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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 14th March |

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| **NEW this week** |

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| Save Our Pharmacies! |

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| **Pharmacy bodies launch Save Our Pharmacies campaign website**A Save Our Pharmacies campaign website has been created by leading national pharmacy bodies, to give new focus to calls for fair pharmacy funding in England.This is the latest output of a [**joint programme of work**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=889e16dbf1&e=3e5221b889) being coordinated by PSNC, CCA, AIM and the NPA. It comes the same day the group launched a new [**public petition on the ’38 Degrees’ platform**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=d2cf651e35&e=3e5221b889), which calls for immediate, fair and sustained funding to safeguard NHS pharmacy services.The newly launched site contains key messages for public, politicians and stakeholders, and hosts campaign resources to be used by pharmacy teams.  It will undergo further development as the campaign progresses, with new resources added to ensure maximum public engagement.A further resource in the form of a window poster is being printed and will shortly be mailed out to all community pharmacies in England.[Read more and visit the Save Our Pharmacies website](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=59c959ccbe&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Valproate Audit |

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| **URGENT : Have you submitted your national valproate audit 2022/23 data?**You are reminded that by **31st March 2023,** you must have completed the 2022/23 national clinical audit on valproate over a six-week consecutive period, and have submitted the data via the Valproate audit 2022/23 tab on the **Manage Your Service (MYS) portal**.[Find out more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=0a1d6ac880&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Prescription Charge |

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| **Prescription charge rises to £9.65**The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has announced that from **1st April 2023**, the NHS prescription charge will **increase to £9.65 per prescription item**.Amendments to the National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Regulations have been laid before Parliament which will introduce changes for NHS prescription charge and prescription prepayment certificates (PPCs), as well as the introduction of the Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) PPC.PSNC is in the process of updating its charge card and PPC poster. These will be available on their website in due course. Read more [here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=0cbb20c37f&e=3e5221b889) |

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| PSNC Webinar |

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| **PSNC webinar on-demand: Data Security and Protection Toolkit 2023**Contractors can now access a recording of PSNC’s recent online workshop to help with completion of the Data Security and Protection Toolkit for 2022/2023. With contractors required to finalise their pharmacy’s Toolkit submission by **30th June 2023**, this webinar provides the perfect opportunity to make good headway in its completion.[Watch the on-demand version of the webinar](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=8d05e09928&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Health & Wellbeing Newsletter - BNSSG |

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| **BNSSG Pharmacies** - **Health and Wellbeing Newsletter**Dear colleagues,Welcome to this month's health and wellbeing newsletter. We hope you find it useful and please do share with your colleagues in your organisation. For more information on health and wellbeing in primary care, please visit our [TeamNet page](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=b72b747379&e=3e5221b889). |

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| NHSE Terms of Service |

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| **ALL Pharmacies - NHSE Terms of Service End of Year Requirements**As part of the Terms of Service all community pharmacies are required to confirm they have completed the following requirements of the Terms of Service for this year 2022/23: The following annual declarations are required:-1. **Pharmacy Patient Leaflet Available -**Deadline 31 March 2023
2. **In House Clinical Audit -**Your own Company (in house) clinical audit has been carried out. **Deadline 31 March 2023.**
3. **Annual Complaints Review for period 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023**.

To be compliant you need to have completed the PharmOutcomes Annual Complaints return or your Head Office must have submitted on your behalf. **Deadline 30th April 2023** A self-declaration form is now available on PharmOutcomes for all Community Pharmacies to complete. Please log into PharmOutcomes [here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=184f0f4254&e=3e5221b889) and complete the self -declaration form for your pharmacy to confirm compliance with the requirements of the Terms of Service for 2022/23. If you have any queries with the above, then please do not hesitate to contact the pharmacy team via england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net.  |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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| HRT - new regulations |

