSO endorsement no longer accepted**DHSC has confirmed that from February 2022, you should use the ‘SSP’ endorsement, introduced in June 2021, which uses the code ‘SSP’ followed by the three-digit reference number applicable to the SSP. For example, SSP for Paracetamol 120mg suppositories would be endorsed as ‘SSP 015’ Please also note that only the ‘SSP’ endorsement and not the ‘NCSO’ endorsement or EPS tokens will be accepted on electronic prescriptions and paper FP10 prescription forms when claiming for supplies made in accordance with a valid Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP). |

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| Pharmacy Advice Audit |

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| **Please take part in 2022 Pharmacy Advice Audit**Pharmacy teams are being asked to take part in PSNC’s latest Pharmacy Advice Audit in **w/c 31st January 2022.**The audit will once again ask you to record information about the informal healthcare advice that they are giving over the course of a single day (or until a minimum number of consultations is reached), with the results providing a critical temperature check on how people are continuing to rely on community pharmacies.This is third Advice Audit that pharmacies have been asked to take part in, and the results will once again provide critical evidence for use in our funding discussions with HM Government and the NHS. |

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| Pharmacy Pressures Survey |

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| **URGENT - Please participate  in PSNC’s Pharmacy Pressures Survey**PSNC is increasingly hearing from pharmacy teams who are struggling to cope with ongoing financial and operational pressures, and who are concerned about the impact that the strain on the sector will ultimately have on patients.  They are continuing to raise this with policy-makers, making clear the consequences that their decisions are having. To further support those discussions, PSNC have **launched two surveys** to gather more data on the pressures that everyone working in community pharmacy is under and the impact that this is having.  The surveys will give them a snapshot of the scale of the problems and the results will be used in their ongoing discussions with NHS England & NHS Improvement and the Department of Health and Social Care.  |

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| [**Click here to accèss both surveys**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=f91056ba6b&e=3e5221b889) |

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| First Aid Training Day |

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| **Certified First Aid Training Day - February 17th February**We are running a certified first aid training day at the LPC Office in Bristol on**Thursday 17th February** for the trainee pharmacists and have a couple of places spare. The course will cover all aspects of first aid and life support.Costs which includes a booklet and a certificate as well as tea and coffee are;AHS Members - £65Non AHS Members - £72.50If you are interested in booking a place please e mail Debbie on office@avonhealthcareservices.co.uk with you name, pharmacy name and contact details by Friday 4th February. |

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| Hypertension Case-Finding Service |

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| **HYPERTENSION CASE-FINDING SERVICE**This service went live as a national advanced service in October 2021 and required your pharmacy to sign up via MYS if you wished to participate. Please remember the service is currently pharmacist led and both clinic blood pressure monitoring and 24 hour ambulatory blood pressure monitoring must be available in order to meet the requirements of the service.There is a huge amount of interest in GP practices,PCN’s etc about the service and how community pharmacy can work with them to complete blood pressure monitoring. In the coming weeks Avon LPC is going to start working with you and practices to highlight the service.If you have any questions please email me at  Judith. avonlpc@gmail.com |

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| [**Click here for Training Module**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=deb40db30d&e=3e5221b889) |

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| CPCS IT Deadline |

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| **ACTION REQUIRED NOW -****URGENT CPCS IT deadline approaching**The national procurement of IT support for the CPCS is due to finish at the end of March 2022. Contractors that want to continue providing the service must, therefore, confirm their choice of CPCS IT system by no later than **February 2022**. Those contractors who choose to stay with their current IT provider still need to confirm this. |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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| Weight Management Campaign |

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| **Mandatory Weight Management Campaign for ALL pharmacies**Campaign materials should have arrived last week. If you have not received them please e mail **partnerships@phe.gov.uk** with ‘Weight Management Pharmacy Packs’ in the subject line and include your pharmacy name and address in the email.A 10 minute training module is now also available for you and your team to view which includes information about the campaign, how to approach customers and how you can refer patients into the NHS Digital Weight Loss Programme. |

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| [**Click here for access to the training**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=8856d463bd&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Click here for more information from PSNC**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=b67503e300&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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| Banes - BSW CUES |

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| **BANES pharmacies only - BSW Community Urgent Eyesore Service (CUES)** Please find attached an updated service update for the BSW CUES (Community Urgent Eyecare Service). Patients can now access this service through a central telephone Hub - details on attached poster. |

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| [**Click here for the poster**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=2ebc84e0e9&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Chief Sustainability Officers Clinical Scheme |

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| **Chief Sustainability Officer’s Clinical Fellow Scheme 2022/23** These fellowships offer pharmacists and pharmacy technicians alongside other clinicians the opportunity to work on national projects within their field that will help accelerate progress towards a net zero NHS, gain exposure to national health and climate change policy as well as senior leaders, and develop leadership and management skills. There is an information session for all potential applicants on the 26 January 2022. Applications close on 23rd February 2022.  |

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| Vaccinations During Pregnancy |

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| **BNSSG PHARMACIES ONLY-ALLOCATION OF LEAFLETS BEING SENT TO YOUR PHARMACY**During pregnancy the immune system becomes weakened. As the pregnancies progress there is higher risk of more serious infection and consequent risk to the baby.  Vaccinations such as COVID, Flu and Whopping Cough are safe in pregnancy and can protect both the pregnant person and the baby. The NHS in Bristol North Somerset South Gloucestershire have produced a leaflet that outlines the recommended vaccines in pregnancy which can be made available for pregnant people in store or given out with purchases such as folic acid.Please ensure your team are aware of the leaflet and that they give them out when there is an appropriate opportunity. |

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| **Training - VirtualOutcomes** |

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| Avon is very lucky to have access to VirtualOutcomes online training, please have a look and make use of this valuable resource.  |

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| [**Click here for VirtualOutcomes**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=389a7d1220&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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| Inflammatory Bowel Disease |

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| **ALL PHARMACISTS AND PHARMACY TEAMS ONLINE TRAINING**Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) is commonly misdiagnosed. Would you know how to recognise that your patient has it and what advice you should be giving? If not you this training will help answer these questions.**For pharmacists** - we have two clinical modules (only 20 mins long) to help you understand more about IBD, the treatments used and advice you can give. Great for your CPD!**For pharmacy team members** - there is a short training module to help the team understand the difference between IBS and IBD and how they can identify and support patients. |

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| [**Click here to access the modules**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=5195c65111&e=3e5221b889) |

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