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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 9th 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.**In addition, the Emergency Supply LES will be discontinuing on 31/3/24 (please see letter attached).**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=efec4604e1&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Community Pharmacy LES Contract 23**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=e0320687d2&e=3e5221b889) |

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| [**Notice of Termination of a LES**](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=14fbb5de2e&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=c154b1ff90&e=3e5221b889) |

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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=857df84935&e=3e5221b889) |

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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=7b3012f6fd&e=3e5221b889) |

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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=24eb00b828&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=337a80afba&e=3e5221b889) which may help to inform alternative products. |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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| Use of Video Links |

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| **Use of Video Links to deliver remote consultation as part of the Pharmacy First Service**Pharmacies, including DSPs, must carry out remote consultations by video consultation, rather than by phone because the conditions covered by the clinical pathways will often require the pharmacist to examine the patient (e.g. a rash) or examine a sample of urine, in the case of the UTI pathway. The service specification requires a live video link of sufficient quality to be used to carry out an examination, as part of the consultation.The requirement to use video consultation **only applies to clinical pathway consultations ie PGD's**; pharmacies can continue to use the telephone for remote consultations for the urgent supply of medicines and minor illness consultations.**The LPC suggests that pharmacy contractors start to consider what video links they might use .**[More guidance](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=eb62508842&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Otoscopes |

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| **Equipment for Pharmacy First - Otoscopes**Where ear examinations are performed within the pharmacy, the pharmacist must use an otoscope. Consequently, all pharmacies providing the service (bar DSPs) must have an otoscope.Guidance on selecting a suitable otoscope can be found in Annex C of the [service specification](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=e3ab824fcf&e=3e5221b889). **Please consider ordering your otoscope asap if you have not already got one** |

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| Pharmacy First Training |

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| **Community Pharmacy Avon - Pharmacy First Training**Community Pharmacy Avon are holding a F2F training evening to support all contractors on the Pharmacy First and Contraception Services. Wednesday 24th January 2024 – Somerdale Pavillion, Keynsham. NOW FULLWednesday 31st January 2024 – Engineers House, Clifton.[Click here to book a place](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=300df13848&e=3e5221b889) |

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| CPE Resources for Pharmacy First |

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| **Community Pharmacy England(CPE) Resources for Pharmacy First**In preparation for the launch of the Pharmacy First service on 31st January  2024, CPE have developed an initial set of resources to assist pharmacy owners and their teams. These resources include checklists for [pharmacy owners](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=f630497344&e=3e5221b889) and [pharmacists](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=145699911f&e=3e5221b889) (including locums) outlining actions they can take to prepare for the service, plus a two-page [summary briefing](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=02b3989a2c&e=3e5221b889) providing pharmacy teams with essential information about the service. We will continue to update our [Pharmacy First webpage](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=46e984d085&e=3e5221b889) with FAQs and additional resources leading up to the service launch. |

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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=395740e7c5&e=3e5221b889) |

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| CPE Webinars |

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| **Webinars to support the NEW Pharmacy First Service and changes to contraceptive and hypertension case -finding service**Community Pharmacy England will be hosting a series of webinars in December and January to help pharmacy owners and their teams to prepare for the new Pharmacy First service, and changes to the Contraception and Hypertension Case-Finding Services.A list of webinar dates can be [found here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=debdc059d8&e=3e5221b889) and to book a place [click here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=a4abe656c2&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=1376d1215f&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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| Emergency Contraception |

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| **IMPORTANT - Guidance on Emergency Contraceptive for Transgender and Non-Binary People**Across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire we have been made aware that **transgender men have been turned away** from pharmacies when seeking Emergency Contraception.We want to ensure that access to Emergency Contraception via BNSSG Pharmacies is inclusive for transgender and non-binary people with no assumptions made based on gender presentation. We are reminding all pharmacists of the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (FSRH) 2017 statement on [Contraceptive Choices and Sexual Health for Transgender and Non-Binary People](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=16738828a6&e=3e5221b889)**.** The statement provides guidance on emergency contraceptive choices **for transgender and non-binary people and their partners, who are engaging in vaginal sex** where there is a risk of pregnancy and explains that **trans men and non-binary (assigned female) people who do not wish to become pregnant should be offered emergency contraception (EC)** after unprotected vaginal intercourse or if their regular contraception has been compromised or used incorrectly.If you have not already seen this statement we hope it will provide helpful information to support relevant consultations, advice and guidance. The statement also offers general sexual health advice for these groups of people.   |

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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=590caadea6&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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| Contraception Service Training |

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| **FREE VirtualOutcomes Training on the new CONTRACEPTION SERVICE**Community Pharmacy Avon fund online training for all pharmacy teams in our Area. This month's training is on the NHSE Contraception Service. The short modules will give the pharmacist and team an overview of the service and ideas on how to ankle it a success. There is also available a 10 min e learning module for GP practices which explains the service and how they can support it.Use your ODS (F CODE) to [access the training](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=39c4d48f16&e=3e5221b889) |

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| CliniSkills |

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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=e228f5bdd0&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=32898ed04f&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=4b7babc3fd&e=3e5221b889)[Register here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=64f0cf6725&e=3e5221b889) |

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