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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 6th December |

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| **NEW this week** |

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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=fb55d53c43&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prescriptions for these products must now be dispensed in accordance with the prescription, and the SSPs are no longer valid for use.[See PSNC's top tips for claiming SSPs](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=919b534332&e=3e5221b889) |

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| PSNC Webinars |

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| **Protecting pharmacy services: please share your views**PSNC is hosting two webinars to hear from contractors about the current critical situation for many pharmacies and the steps they may be willing to take should urgent relief not be forthcoming from Government. Please sign up to come and hear from and talk to PSNC Chief Executive Janet Morrison and Negotiating Team Members:[Wednesday 7th December, 19.30 – 21.00](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=843c72c183&e=3e5221b889)[Wednesday 14th December, 19.30 – 21.00](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=9a209f369a&e=3e5221b889)[Read more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=0fd4e60b10&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Contractor Pressures |

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| **Contractor views on pressures and the future**There is now a couple of days left for contractors and others in the community pharmacy sector to share their initial views on the future direction for community pharmacy as part of PSNC's [Vision and strategy project](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=d2f961a76c&e=3e5221b889). This work is seeking to lay the ground ahead of future critical CPCF negotiations.The open consultation – in the form of an online survey – is the first opportunity for contractors, LPCs and others to share their thoughts with Nuffield Trust and The King's Fund. All questions in the survey allow for free-text answers and the deadline for responses is **11.59pm on Friday 9th December 2022**.[Learn more and complete the survey](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=725de8e31a&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Click here for more information**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=4af5e50f44&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Survey** **on** **“What pharmacist in the South West are doing to reduce medicines waste and to ensure the safe and proper disposal of medication of medication and packaging"**You are invited to participate in a research study being conducted by fourth year MPharm students from the University of Bath. Medicines waste is currently a big issue in the UK with around £300m of medicines going to waste each year. Additionally, research has shown that disposal of medication in the general rubbish is the most common method of disposal by households in the UK. This, along with other incorrect methods of disposal like flushing down sinks leads to many environmental consequences that can be mitigated by correct disposal.  Through our research, we aim to find out what pharmacists are currently doing, and how they can help to combat these issues. ***Independent Prescriber Survey:***[https://bathreg.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/medicine-waste-and-recycling-prescribing-2](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=04411b282e&e=3e5221b889)  ***Community Pharmacist Survey:*** [https://bathreg.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/medicine-waste-and-recycling-2-prescribing](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=9544e4717d&e=3e5221b889) The links above will take you to the survey. Please read this carefully and fill in the consent form that follows, if you would like to participate in the study. The survey should take around 15 minutes to complete. **The deadline for this survey is the 9th of December 2022.** If you have any questions regarding the survey or this research project please contact: twr32@bath.ac.uk or am399@bath.ac.uk.      |

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| Antiviral Medicines |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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| **Influenza season 2022/2023: Use of antiviral medicines** UKHSA surveillance data indicates that influenza is circulating in the community.Prescribers working in primary care may now prescribe, and community pharmacists may now supply antiviral medicines (oseltamivir and zanamivir) for the prophylaxis and treatment of influenza at NHS expense.Antiviral medicines may be prescribed for patients in clinical at-risk groups as well as anyone at risk of severe illness and/or complications from influenza if not treated. |

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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=c2232bb84f&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **PQS assessment framework now available**Community pharmacy contractors can now access the assessment framework for the 2022/23 Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) on [PharmOutcomes](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=e57c3f865e&e=3e5221b889). This is available free of charge to all contractors and allows them and their teams to track their progress with achieving the gateway and quality criteria/domains of the PQS.[Find out how to access the PQS assessment framework](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=0f16e2f8e5&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Mandatory National Audit |

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| **Mandatory national audit announced**PSNC and NHS England have agreed that the 2022/23 national clinical audit will focus on valproate, with the aim of reducing the potential harm caused by taking valproate during pregnancy. **The audit must be completed by all community pharmacy contractors as this is part of their NHS contractual requirements.**Contractors will be required to conduct the audit over a **six-week consecutive period**, however, the workload associated with the audit is expected to be manageable for all contractors as the number of patients covered by the audit is small.[Learn more about the audit](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=db5bc10d33&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Naloxone |

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| **ALERT FOR ALL PHARMACIES - Naloxone** Macarthys Laboratories (trading as Martindale Pharma, an Ethypharm Group Company), has notified the MHRA that a limited number of Prenoxad kits (packs) in a batch marketed in France have **missing needles.**Please consider speaking to your high risk patients about this alert and ask them to check any naloxone packs they may have.[More information can be found here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=8d07fe1ee4&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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| New Doxycycline PGD - Banes |

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| **B&NES Only – New Doxycycline PGD** Please note that the B&NES Doxycycline PGD has been updated. Please ensure all pharmacists are made aware of the new PGD and that they read and sign it. The PGD should be stored safely in your pharmacy. The new PGD can be found [here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=f2a3ebf000&e=3e5221b889)  and also at [www.safebanes.com/professionals](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=cdb8fcff22&e=3e5221b889). If you have any questions or need a password for [safebanes.com](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=2344544e2d&e=3e5221b889) please contact paul\_sheehan@bathnes.gov.uk |

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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=803e08257b&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Click here for the flyer on Valproate**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=c15ce92925&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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