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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 22nd March |

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| **NEW this week** |

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| Feedback required - South Glos only |

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| **SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PHARMACIES ONLY - Feedback on Financial Support Leaflet**South Gloucestershire Council would like feedback on the Financial Support Leaflet attached below) that they distributed through Community Pharmacies and GP practices. They would like to understand whether you have found this leaflet a useful signposting tool and would appreciate finding out what you liked about it and what you think works well, as well as any suggestions for improvement/changes that could be made to make it even better. Any thoughts or information about your experience with this would really support us with this project moving forward. Please send any comments to Sophie.Dalton@southglos.gov.uk |

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| [**Click here for Finance Support Leaflet**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=0bb68fe5e7&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Enoxaparin Sodium |

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| **BNSSG PHARAMCIES ONLY- Prescribing of Enoxaparin Sodium by brand.** As you will be aware, Enoxaparin is not a generic but a biological medicine and should be prescribed by brand name. This is in line with NICE and regulatory authority guidance that all biological medicines, including biosimilars, should be prescribed by brand. It is important for patients to receive the brand of Enoxaparin that they were trained on in the hospital setting, to ensure continuity of care & patient safety. The technique to self-administer the syringe varies by brand and colour coding of strengths is not consistent across brands and this may lead to significant confusion for both patients and their caregivers, subsequently resulting in dosage errors.Community pharmacists need to be aware that most patients will now be discharged on Inhixa® from all local Trusts, so it would be beneficial that, at the point of dispensing, pharmacists confirm that the patient has received the product they expected.  Please click on the link below which shows at the top of the page two letters that you may find helpful. |

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| [**Click here to view the letters**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=6acb8b0d1a&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Update NHS website & DoS profile |

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| **Requirement to update NHS website and DoS profile by end of March 2022**You are reminded of the Terms of Service requirement to ensure you verify and, where necessary, update the information contained in your NHS website profile and your Directory of Services (DoS) profile at least once each quarter of the financial year. For the current financial quarter, the deadline to complete this is 31st March 2022. There is also a requirement to ensure that a pharmacy’s NHS website profile and DoS profile include their opening hours on bank holidays. Since Easter falls in April this year, contractors may also consider updating this information now for Good Friday and Easter Sunday to ensure that this is available ahead of the Easter period. |

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| [**Click here for more information**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=b7d52650cc&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Pharmacy Collect |

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| **Pharmacy Collect: End of service preparations**The last day on which the Community Pharmacy Lateral Flow Device Distribution Service, known publicly as Pharmacy Collect, will operate will be **31st March 2022**. After this date, free COVID-19 mass testing will end meaning you will no longer be able to legally distribute free NHS test kits.PSNC, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) have been working together on the final plans for the end of the service and the UKHSA has now provided a checklist for contractors to use as a guide to support the closure of the service. |

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| [**Click here for the checklist**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=8dc7f165cd&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Review Steering Group |

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| **RSG confirms contractor vote set to be held in May 2022**A timetable for the conclusion of the Review Steering Group’s (RSG) work to find ways to improve contractor representation and support was announced yesterday.In an update to contractors, the RSG said it had reached consensus on a proposed way forward, and that it would publish proposals to the sector shortly after Easter, with a contractor vote expected to follow beginning late in May. PSNC Members are currently considering the RSG’s proposals as they are finalised.    |

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| ENT - March Online Training Event |

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| Common Disorders of the Ear, Nose and Throat and a review of the role of an independent prescriber.Wednesday 30th March 2022, 7.30pm start - Avon LPC March Online Training Event.Aims for the Training:* Look at some of the common disorders of the ears, nose & throat and what advice you should give patients.
* Share top tips to enable patients to self care
* Support pharmacists with the most common referrals made via CPCS
* Look at the red flags symptoms
* Explore the role of an independent prescriber

Click below for more information and to register for the event. |

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| [**Click here to register for the event**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=5ac3ea66d6&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Flyer**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=3efe3971a3&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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| NHSE&I Letter on Flu Vaccines |

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| **NHSE&I letter on flu vaccines for 2022/23**NHSE&I have published their flu vaccination reimbursement letter for the 2022/23 season. The letter provides information on the flu vaccines which will be reimbursable under the 2022/23 Community Pharmacy Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Advanced Service, for the two cohorts (65 years and over and at-risk adults aged 18-64).**The letter also highlights that in 2022/23, the NHS flu vaccination programme will only be offered to patient groups eligible in line with pre-pandemic recommendations.** |

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| [**Click here to read the letter**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=f23e83471a&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Cyber Security |

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| **National Cyber Security Centre resilience request**The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) has urged organisations to bolster their cyber security resilience in response to the malicious cyber incidents in and around Ukraine and recently issued guidance that encourages organisations to consider steps that reduce the risk of falling victim to a cyber attack.Community pharmacy contractors are also reminded of the following PSNC briefings, which contain important information on how to improve data and cyber security for pharmacies: |

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| [**Click here for 10 steps to improve cyber security**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=f657c194e4&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Click here for IT tips fact sheet**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=ec3ded6622&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Smoking Cessation Service |

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| **2nd NEW ADVANCED SERVICE - Smoking Cessation Service start date announced**The new Smoking Cessation Service (SCS) will officially commence on **10th March 2022**and contractors will be able to register to provide the service on the Manage Your Service (MYS) portal from 1st March 2022.The service is the**second** of the two new Advanced services to be introduced this financial year (the first being the Hypertension case-finding service) as one of the agreed outcomes from negotiations for Year 3 of the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework. A draft version of the SCS service specification is now available and PSNC has published a range of resources to support contractors. |

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| [**Click here for further information**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=46bb07945f&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Hypertension Case Finding Service now live  |

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| **HYPERTENSION CASE FINDING SERVICE LIVE NOW ON PHARMOUTCOMES**PiharmOutcomes have produced three templates for your pharmacists to use when completing blood pressure tests for patients who you have proactively approached or for patients whom the GP Practice has sent to you as part of the Hypertension Case Finding Service.The templates also have associated with them a number of GP notifications and patients information sheets that you can share with GP practices and patients respectively and include a loan form for ABPM meters and an appointment reminder for ABPM fitting as well as patient information about blood pressure and what their result means.**Payment for the service** - **this needs to be completed manually by the pharmacy as there is NO link between the service and MYS. Please ensure you make all your team aware of this and have a clear procedure in place to keep track of the tests you have completed.** |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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| BNSSG Return of Signed CCG Contract |

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| **BNSSG PHARMACIES ONLY - Return of signed CCG Contract ASAP** BNSSG CCG issued the new contract for services such as PGDs and Emergency supply recently to Head Offices and individual contractors as appropriate. If you are responsible for signing the new contract and have not done so please could you return the completed and signed document asap to bnssg.pc.contracts@nhs.net |

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| Digital Technology Event |

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| **NHSE&I event on designing a Pharmacy Learning Network for digital services.**NHSE&I are inviting pharmacy teams to discuss what an effective learning network to support digital services should look like for the sector.Community pharmacy team members with an interest in the use of digital technology are encouraged to attend this virtual event, which will be held on **Thursday** **17th March 2022, from 10.00-11.30am**. |

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| [**To register for the event click here**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=afcf67c899&e=3e5221b889) |

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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=88aa3cd5aa&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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| QI Training Sessions |

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| The West of England Academic Health Science Network are running a free series of QI training sessions tailored to Pharmacists and Pharmacy technicians. The feedback from the first sessions was overwhelmingly positive. |

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| [**For more information click here**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=16ba8136b6&e=3e5221b889) |

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