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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 18th April 2023 |

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| **NEW this week** |

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| Respimat |

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| **Respimat Dispensing Errors**We have been asked to make you aware of a number of dispensing errors that have occurred recently to patients prescribed SPIRIVA RESPIMAT who have in fact been dispensed SPIOLTO RESPIMAT. The two products look very similar. Please could you ensure that all your team are briefed.  |

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| PSNC Factsheet |

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| **PSNC factsheet about NHSmail on mobile devices**PSNC’s factsheet for community pharmacy teams explains how to access the shared NHSmail inbox within the Outlook mobile app. The app enables contractors to quickly and easily access NHSmail and provides contractors with the flexibility to choose how and when they would like to be notified about incoming emails.[Find out more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=84d490d2b0&e=3e5221b889) |

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| HRT Medicine List |

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| **Updated PSNC HRT medicines list**PSNC has updated its HRT medicines list for pharmacy teams. Changes have been made to the list originally issued by PSNC, so pharmacy staff need to ensure they are using this most up-to-date version. The updated version is available here: [PSNC HRT medicines poster](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=e776a61e5e&e=3e5221b889)\*\*Please note: you may need to hard refresh to refer to the most up-to-date version.**Pharmacy staff are advised to check the NHSBSA website for**[**an up-to-date list of HRT medicines covered by the HRT PPC**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=04655898c8&e=3e5221b889). |

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| **Share your views on the Pharmacy Quality Scheme**Community pharmacy contractors (including head office staff) and community pharmacists are invited to participate in an interview to share their views on the Quality Payments Scheme (QPS) (the previous name for the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS)) and the PQS between 2017-2021. Contractors will be remunerated for their or employees' time.[Find out more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=8657ce00bc&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Advanced Services |

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| **Directions updated to enable pharmacy technicians to perform some Advanced Services**Pharmacy technicians are **now able to perform blood pressure checks** as part of the Hypertension Case-Finding Service and **deliver the Smoking Cessation Service (SCS)**.The Drug Tariff has been amended, where necessary, to reflect this and includes the amendments to The Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (Amendment) (England) Directions 2023. [Find out more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=ed57680910&e=3e5221b889)The service specifications for both services are currently going through NHS England’s publication process; when these are published PSNC will alert contractors through their normal communication channels. |

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| **Chance to share your views on EPS outcomes**PSNC, working with Kingston University and the Community Pharmacy IT Group (CP ITG), has launched a short survey to gather feedback about EPS Paperless, Outcomes and Trackability.The short survey takes 5-10 minutes to complete. If you are able to spare a little time, your responses will be used to help shape the EPS priorities of the CP ITG and system suppliers.[Please complete the survey here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=641580c5d4&e=3e5221b889) |

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| SSP Notices |

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| **SSP notices****Two SSPs issued for Clarithromycin oral suspensions**In response to a significant ongoing disruption to the supply of Clarithromycin 125mg/5ml and 250mg/5ml oral suspension, two Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) have been issued by DHSC.Effective from 6 April 2023, SSP053 and SSP054 provide for the supply of a different strength or formulation to that originally prescribed. [Learn more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=e17c169cf7&e=3e5221b889)**SSP032 extended**Due to ongoing supply disruption, DHSC has further extended the SSP for Lipitor® 10mg chewable tablets to 28 April 2023. [Learn more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=c872b6d615&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Contraception Service |

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| **NHSE announces contraception service launch**NHS England (NHSE) has announced that the Pharmacy Contraception Service will launch from 24th April 2023.This start date for the service has not been agreed with PSNC and is in direct contradiction of their[warning to Ministers that no new or expanded services can be rolled out in 2023/24 unless extra funding is put into community pharmacies](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=54ed90ce3d&e=3e5221b889). |

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| Avon LPC Conference |

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| **Avon LPC Annual Conference - Wednesday 12th July 2023**Engineers House, The Promenade, Clifton Down, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 3NB.This event will be face to face and it will also be live streamed.[Click here to book.](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=430b885906&e=3e5221b889) |

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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=87d71f84e5&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=66952c23d7&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.**Save Our Pharmacies posters on the way**As part of the joint #SaveOurPharmacies campaign, the national pharmacy bodies have arranged for an A2 window poster to be sent to community pharmacies.The striking window posters are being distributed to all community pharmacies in England in the latest editions of Pharmacy Magazine and P3pharmacy. Pharmacy Magazine's March edition will hit pharmacy doormats early next week (w/c 27th March), with P3pharmacy's April edition arriving mid-month.[Click here for a preview of the poster](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=c09b427411&e=3e5221b889)[Read more and visit the Save Our Pharmacies website](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=0d8a72c6ea&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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| Prescription Charge |

