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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 16th January 2024 |

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| **NEW this week** |

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| LES Contract |

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| **BNNSG Pharmacies ONLY - Community Pharmacy Local Enhanced Service (LES) Contract - Action required by Thursday 11th January** All contractors should have had a letter from Alison Mundell at the ICB - please see details below: Please find attached the Community Pharmacy Local Enhanced Service (LES) Contract for BNSSG that includes the Patient Group Directions and Emergency Supplies as well as some additional services for selected sites. The Contract has been amended to reflect Pharmacy First National PGDs that will be coming on 31/1/24.Please can you sign the contract and return by Thursday 11th January 2024 to amy.wheeler2@nhs.net, the contract will then be counter signed by the ICB  and a signed copy sent to the provider. Thank you for all your continued hard work over the last year and I look forward to working with you in 2024.Yours sincerely**Alison MundellICS Community Pharmacy Clinical Lead**NHS Bristol, North Somerset & South Gloucestershire ICBemail: Alison.Mundell@nhs.netwebsite: https:// [bnssg.icb.nhs.uk](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=780ceb9455&e=3e5221b889) **In addition, the Emergency Supply LES will be discontinuing on 31/3/24 (please see letter attached).** |

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| [**Community Pharmacy LES Contract 23**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=99363ed9a4&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Notice of Termination of a LES**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=b5ec3c4512&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Otoscopy Training |

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| **News alert - Pharmacy First - Otoscopy Training**All pharmacies should have received a news alert on the 4th January from Avon LPC regarding some additional training for F2F training on using otoscopes. The LPC has arranged some training with Typmahealth who have had excellent feedback from the pharmacists who have attended previous courses we have run. The course will cover the anatomy and physiology of the ear, ear pathology including wax, foreign bodies, perforation, acute Otitis Media etc, otoscopy procedure including communicating with the patient, health and safety, otoscopy set up etc and will give pharmacists a chance at the F2F course to examine colleagues ears and simulation heads. The course will be run by experienced audiologists who will also be able to give practical hints and tips to ensure pharmacists leave feeling confident to conduct their own examinations. Places are limited so please book asap. The costs of the course is £99 plus VAT. Once you have booked a place a link will be sent (once we have received it instructing you how to pay Tympahealth directly so that they can issue you with a VAT invoice).The LPC is covering the cost of the training venues.[Please book a place here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=59d06c4399&e=3e5221b889) |

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| VirtualOutcomes Free Training |

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| **NEW FREE VirtualOutcomes Training - Pharmacy First**The training consists of an introductory module which will cover the background of the service and what your pharmacy needs to do plus a short module with key hints and tips on each of the 7 Clinical Pathway Consultations is now available for pharmacists and their teams. The introductory module is approximately 20 mins and the individual modules on each common condition range from 7 to 9 mins long. To access this FREE training please use the [following link](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=c8dfe39149&e=3e5221b889) and then enter your F code. |

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| Cross Sector Placements  |

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| **BNSSG Pharmacies only - New Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Programme for intake year 25/26 - cross sector placement with NBT, and UHBW (both sites)**All 3 hospitals in BNSSG would like to offer cross working between Community Pharmacy and the Trust. The cross- sector placements are for a minimum of 13 weeks and a maximum of 26 weeks. NBT has 2 or 3 places available, Weston has 2 places and UHB has 2 or 3 places.On completion of the foundation trainee Pharmacist programme from 25/26 pharmacists will become qualified as non-medical prescribers which will be able to further support the system.More detailed information can be found [here.](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=6237d6fa1a&e=3e5221b889)The trust as employer of the trainee could provide a financial incentive of £1000 per 13-week cross sector site placement.It is noted by the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) that there must be a**designated supervisor**in place for any training locations where the trainee spends 13 weeks or more during the training year. To become a designated supervisor; they need to be a **registered UK pharmacist, been registered for 3 years or more** and have been practising in the sector, or a related sector, of pharmacy in which they wish to supervise. This requirement may limit some sites in hosting the cross-sector placement.  In addition, if you are interested in becoming a designated prescribing practitioner (DPP) to support the independent prescribing training element please can you highlight this in your response however there is no requirement to be one to host the trainee as the Trust will provide one.If you would like more information please contact Jennifer.Gray@uhbw.nhs.uk or Jennifer.Sparks@uhbw.nhs.uk asap. |

