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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 9th May 2023 |

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| **NEW this week** |

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| BNSSG Teach & Treat IP Training |

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| **BNSSG Teach and Treat Independent Prescribing (IP) Training Programme - Expressions of Interest (EoI)**BNSSG has successfully bid for funding from NHSWTE South West for a ‘Teach and Treat’ pilot programme. This will provide a limited number of community pharmacists working within the BNSSG area with a Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP) and a suitable learning environment in an Urgent Treatment Centre (UTC), GP practice or Out of Hours service.BNSSG Integrated Care Board (ICB) is **seeking community pharmacists working within BNSSG** who are ready and able to apply for the next intake of study at the University of the West of England (Sep 2023) or the University of Bath (Oct 2023). If you are successful with this EOI and your University application for the IP course is accepted, you will be able to join this pilot programme.Further information on the actions required and who to contact if you have questions and a copy of the BNSSG  Teach and Treat EOI form are available below |

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| [**Click here for EOI**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=148b3817d4&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Click here for more information**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=950941e917&e=3e5221b889) |

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| PSNC Webinar |

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| **Book now for the PSNC Regulatory Changes Webinar**Gordon Hockey, Director of Legal, will be hosting a PSNC webinar about upcoming changes to the Pharmaceutical Regulations on **Tuesday 16th May at 7pm**.The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and NHS England has introduced a package of regulatory changes in response to the current pressures on community pharmacy, and calls from PSNC for regulatory easements to help contractors to manage the workforce and cost pressures. While the package is an inadequate response to the pressures and one aspect is divisive (and they were opposed by PSNC), some of the changes have some merit and may assist contractors.The webinar will cover the regulatory changes due to come into force from 25th May 2023. Gordon will outline the flexibilities for contractors to close for rest breaks and the provisions against which Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) may agree local hours plans. He will also look at business continuity plans to deal with temporary closures, and review the options for 100-hour pharmacies to reduce their core hours.[Register for the webinar](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=f7d33cc6da&e=3e5221b889) |

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| VAT Services Exemption |

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| **VAT services exemption introduced**From this month, healthcare services carried out by pharmacy staff under the supervision of pharmacists have become exempt from VAT. This is something that PSNC has been seeking Government agreement on for a long time, including in recent CPCF negotiations.HM Revenue and Customs has issued a [note detailing the change to the VAT treatment of medical services](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=86021d9105&e=3e5221b889). It explains that, from 1st May 2023, the VAT exemption on medical services has been extended to include services undertaken by non-registered staff who are directly supervised by pharmacists. The Government says this will bring the VAT treatment of pharmacists in line with other registered health professionals providing medical services to the public.PSNC believes that the extension of this VAT exemption will help as community pharmacy businesses try to make better use of the skill mix in their teams both now and in the future.[Read more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=0bacf48c12&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=c253f09a31&e=3e5221b889)**The Avon LPC Annual Awards are back this year and nominations can now be submitted.**[Click here to nominate for an award.](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=62b9acce5d&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=0c5156abb7&e=3e5221b889) for Avon LPC's strategic plan for 2023-2024. |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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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=1733e1a77d&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=b788599c24&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=b9a855ecc7&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=085f5012a7&e=3e5221b889)[full statement on our website](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=1c4b4dad11&e=3e5221b889). We have also published a [briefing](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=10866c6c54&e=3e5221b889)[on the Department’s regulatory changes](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=d0667a5985&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=cc3c2f5820&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=1d74975b08&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=9aa3bcd2c9&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=c1dd4d8017&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=9addaa1d50&e=3e5221b889)[Read more and visit the Save Our Pharmacies website](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=84674ea01a&e=3e5221b889) |

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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=dc24589419&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=2eb8ff0848&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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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=52a39d4679&e=3e5221b889) page on Remedy or via these direct links: [Warfarin](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=70a4b330e0&e=3e5221b889) and [DOAC](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=7f1cee8610&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=7eb462cd1f&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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