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| **New regulations to accompany the introduction of HRT PPCs**The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has introduced new pharmaceutical regulations, to take effect on 1st April 2023, to accompany the introduction of the Hormone Replacement Therapy Prepayment Certificate (HRT PPC).The HRT PPC is a new, limited scope, less expensive, prepayment certificate applicable only to listed HRT items. Its limited scope may present a problem when both an HRT item and another medicine are prescribed on the same prescription. The regulations outline options for contractors/pharmacists facing this issue.[Find out more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=8ce9643c20&e=3e5221b889) |

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| HRT Certificate |

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| **DHSC announces rollout of HRT prescription prepayment certificate**The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has [announced](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=1e34e8d06b&e=3e5221b889) that women in England will be able to access cheaper Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) for menopause through a new Hormone Replacement Therapy prescription prepayment certificate (HRT PPC).Whilst PSNC remains supportive of the Government’s decision to make HRT medicines more accessible to women at a reduced cost, we recognise that the implementation of this new type of PPC will introduce additional workload and financial risks for community pharmacy teams. We have made repeated representations directly to the Minister for Women and the DHSC to make all HRT medicines free-of-charge items (similar to contraceptives) but the Government recognised the issues, the Minister has decided to press ahead with the policy.PSNC will publish further guidance for contractors once the Department has finalised details of the changes.[Learn more about the HRT PPC](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=8bd7fa21d7&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=9f925a6680&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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| New PGDs - BNSSG only |

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| **BNSSG Pharmacies ONLY - NEW PGDS**Please ensure all pharmacists including relief and locums are aware that new PGDS were issued last week for the following; Sore throats, Chloramphenicol for severe bacterial conjunctivitis**,**Impetigo, Hydrocortisone and all the pharmacy sexual health PGDs for Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset.The new PGD’s need to be read, understood and signed and a copy kept on the pharmacy premises. Please ensure the old PGD’s are stored safely. When using PharmOutcomes for the first time since the new PGDs were issued pharmacists will be required to complete a new Declaration of Competence which includes a statement asking them to confirm that they have read and signed the new PGD dated March 23. |

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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=706e97752c&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Click here for new Smoking Cessation Training**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=fba67484ab&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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| Independent Prescribing |

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| **Independent Prescribing courses 2023-24 – HEE training offer extended for another year** Health Education England are pleased to announce that applications for independent prescribing courses starting in spring 2023 **are open**. Courses will be available from April 2023 to March 2024, with several universities offering multiple dates for cohort intakes. Start dates will depend on the university provider. HEE is encouraging all pharmacists from across sectors, including community pharmacy and locums, to seize this opportunity. Pharmacists who meet the eligibility criteria will be able to apply for one of the almost 3,000 places on independent prescribing courses at a variety of universities across England:  |

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| Independent Prescribing Funding |

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| **Funding** Independent Prescribing training is available to pharmacists who meet the eligibility criteria. Tuition fees are fully funded by Health Education England (HEE). Pharmacists that are successful in applying to one of the approved universities will be allocated a fully funded place directly by the university. They do not need to apply to HEE for funding separately. Eligible pharmacists can apply to universities listed on the [HEE website.](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=614675736a&e=3e5221b889)**They will need to demonstrate (as a minimum):** ·       The support of an identified designated prescribing practitioner (DPP).·       An appropriate practice-based learning environment in a prescribing setting that can offer appropriate clinical support.·       Evidence that you meet the course provider eligibility criteria (applicants will be subject to their chosen university’s enrolment processes).·       Commitment to use the skill within your area of competence and expertise, for the delivery of NHS clinical services as they emerge.**For any further enquiries, please contact**pharmacyteam@hee.nhs.uk or Anne.avonlpc@gmail.com for further information. |

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| Dermatology Training |

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| **Dermatology Training - Wednesday 22nd March**Please find attached details of  an evening webinar of skin conditions.If you wish to attend please e mail Dan Brown DABRW@leo-pharma.com for details of how to sign up.[More Information](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=337b86037e&e=3e5221b889) |

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