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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 2nd May 2023 |

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| **NEW this week** |

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| Changes - CPCF 2023/24 |

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| **CPCF 2023/24 and Regulations: Imposed changes**The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has [laid regulations](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=caaa58f08e&e=3e5221b889) affecting community pharmacy contractors as well as indicating [the Government’s decisions](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=b4cf383f05&e=3e5221b889) on the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) for 2023/24.  These changes and decisions have been imposed on the sector as PSNC’s clear view remains that the sector’s finances and capacity are in a critical state, and that DHSC and NHS England [have run out of money](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=5271f042dc&e=3e5221b889) for new pharmacy services or activity.  These changes do not reflect any changes that might be negotiated pending the outcomes of the Primary Care Recovery Plan (PCRP) which has been considered by Government separately to the CPCF and is likely to be published soon.  For a summary of the changes and our detailed response to these, please [read the](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=78f9b25fea&e=3e5221b889)[full statement on our website](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=ad46bfc4ca&e=3e5221b889). We have also published a [briefing](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=f2415db6f4&e=3e5221b889)[on the Department’s regulatory changes](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=301e75f7a3&e=3e5221b889) to help contractors to understand what these mean for them ahead of their introduction on 25th May 2023.  |

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| New approach for C-19 antiviral |

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| **DHSC/NHSE announce new approach for C-19 antiviral supply**DHSC and NHS England (NHSE) have [announced](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=9351751320&e=3e5221b889) a new approach to the supply of COVID-19 antivirals to patients living in the community.Ministers have decided that this will follow the business as usual approach to medicines supply, with prescribers in general practices being asked to prescribe the medicines and prescriptions being dispensed in community pharmacies. However, pharmacy contractors will be able to order the antivirals free of charge from the Government’s stockpile, via Alliance Healthcare.[Read more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=d1dcc4ba95&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Warfarin - BNSSG only |

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| **BNSSG Pharmacies Only - Supporting documentation for patients on DOAC’s or newly started on Warfarin** BNSSG ICB have created 2 documents which largely will be used by the clinician initiating the medicine, signed by both the clinician and patient and then saved in the patient records. However, as the community pharmacist would then make the supply of these medicines if started in primary care it would be sensible for  pharmacists to be aware of the counselling points and support with providing the patient with consistent messages when speaking to patients.The first document is to support the counselling of patients newly started on a DOAC and the second is for patients newly started on warfarin.  The documents are intended to be used in both primary and secondary care across BNSSG. There is complex information for patients to take in when starting on these medicines, as such, a consistent approach across the system will help support patients to receive consistent messages from their healthcare providers. These documents are now available on the [Cardiovascular Systems Guidelines](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=5e84e85e69&e=3e5221b889) page on Remedy or via these direct links: [Warfarin](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=db725f7e1d&e=3e5221b889) and [DOAC](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=2be1db2acc&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Survey |

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| **Survey Open to all pharmacy team members**The survey is looking for pharmacy team members who work in a UK Healthcare setting including community pharmacy to participate in a survey to establish what factors are most important to them in their job and career.This project aims to: explore factors that influence the recruitment and retention of pharmacy staff in job roles in UK healthcare settings and estimate how these influence career decisions. The survey will close at 11pm, Monday 8th May 2023.  If you are interested, please read the Participant information [click here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=0ecd0b35fb&e=3e5221b889), which will give you more details about the project. If after reading this you would like to take part, you can continue with the [survey](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=209efb0fa9&e=3e5221b889) which is expected to take up to 15-minutes to complete. Your consent to participate in the study will form the first part of the survey and your responses will be anonymous.   If you would like any more information about the project, or have specific questions then please contact the researchers: Kerry Street – kas41@bath.ac.uk and Tim Rennie – twr32@bath.ac.uk  |

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| **Reminder: 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 administering the ordering portal.[Read the factsheet](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=243b033d32&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=f47ed5670a&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Avon LPC Strategic Plan 2023-2024 |

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| Please click [here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=ab290ed575&e=3e5221b889) for Avon LPC's strategic plan for 2023-2024. |

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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=348b5eca0f&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=df811cc8a7&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=ad45929b72&e=3e5221b889)[Read more and visit the Save Our Pharmacies website](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=e06e4ddb4b&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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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=68736ee9fa&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=4ebffcf680&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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| National Care Records Service |

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| **SCR being replaced by National Care Records Service**The Summary Care Record (SCRa) portal is scheduled to be replaced by a new system called the National Care Records Service (NCRS) from September 2023.From now until September, both the SCRa portal and the NCRS portal will be accessible.[Find out more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=84e6691aca&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=b31671e6c5&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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| BNSSG Pharmacies - Insulin switch |

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| BNSSG ICB have let us know that they will be carrying out a switch programme changing from NovoRapid FlexPen and cartridges to the biosimilar insulin Trurapi SoloStar and cartridges as part of the 2023-24 Prescribing Quality Scheme.Trurapi is a biosimilar insulin to Novorapid (insulin aspart) but costs about 30% less. In BNSSG the majority of prescriptions are written for branded Novorapid when insulin aspart is required (searches highlight only 5 patients across the ICB with a generic prescription issue)- so a switch to Trurapi should not affect your margins.We would encourage you to reduce stock holding of Novorapid though so you are not left with stock when your patients are switched.This switch will take place in GP practices with a plan to switch patients prescribed the NovoRapid FlexPen first, most local hospitals are also starting to prescribe Trurapi as their first line choice for new patients. Please counsel patients appropriately - but you probably can’t do an NMS on the switch as there should be no clinical impact. If you want to know more about Trurapi then you can check out the product information [here.](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=7004e6a19e&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. |

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| [**Click here for VirtualOutcomes**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=de6007343f&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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