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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 26th September & Tuesday 3rd October 2023 |

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| **2 week edition** |

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| **NEW this week** |

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| PQS 23/24 |

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| **PQS 23/24 - Aspiration payment claim closes at 23.59pm on Friday 29th September**Please ensure you have put your claim in for this years PQS aspiration by 23.59pm on 29th September if you are intending to claim. You will need to enter it on the [Manage your Business Portal (MYS).](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=4a08805a2f&e=3e5221b889)Information about 23/24 PQS can be found [here.](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=b6ade5d6bd&e=3e5221b889) You also have access to two free module  [Module 1](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=4cd7445fec&e=3e5221b889" \t "_blank)and [Module 2](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=6f287eb9a6&e=3e5221b889) that explain this years PQS. |

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| Finding a DMP or DPP |

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| **Independent Prescribing Course - finding a DMP or DPP**Before enrolling on an Independent Prescribing course, as you are aware pharmacists need to secure the support of a Designated Medical Practitioner (DMP) or a Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP) to supervise their learning in practice and certify that they are competent to practise as an independent prescriber (IP). We are fully aware of the challenge this can be and we are doing all that we can to support you however we can only do so much and therefore each pharmacist who wants to embark on this path has a responsibility to also approach their local GP practices and PCN colleagues to ask whether they would be prepared to support you by taking on the role of DMP or DPP.Please remember that health professionals other than doctors or pharmacists can be DPPs, for example nurses, physiotherapists or paramedics, providing they have legal independent prescribing rights (an annotation or automatic right to prescribe). As a gesture of goodwill there is £1000 payment for the GP practice if they agree to become a DMP or the DPP. If you have any GP practices who are interested please can you get them to contact (or you contact) Lisa Fisher (Lisa.avonlpv@gmail.com) or Alison Mundell (Alison.Mundell@nhs.net) |

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| [**Click here for further information**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=fa237abe57&e=3e5221b889) |

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| HEE Funding |

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| **Universities where HEE funding can be utilised to undertake the independent Prescribing Course** The University of Bath is one of the listed universities where HEE funding can be utilised to undertake the course.  More information on pharmacist eligibility and the application process for funding please visit the HEE IP [webpage](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=24e5858fda&e=3e5221b889)**.**For further information or for any queries, please contactpharmacyteam@hee.nhs.uk**,**however HEE South Pharmacy**(**pharmacy.south@hee.nhs.uk**)**can be contacted for any region-specific queries.Other universities in the South West are also available with HEE funded IP courses - click for details[UWE Bristol](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=fabc337a2c&e=3e5221b889)**and**[Plymouth](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=36092d962e&e=3e5221b889)**.** |

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| IP Course - Bath University |

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| **Bath University – IP course next intake** We are writing to let you know that the applications for the next intakes of the our Independent Prescribing course are now open. These will begin in March and we are offering two options running side by side – one fully online and one hybrid. Much more information can be found on our [website](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=50a96c4297&e=3e5221b889) but some key points which might be helpful to prospective applicants are summarised below: The application portal is now open and will close on 10th November (or before if we receive a large volume of applications) so if you are keen to secure a place please apply asap.    Do ensure your application is **complete**chasing your DPP/referees for forms as necessary as **only complete applications will be considered**.  We strongly encourage applicants to check on the application portal if their references are present.  We will review all applications in line with the selection criteria detailed below. 1.     Existing award students (see below)2.     Health Education England funded applicants in line with the requirements attached to this funding (regional considerations at the discretion of the funder, as applicable), including:* a. All application documents completed in full, all references and supplementary documents present and DPP form completed by the closing date
* b.  Date of application
* c. Training environment (DPP commitment to support in practice, description of specialism, plan for completion of mandatory clinical practice hours and identified clinical need/future role)
* d. Previous experience of postgraduate study

We would encourage applicants who could attend the university campus for 4 days during the course to apply for the hybrid version of the course. The remote course attracts applicants from all over the country and we are limited to 40 students for the remote version and 40 for the hybrid version. You will be notified of the decision of the University as soon as possible before the start of the course.  **Applicants are responsible for finding their own Designated Prescribing Practitioner.** |

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| Free Online Training |

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| **NEW Free Online training - Adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)**A free short  online course that covers the following topics:* What anaphylaxis is
* What the common causes are
* Why adrenaline auto-injectors are so important
* Finally what advice you and your team can give patients to ensure that they have all the essential information they require about their device.