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| Oral Contraception Service |

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| **NHS Oral contraception Service - going live on PharmOutcomes**We have had feedback that pharmacies who have signed up to the above service on the  BSA MYS portal  are then not seeing the service on PharmOutcomes once they have signed up. Our understanding is that currently BSA are only giving PharmOutcomes a list of pharmacies who have signed up monthly so therefore your pharmacy may not have access immediately to the service. We have given feedback to Community Pharmacy England. |

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| **Entresto Supply**We have had feedback that there have been some recent issues with Entresto supplies and the following actions have been taken.1. AAH Bristol have been asked to increase their stockholding2. If your pharmacy is still having an issue please contact Novartis using their emergency number: 0344 5618899 to help resolve this or contact their local representative Huw Hudson who is happy to try and help  email Huw.hudson@novartis.com or 07795 052237. |

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| Foundation Year Pharmacists required |

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| **Foundation Year pharmacists working in community pharmacy required for project**Dr Vicky Carlisle, Senior research associate University of Bristol is leading a short term research project advisory group - information below*People who use drugs and/or opioid agonist treatment (OAT) often face stigma in pharmacies – both in relation to their drug use and OAT. To experience stigma is inherently de-humanising; it disconnects people from their communities, negatively impacts their physical and mental wellbeing, increases health inequalities, and limits life chances.**Building on our previous work, this project will involve a collaboration of people with lived and living experience, community and local government partners, pharmacists, a creative practitioner and University of Bristol academics. Together, we will develop materials that destigmatise the experience of using community pharmacies for people who use drugs and OAT.**We are looking for five Foundation Year pharmacists with community pharmacy experience to be involved in the co-production for this project. The time commitment would be 4 half-day workshops between January and April next year. The first will take place at the Community Farm in Chew Magna (transport from central Bristol provided). Subsequent workshops will take place in a central Bristol location. Refreshments will be provided at all workshops.*Please contact Vicky if you have any questions or are interested in participating  vicky.carlisle@bristol.ac.uk Tel: 0117 455 6962| Mobile: 07396 710165 |

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| Discussion Group |

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| **Community Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians required Discussion Group on health checks for people who use drugs** Jenny Scott, Senior Lecturer (Pharmacist) - Centre for Academic Primary Care (CAPC) from the University of Bristol Medical School is working with the Hepatitis C Trust on early ideas around community pharmacy-based health checks for people who use drugs. As part of the early development work, Jenny would like to hear the thoughts of**community pharmacists and pharmacy technicians on this idea**. This can be by taking part in a discussion group or a 1-2-1 discussion (both online). Your time and if needed locum fees will be recompensed. For more information please contact Jenny on: jenny.scott@bristol.ac.uk  by 24th January. |

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| Nadolol |

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| **Nadolol 80mg tablets Supply**We have had feedback that patients are contacting the local hospitals saying they can’t get their prescriptions dispensed for Nadolol by community pharmacies. Please note that Nadolol can be obtained through Alliance or Neon Healthcare. |

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| Price Concessions |

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| **Price improvement for Ezetimibe and further price concessions granted for December 2023**Following representations made by Community Pharmacy England on behalf of pharmacy owners, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has redetermined the December 2023 concessionary prices for several medicines. In particular, **reimbursement for Ezetimibe 10mg tablets has increased by more than 88%**.Please note that the prices do not apply to January 2024 prescriptions. We are still working with DHSC to agree price concessions for January and the first update for this month will be published as soon as we receive a response from the Department. |

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| 2025 Foundation Training |

