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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 20th December |

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| This is your Christmas and New Year addition - the next weekly newsletter will be on Tuesday 10th January. If there is any important news we need to share with you before the 10th January we will put a message on PharmOutcomes. |

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| Seasons Greetings from all of us at Avon LPC. |

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| **NEW this week** |

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| Pen V |

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| **Further five SSPs issued for Pen V (all formulations)**Further to significant ongoing disruption affecting supply of Phenoxymethylpenicillin (Pen V) for which [three Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) were released yesterday](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=044af0bac1&e=3e5221b889), the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has issued a further five new SSPs. The new SSPs, introduced with immediate effect, allow community pharmacists to **consider** **different oral antibiotic** preparations, to enable the continued supply of antibiotics to patients and mitigate the ongoing supply disruptions affecting Phenoxymethylpenicillin.Before supplying an alternative antibiotic, the pharmacist must consider if a suitable supply can be made by using an alternative formulation of Pen V in accordance with the relevant SSP. Where this is not possible, only specified antibiotics can be substituted for prescriptions for the duration of no more than 10 days, in order of preference and depending on availability and the dosing needs for the patient (again please see specific SSP for details).Pharmacy teams are advised to **read the documentation in full for all SSPs published**.[Find out more about the new SSPs](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=2acedcc43e&e=3e5221b889) **Please note:*** There is full information in the SSPs and Annexes A to C – they look complex, but while containing significant information, they are all broadly the same – providing alternatives if the pharmacy has no Pen V to dispense,
* The 3 formulation-change SSPs must be used first, if you can,
* SSPs are only used if the pharmacist using professional skill and judgment consider the supply using the SSP to be appropriate for the patient,
* There must be the agreement of the patient/patient’s representative for SSP supply,
* The selection of the alternative antibiotic for treatment of less than 10 days is based on a cascade – first preference is Amoxicillin and last preference is Co-amoxiclav – generally from narrower to broader spectrum antibiotic overlayed with supply chain information,
* The alternative antibiotic for treatment of more than 10 days is Erythromycin, and
* These are version 1 and the expiry date is the 31st of January 2023.
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| Weight Management |

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| **Mandatory National Health Campaign - Weight Management****Campaign Timing:*** Campaign Starts on **Tuesday 3rd January** **2023**
* Campaign Ends **Sunday 29th January 2023**.

**Campaign Resources:*** Contractors **can order** pharmacy specific posters, wallet cards (‘info’ cards with a QR code signposting people to the Better Health website and free tips and tools to lose weight) and a dispenser for these cards on the [Campaign Resource Centre](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=278b09f224&e=3e5221b889)website.
* Alternatively, pharmacy teams can choose to use **digital resources** as part of the campaign, which are available to download on the Campaign Resource Centre website also. These include digital screens for pharmacies, web banners and email signatures.

**Recording of Conversations:*** As part of the Healthy living support domain of the 2022/23 Pharmacy Quality Scheme, pharmacy teams are required to proactively discuss weight management with**a minimum of 25 patients and refer at least four patients (who meets the criteria for referral) to either a Local Authority funded tier 2 weight management service or the NHS Digital Weight Management Programme**. Pharmacy teams could use the campaign materials as conversation starters to assist them with meeting these requirements.
* There **is a requirement for all pharmacies to upload their data for this Health Campaign onto PharmOutcomes,** we have therefore attached a manual tally sheet for you to record these conversations for your convenience.
* We will then require you to complete the evaluation survey on PharmOutcomes from Monday **13 February to 24 February 2023** to report your figures; even if it is a nil return (further details about this will be provided in following emails)

Find a [guidance leaflet](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=d569b0b5c6&e=3e5221b889) to support community pharmacy teams’ conversations with patients. |

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| [**Tally Chart**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=25dc54ef32&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Sore Throat PGD |

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| **All Pharmacies - Change to Sore Throat PGD**From the 16th December you will see a new Sore Throat PGD service in PharmOutcomes  (titled Live from 16th Dec). This service allows you to supply antibiotics for people aged 5-17 with a FeverPAIN score of 3,4 or 5.The service contains link to the new PGDs or you can find them[here.](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=18b5596598&e=3e5221b889)Please note that you will not be able to use the old service template from close of play on Sat 17th. |

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| Clinical Examination Skills |

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| **HEE Clinical examination skills training for community pharmacists.**New clinical examination skills training will increase the confidence of community pharmacists to manage the types of clinical cases that are increasingly presenting in the community pharmacy setting.This new training will consist of a series of modules, with pharmacists able to choose their preferred option based on personal or professional interests. Preferred modules can be accessed following completion of a pre-requisite gateway module on history taking and identification of serious conditions. Content will be delivered in a flexible way designed to meet the needs of community pharmacists.To find out more and register to receive more updates regarding the launch of this training please click [here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=237f746ace&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Contraception Service Specification |