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| **PSNC issues Prescription Charge Card for 2023**Following the Government's decision to increase the NHS prescription charge and introduce a HRT prescription prepayment certificate from 1st April 2023, PSNC has designed two posters that can be displayed in community pharmacies.PSNC's Prescription Charge Card confirms the new NHS prescription charge of **£9.65 per item**, explaining that this is a tax from the Government that does not benefit the pharmacy who collects it in any way, and highlighting the cuts to pharmacy funding. Meanwhile, the Prescription Prepayment Certificate (PPC) Poster provides information on how much PPCs can save patients, as well as describing the new HRT PPC.Find more information and posters [here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=093092a467&e=3e5221b889) |

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| CPCS Referrals |

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| **Changes to how referrals to the Community Pharmacist Consultation service(CPCs) are received.****ONLY applicable to pharmacies who are using CPCS Solutions from Cegedim Healthcare, Positive Solutions or Sonar Informatics**The way Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS) referrals are sent by the EMIS PharmRefer product is changing. From 28 March, community pharmacies that are using CPCS solutions from **Cegedim Healthcare, Positive Solutions or Sonar Informatics** will no longer be able to use PharmOutcomes to access their CPCS referrals. Referrals from GPs and the emergency departments or urgent treatment centre pilot sites using Pharmrefer will arrive into community **pharmacies’ NHS shared** mailbox accounts. If this applies to you, you must tell staff about the changes and update standard operating procedures to ensure NHS shared mailboxes are monitored and referrals are picked up. Community pharmacies using PharmOutcomes for their CPCS service will continue to receive referrals in their usual wayThe PharmRefer product is also being updated to allow the referrer to select any community pharmacy that is listed as offering CPCS in the Directory of Services. |

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| Discount Deduction |

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| **Changes to discount deduction arrangements from April**The Drug Tariff for April 2023 will contain changes to the discount deduction arrangements for pharmacy contractors, including changes which PSNC rejected, and are subsequently being imposed.The changes being implemented from 1st April include all concession lines to be considered as Group Items for Discount Not Deducted i.e. DND or zero discount (ZD) items, and the rate of discount deduction for generics to increase from 17.52% to 20%.[Read more about these changes](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=72f8830594&e=3e5221b889) |

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| SSP for Progynova |

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| **SSP for Progynova® TS 100mcg/24hr patches**DHSC has issued a Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) for Progynova® TS 100micrograms/24hours transdermal patches. SSP052 provides that for every patch originally prescribed, one FemSeven® 100 patch can be supplied.[Read more about SSP052](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=22b2b66c91&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **HRT pre-payment certificate**To reduce prescription costs for women receiving Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT), on 1 April the Government is launching the [HRT Pre-Payment Certificate (PPC)](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=e251e32113&e=3e5221b889). To enable this, from the start of April prescribers will need to issue prescriptions for HRT items (which are listed in the Drug Tariff as being HRT licensed for the treatment of menopause) as single-item prescriptions (i.e. separate from other prescription items). Further guidance for prescribers on the HRT PPC will be published in due course.  Find out more in our previous articles:* [New regulations to accompany the introduction of HRT prepayment certificates (HRT PPCs)](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=5a6c32e9b2&e=3e5221b889)
* [DHSC announces rollout of HRT prescription prepayment certificate](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=7c3c40784b&e=3e5221b889)
* [NHSBSA Information here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=08863262b5&e=3e5221b889)
* [FAQ Information](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=5c9c333ece&e=3e5221b889)

PSNC will start publishing supplementary guidance next 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=1c86525da4&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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| Commissioning Services |

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| **Delegation of Commissioning Services for Pharmacy, Optometry and Dentistry.**Please find attached a letter outlining the arrangements which will be in place after 1 April when commissioning responsibility for pharmacy, optometry and dental services will be delegated to ICBs.As noted in the letter we, the NHS England South West Pharmacy & Optometry Team, will become the Collaborative Commissioning Hub supporting the 7 ICBs locally and will continue to be your primary point of contact. You can continue to contact us via england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net after 1 April 2023. |

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| [**Click here for the letter**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=6dc54d4ff4&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Interpretation & Translation Services |

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| **Interpretation and Translation Services**Interpretation and translation services are available for Community Pharmacies when treating NHS Patients. These services are commissioned and paid for by NHS England. To access the services commissioned for the following areas please follow the link [here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=21fc0f220b&e=3e5221b889).* Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon, and Wiltshire (BSW)
* Bristol, North Somerset, and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG)
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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=a5265fedda&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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| Independent Prescribing Funding |

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| /var/folders/jt/ssf8xjds2p9ghbc3vkj05ypw0000gn/T/com.microsoft.Word/WebArchiveCopyPasteTempFiles/42b4eafc-e18e-c737-e98b-65cc98d5bdec.jpeg |
| **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=f75e7e3364&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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