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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 17th January |

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| **NEW this week** |

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| PQS |

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| **PQS Declaration questions published**The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) has published the questions which will be included in the 2022/23 Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) declaration so community pharmacy contractors can view these ahead of making their declaration.The questions are available on the [NHSBSA PQS hub page](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=7ce7aa2dd3&e=3e5221b889); you should scroll down to the ‘Declaration questions’ section where they can access the questions in a Word document.[Find out more about making a PQS Declaration](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=282ba1c22a&e=3e5221b889) |

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| PSNC Engagement Events |

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| **Pharmacy Vision: PSNC to hold engagement events**Work to develop a new vision and strategic options for community pharmacy is now well underway, being led by Nuffield Trust and The King’s Fund. Following the closure of the Pharmacy Vision consultation last month, PSNC has announced two online engagement events to give community pharmacy contractors who didn’t manage to fill in the consultation survey a chance to share their views. They will involve group discussions with members of the PSNC team and fellow contractors, focused on the questions asked in the online consultation.[Register for one of the upcoming Pharmacy Vision events](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=26fa845f8e&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Free PPE for pharmacy teams extended until March 2024**The Government’s scheme providing free personal protective equipment (PPE) to health and care providers, including community pharmacies in England, has been [extended for another year](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=88cbb5d889&e=3e5221b889). |

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| EPS Factsheet |

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| **EPS Tokens factsheet**PSNC has published a factsheet for community pharmacy teams explaining how to order tokens for the Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) and escalate issues, if necessary. Please note, Primary Care Support England (PCSE) is responsible for distributing tokens and administer the ordering portal.[Read the factsheet](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=8b249bd5b3&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Five SSPs & Lenzetto SSPs |

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| **Five SSPs further extended and expiry of Lenzetto SSPs**The following Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) have been further extended until **Friday 27th January 2023**.* [SSP029 Sandrena® 0.5mg and 1mg gel sachets – restriction](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=4c13b2110b&e=3e5221b889)
* [SSP030 Sandrena® 0.5mg and 1mg gel sachets –  substitution](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=7b2ebd7f11&e=3e5221b889)
* [SSP031 Sandrena® 0.5mg and 1mg gel sachets –  substitution and restriction](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=11920bbcf1&e=3e5221b889)
* [SSP036 Estraderm MX*®* 100mcg patches](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=5e87a794ff&e=3e5221b889)
* [SSP038 Estraderm MX® 75mcg patches](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=6e812ec585&e=3e5221b889)

Please note that the SSPs below expired at **23.59 on Friday 13th January*** [SSP026 Lenzetto®1.53mg/dose transdermal spray –  restriction](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=81a977657b&e=3e5221b889)
* [SSP027 Lenzetto®1.53mg/dose transdermal spray –  substitution](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=da1b55957b&e=3e5221b889)
* [SSP028 Lenzetto®1.53mg/dose transdermal spray – substitution and restriction](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=4e4a675f70&e=3e5221b889)

Following the expiry of the above SSPs, any prescriptions for Lenzetto® 1.53mg/dose transdermal spray must be dispensed in accordance with the prescription.  |

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| Data Security & Protection Toolkit |

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| **Data Security and Protection Toolkit guidance**PSNC has published new guidance to help community pharmacy contractors to complete the 2022/23 Data Security and Protection Toolkit. The Toolkit is used to make a pharmacy’s information governance (IG) declaration and the deadline for completion is **Friday 30th June 2023**.PSNC collaborated with NHS Digital to keep the workload associated with Toolkit completion manageable and published our guidance materials as soon as was practicable. Contractors are advised to read the guidance and consider the Toolkit in their workload planning. [Read our new Toolkit guidance](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=889475c05d&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **COMMUNITY PHARMACY RESEARCH SURVEY**We would like to invite you all to participate in a study being conducted by Imperial College London Department of Primary Care & Public Health. The study aims to understand the knowledge, attitude and perceptions of pharmacists and the general public regarding **HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) treatment** and gaining insight into existing barriers and facilitators towards the **routine provision of PrEP in the Community Pharmacy setting** in the UK.Please consider taking the short (5-10 min) survey, which can be accessed via PC or mobile. All responses will be pseudonymised and confidential  [https://imperial.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\_d0QlCkEYVXeljbE](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=779835abc8&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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| SSP Payments |

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| **Top tips to claim for and reconcile SSP payments**PSNC has been working with NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) to understand if claims for Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) are being submitted correctly. PSNC understands that a **large number SSP claims continue to be deemed invalid by the NHSBSA due to incorrect endorsements applied by PMR systems and/or pharmacy staff**.We have therefore created a guidance article to explain the common reasons for these incorrect/invalid SSP claims and provide top tips on how to endorse and declare SSP claims correctly.[View our SSP claim top tips](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=85b3823c4e&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Drug Tariff Watch |

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| **Drug Tariff Watch - January 2023**As well as the Category M prices referenced above, contractors and their teams should also take note of these other Drug Tariff changes that will be introduced from 1st January 2023. PSNC's Dispensing and Supply Team has created a summary of these changes in their latest Drug Tariff Watch article. This includes details of additions and deletions, as well as category and price changes.[Read January's Drug Tariff Watch](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=8764c27a47&e=3e5221b889)Changes of note include:The **original FreeStyle Libre Sensors**will be deleted from Part IXA of the Drug Tariff from January 2023. Any EPS or paper prescriptions for these sensors must be submitted to NHSBSA by 5th January 2023, otherwise they will not be passed for payment. [Read more about the removal of FreeStyle Libre Sensors](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=7f64ef203e&e=3e5221b889)**Madopar® preparations** were re-classified as special containers [Learn more about the re-classification of Madopar® preparations](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=702070dca9&e=3e5221b889)**Zero discount changes**eleven products will enter the list of 'Drugs for which Discount is Not Deducted' (DND) in January.[View DND status changes page](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=0fdd940376&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Drug Safety Update |

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| **MHRA Drug Safety Update December 2022**A new Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA). Drug Safety Update has been published including articles on Valproate, COVID-19 vaccines and medicines and more.[Read the December MHRA Drug Safety Update](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=0de06c7f6d&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=68513cf867&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=d23bf2ab02&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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| BNSSG - Aims of Integrated Care System. |

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| **BNSSG Pharmacies ONLY - Strategic Aims of BNSSG Integrated Care System**Please click this link:   [https://remedy.bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/media/5572/nhs\_medopstrategy\_a3poster\_aw.pdf](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=c95f5c5522&e=3e5221b889) to download the poster detailing the key strategic aims of the BNSSG Integrated Care System (ICS). It would be useful for you and your pharmacy team to be aware of the direction of travel locally. |

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| **Dexcom One Real-time Continuous Glucose Monitoring (RT-CGM)**Please find more information attached about this product which means patients don’t need to do finger prick tests or scanning as information is sent directly from it to a smartphone or receiver. It is now included in the Drug Tariff so you may start getting patient enquiries.  |

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| [**Ordering Information**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=569062939a&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=8e1b142004&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Click here for the flyer on Valproate**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=1380d54284&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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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=75224d4ed3&e=3e5221b889) |

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