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| **Contraception service specification published**The specification for the [Pharmacy Contraception Service](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=5843bbeaab&e=3e5221b889) is now available for pharmacy contractors to download from the NHS Business Services Authority's website. The specification includes the training requirements for the service which will not start on 11th January 2023, as originally planned, but is expected to commence in early 2023, with the service's exact start date yet to be agreed.[Read the Pharmacy Contraception Service spec](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=ed782ba10a&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Minor Injuries Units (MIUs) - Yate and Clevedon**Please can we remind all pharmacists and their teams that they should not be signposting/referring patients to either of the MIU’s **UNLESS** they have a minor injury. The MIU’s can’t treat anybody unless they have a minor injury. In the past couple of weeks patients have been referred by community pharmacy teams to the local MIU’s with conditions such as rashes, UTI’s, Sore throats, Eczema and Kidney infections. Please can you ensure all team members including any locums are made aware of this please. |

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| Palliative Care - BNSSG |

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| **BNSSG Palliative care medicines**Local palliative care guidelines can be found on the [St Peter’s hospice website](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=57fef1b724&e=3e5221b889)and also information is available on the [BNSSG Formulary pages](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=7a8b9577e1&e=3e5221b889).A number of pharmacies across BNSSG are providing the NHS England Enhanced Service for the Availability of Specialist Medicines which means they are required to ensure that the specialist medicines (including certain palliative care medicines) are available at all times during their opening hours and on any bank or public holidays on which they open. However sometimes additional medicines are requested by prescribers and it has been highlighted to us that some pharmacies have been having difficulties accessing some palliative care medicines such as clonazepam and alfentanil injections. If stock is unavailable from the manufacturer, it may be that the medicine is a special, which can be ordered via the pharmacy’s own specials supplier or via CLINIGEN (formally known as IDIS) Tel: 01932824100. If your pharmacy is struggling to source any other palliative care medicines please do keep the BNSSG ICB Medicines Optimisation Team informed of these issues by contacting them on: bnssg.medicines-optimisation@nhs.net ‘ |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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| Strep A |

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| **Strep A in Children Summary**NHS England - South West Community Pharmacy team sent the following information out on Friday 9th December. Please find below updated information regarding Streptococcus in children attached. Please ensure all team members including pharmacists have read it. |

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| [**Strep A in Children**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=212ba7855c&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Strep A & Antibiotic Supply**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=dd211bc728&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Clinical Guidance**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=bda94b3fd3&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Dispensing & Supply Updates |

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| **Dispensing and Supply Updates**PSNC's Dispensing and Supply Team has published the following notices about medicines supply that pharmacy teams should be aware of.**SSP005 extended:**DHSC has decided to further extend the Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) for Fluoxetine 10mg tablets (SSP005) to Friday 10th February 2023. [Find out more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=75313bf035&e=3e5221b889)**Manufacturer and Wholesaler Christmas Opening Hours: :**We have created a summary of manufacturers and wholesalers’ customer service desk opening hours over the Christmas period and collated links to information on the order cut off/delivery schedules during this period. [Read more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=93258af5a0&e=3e5221b889) |

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| SSP's |

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| **Serious shortage protocols (SSP’s)**SSPs are a potential way to help pharmacies to manage any serious shortages of medicines that may occur, without needing to refer patients back to prescribers.Please ensure all your team are aware of the current SSP’s in force currently. More information is available [here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=94f0db5522&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Expiry of six HRT SSPs**The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has confirmed that sufficient stock of Oestrogel® Pump Pack (estradiol) 0.06% gel and Ovestin® (estriol 0.1%) 1mg cream is now available to meet normal demand. As a result a number of Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) **have now expired**.Any prescriptions for these products must now be dispensed in accordance with the prescription, and the SSPs are no longer valid for use.[See PSNC's top tips for claiming SSPs](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=7e5af19355&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **NHSmail changes: keeping your account active.**To increase the security of NHSmail, the NHSmail team will shortly be making changes to the system which will impact users.From 1st December 2022, personal NHSmail accounts which are not used **for 30 days** will be marked inactive and inactive accounts which are not activated within the following 30 days will be deleted. If a personal NHSmail account is ‘deleted’; it can be **restored within 30 days by raising an NHSmail ticket**. But, if an account is not restored within that period, it will be permanently deleted, and it will not be able to be restored.[Find out more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=4ab38c4278&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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| BNSSG - Health & Wellbeing |

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| **BNSSG Pharmacies ONLY - Health and Wellbeing Support for whole team**Would you like to make health and wellbeing a focus for your and your team? Would you like some money to do this?Find out more by watching [this video](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=cb06906536&e=3e5221b889) and click here to [sign up](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=96e2f0a681&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Banes - Sexual Health |

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| **BANES Pharmacies ONLY - Sexual Health Service**Please find some messages to use on social media, useful contact details and the opening times of Riverside clinic over the Christmas and New Year period. |

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| [**SH Social Media & Newsletter**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=6037078ab5&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.VirtualOutcomes have just launched their latest training course to support pharmacies in completing the mandatory NHSE Clinical Audit on valproate.  Please and attached a flyer regarding this.  |

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| [**Click here for VirtualOutcomes**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=3ff2cf0729&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Click here for the flyer on Valproate**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=76969d0b2a&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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