[Click here.](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=ee46191a93&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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| Medicines Supply |

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| **Medicines Supply Tool**DHSC and NHSE/I have now launched an online[Medicines Supply Tool](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=605642922e&e=3e5221b889)[,](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=1420914430&e=3e5221b889)which provides up to date information about medicine supply issues. The contents of this MSN can now be viewed on the Tool. The Tool also details any changes to resupply dates and updates to the entries. To access the Tool you will be required to register with**the**SPS Website**-**[click here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=2fef0b8a83&e=3e5221b889)**.** |

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| NHS Profile Manager |

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| **NHS Profile Manager: Add flu vaccination bookings details to your NHS web profile**NHS Profile Manager now allows pharmacy owners to update their profiles with appointment booking information for NHS flu vaccinations. Promoting online appointment booking details in this way can help reduce phone queries, with patients able to book online through the pharmacy's NHS website profile from 1st September 2023 to 31st March 2024.[Learn more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=5d4c4cb766&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=c42f9700ea&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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| New Promotional Resources |

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| Community Pharmacy England have developed a range of new resources to help pharmacy owners effectively promote the Flu Vaccination Service to their patients. These resources include letters, posters, flyers, and social media templates for tweets and tiles.Pharmacy owners can access these resources through the flu hub page on the Community Pharmacy England website at [cpe.org.uk/flu](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=e82213b330&e=3e5221b889), specifically in the 'Promoting the service to patients' section. Additionally, the flu hub page also provides other valuable resources, including those from the UK Health Security Agency, for pharmacy owners to utilise in their flu vaccination campaigns. |

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| PGDs |

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| **DHSC consults on use of PGDs by Pharmacy Technicians**The Department of Health and Social Care has opened a consultation on the proposal for the use of patient group directions (PGDs) by pharmacy technicians.This consultation, run jointly with the Department of Health Northern Ireland, is seeking views on enabling pharmacy technicians to supply and administer medicines under PGDs and runs until 11.59pm on 29th September 2023.[Learn more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=2f58aa42e3&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Sexual Health Services - BNSSG only |

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| **BNSSG Pharmacy Sexual Health Services Annual Updating Session** The next **BNSSG Pharmacy Sexual Health Services Annual Updating Session** is on the evening of Thursday 16thNovember 2023.  This is a FREE online training event for community pharmacists currently providing, or seeking to provide, the sexual health services (including delivering EHC PGDs') across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire. For more details and to register your interest please use the Eventbrite link,[click here.](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=3dd845df9e&e=3e5221b889)This free event is organised by Bristol City Council, North Somerset Council, South Gloucestershire Council and Unity Sexual Health.  |

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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.Please see below for details of the most recent training module  |

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| [**Click here for VirtualOutcomes**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=d3fd579896&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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| NHS Funded Training |

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| **Get ahead with new NHS funded training for community pharmacy**Community pharmacy staff can now sign up for and complete a range of fully funded, flexible training to expand your clinical skills and improve patient care.Build your pharmacy future with specialist modules tailored to your skills, experience and individual learning requirements. Complete the Clinical Examination Skills gateway module in approximately 1 hour online, followed by one of four specialist modules in:* Paediatrics (live now)
* ENT (live now)
* Dermatology – 2 part module (coming soon)
* Wound care
* Skin presentations and changes
* Cardiology (coming soon)

Places are also still available on Independent Prescribing courses starting this autumn.[Find out more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=1e11c3d5d6&e=3e5221b889) |

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