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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 8th February |

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| **NEW this week** |

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| PQS  |

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| **New PQS FAQs published**Following the announcement of the extension of the 2021/22 Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) and the publication of the declaration questions**,**PSNC, working with NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I), has today published some additional questions and answers to help contractors make their PQS declaration. |

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| [**Click here for more information**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=69f218a69b&e=3e5221b889) |

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| New PSNC Chief Executive |

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| **New PSNC Chief Executive to take up post in March**Janet Morrison OBE has been appointed as the new Chief Executive of PSNC. Janet's previous roles include leading Independent Age, an influential national older people's organisation, and the Black Stork Charity, which worked very closely with the NHS.Following approval from the full PSNC Committee this week, Janet will take up the post from 1st March 2022. |

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| [**Click here to find out more about the PSNCs CEO**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=5ae8fa5230&e=3e5221b889) |

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| IP Training |

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| **ANOTHER UNIVERSITY OFFERING IP TRAINING**Health Education England have just made some fully funded places on the IP course (together with the health assessment module) at Plymouth University available for pharmacists who meet certain criteria (see below): • Pharmacists must be working in England. • Pharmacists working in **Community Pharmacy**. • **Pharmacists**working to **provide primary care services**(e.g. working in primary care / CCG) who are not employed in an ARRS role. • Pharmacists working in **Health and Justice**settings.• Pharmacists **employed in General Practice**enrolled on the NHS Primary Care Pharmacy Education Programme (**PCPEP**) are **not**eligible.  Additionally, pharmacists must demonstrate: 1. The support of an identified designated medical practitioner (DMP) or designated prescribing practitioner (DPP).2. An appropriate placement arranged for practice-based learning.3. Evidence they meet the HEI eligibility criteria (applicants will be subject to their chosen HEI’s enrolment processes).4. Commitment to use the skill for the delivery of NHS services as they emerge. The turnaround for this is really quick – applications need to be received by Plymouth University by  17th February. If you have any interested candidates or have any questions about this please contact Richard.lowe@plymouth.ac.uk |

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| Trainee Pharmacists in General Practice Programme |

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| **Participation in the Trainee Pharmacist (Pre regs) in General Practice Programme National Recruitment 2022 (2023 intake) via ORIEL** HEE Trainee Pharmacists in General Practice Programme 2023/24 programme offers trainee pharmacists undertaking their Foundation Training Year (pre reg) in **community pharmacy or hospital** to experience at least 13 weeks in general practice.   This communication aims to:   Highlight the benefits to all parties of offering a cross sector training year in general practice.   Highlight key deadlines with the National Recruitment Scheme (Oriel) ·  Prompt you to take part in the 2023/24 Trainee Pharmacists in General Practice Programme by **6pm on Monday 14th February**.  For more information about the programme please see the attached document ‘Information for prospective host sites’.The deadline for employers to enter their programmes into the National Recruitment Scheme (Oriel) for recruitment is **11.59pm on 1st March 2022.**  **Invitation to new partners to participate in the programme for 2023/24.**   Only those programmes entered prior to the 1st March deadline will be able to progress through the National Recruitment Scheme.  If you would like to participate, please complete the expression of interest  below by**6pm on Monday 14th February**. It is  crucial that the lead pharmacy employer provides a contact who will be available to complete this registration in week commencing the 21st February.   If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your regional facilitator or GPPreregPharm@hee.nhs.uk |

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| [**Information for Prospective Host sites**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=177b53e76a&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**New site Guidance to completing the EOI**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=0172a94e59&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**EOI Survey**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=d3dac5ce54&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 more information**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=4df83d0dd3&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Click here for the questions**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=a31068be54&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Pharmacy Advice Audit |

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| **Please take part in 2022 Pharmacy Advice Audit****AUDIT CLOSES**Friday 18th FebruaryPharmacy teams are being asked to participate in PSNC’s latest Pharmacy Advice Audit.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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| 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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| [**For more information click here**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=398b540216&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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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=c5bbeae5f8&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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| 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=35d40a1be9&e=3e5221b889) |

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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=fb05e31886&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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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=bc8aaaff4f&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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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=7a30eb79d2&e=3e5221b889) |

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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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| 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=02cd2b35b8&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Hypertension Case-Finding Service |

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| **Hypertension Case-Finding Service**There is now 2 FREE online modules available to support you and your team to deliver this important new service. Module 1 is for the whole team including pharmacists and looks at the whole service  whilst Module 2 is for pharmacists delivering the service. |

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