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| **South West Pharmacy Workforce, training and Education - Significant changes have been implemented for the 2025 foundation training year in line with the Initial Education and Training of Pharmacists reform programme mandated by the GPhC.**This means that recruiting via Oriel will be **the only route to employing a foundation trainee pharmacist** for the 2025-26 foundation training year.You can update your knowledge of the scheme by reading the [Employer Handbook](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=32ad05d63a&e=3e5221b889) which contains step-by-step guidance on completing your employer programme submission form(s), a recruitment timeline and regional contact support details.We have developed a short video to support employers with registering to participate in the National Recruitment Scheme, this is available to watch from the [Employer Registration page.](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=a06d562703&e=3e5221b889) You may find it helpful to see information submitted by employers in 2023 by viewing the ‘Pharmacy Employers and Programme Information from 2023 document available on the [Employer Information page of our website](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=8bdbbc1469&e=3e5221b889). Please note that some of this information uses terminology which has now changed following GPhC reforms to the initial education and training of pharmacists in 2021.If you wish to be part of 2024 national recruitment for the 2025-26 training year, you will need to complete [an online registration form](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=b6d36e7ea2&e=3e5221b889)for each programme you wish to include in the scheme and provide employer programme information. The deadline to submit your form(s) is **11.59pm on 1st March 2024**. **Please note late submissions will not be accepted.** NHS England WT&E South West will be holding drop in sessions each week to support with any queries that you may have relating to programme registration. Please see the attached flyer for details on the dates, times and links for these sessions. |

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| [**Click here for flyer**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=53cd855676&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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| National Safety Alert |

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| **National Patient Safety Alert: Shortage of GLP-1 RAs Update**DHSC has issued a National Patient Safety Alert to update healthcare professionals on the shortage of glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1 RAs). The update confirms that the supply of GLP-1 RAs continues to be limited, and is not expected to return to normal until at least the end of 2024.[Learn more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=9a832dcea1&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Pharmacy Supervision |

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| **Consultation on pharmacy supervision opens**The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) is consulting on proposals to update legislation around the supervision of activities by a pharmacist. The proposals would allow pharmacists to authorise pharmacy technicians to carry out the dispensing and supply of medicines and any pharmacy team member to distribute checked and bagged prescriptions in the absence of a pharmacist.The consultation period runs until 11.59pm on 29th February 2024.[Read more, including a statement from our Director of Legal](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=9f347f87b2&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=441b8b2351&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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| Eye Products Alert |

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| **Carbomer containing eye products**We have been asked BNSSG ICB to draw your attention to the [National Safety Alert](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=b7c8704eeb&e=3e5221b889) for carbomer containing eye products. The alert is particularly relevant to severally immunocompromised patients which now includes patients in the community (it previously was inpatients only). As many patients self-care for dry eyes BNSSG has produced some new prescribing guidelines for dry eyes,[click here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=01c693834c&e=3e5221b889) which may help to inform alternative products. |

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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=7d59ac53d1&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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| Careers Fair |

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| **Pharmacy Careers Fair on Wednesday 6th March 2024.**This event will give you an excellent opportunity to meet our third year pharmacy students to discuss Foundation year opportunities and perhaps answer any questions the final year students may have with regards to opportunities once they are a qualified pharmacist. There will also be an opportunity for you to meet the remaining year groups, to discuss potential summer placements and other opportunities you have available. The fair will be held in the pharmacy training centre ‘The Pharmacy Practice Suite’, and 5W foyers 2 and 3 between 12:00 and 15:00. These areas will be available from 11:00 for employers to set up.A sandwich lunch and refreshments will be provided; special dietary requirements can be added in the booking form.If you are unable to attend and wish to advertise your pharmacy or vacancies, please e-mail us with details and we can arrange for this information to be communicated to students; additionally, you may wish to provide promotional material to be displayed on the day. This can be sent to us c/o Lucy Stanyer/Emily Cadden, Faculty of Science Placements Office, Wessex House 1.12, University of Bath, Claverton Down, Bath BA2 7AY.[**Please use this link to book** by Friday 19th January 2024.](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=28dd7965d7&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **CliniSkills - FREE Training to help prepare pharmacists for Pharmacy First** *Prepare for*[*Pharmacy First*](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=04c7eb3496&e=3e5221b889)*, with a fully funded, free to access clinical examination skills training resource from the NHS, designed specifically for community pharmacists.*Prepare for [**Pharmacy First**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=b75d94cfaa&e=3e5221b889) and develop the skills you need to assess patients, treat common conditions, assess high-risk presentations, and to identify high risk red flag presentations. [More information](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=c3f1dde88e&e=3e5221b889)[Register here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=7a63f418bf&e=3e5221b889) |

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