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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 20th February 2024 |

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| **NEW this week** |

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| Measles |

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| **Measles Outbreak** You will have heard in the news that there is a measles outbreak in certain areas of the UK and we wanted to remind you and your teams about 2 things. 1. Please ensure that all the team have been fully vaccinated (2 vaccinations)  against measles. If any of your team are not fully vaccinated please advise them to contact their GP to arrange a vaccination or if they don’t wish to be vaccinated please ensure that the pharmacist is aware of this so that suitable procedures are put in place to reduce their risk whilst at work.2. We would like to remind you of the symptoms of measles, particularly early symptoms (not just a rash) and how the rash presents differently on darker skin tones.  Pharmacies can order posters/flyers from UKHSA for free, to avoid needing to print. They can set up an account on the Public Health website I’ve linked to.

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| **Resource** | **Audience** | **Languages** | **Format** | **How to Access** |
| **How to Stay Safe**: Very simple poster covering measles symptoms, vaccination and what to do if you have the virus. | Community engagement Inclusion health | English, Arabic, Czech, Dari, Farsi, Pashto, Polish, Romanian, Spanish, Ukrainian | A simple black and white text leaflet easy to print. | Visit [UKHSA Health Publications](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=f1bcaeae93&e=3e5221b889)and search for document code 2023004.  |
| **MMR For All:** A5 leaflet with clear information about MMR. | General Public Community engagement | English, Bengali, Polish, Romanian, Somali, Ukrainian and Yoruba | English version is available to order as printed copies. Other languages available as PDF downloads. | Go to [UKHSA Health Publications](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=d047c0e385&e=3e5221b889) and search for document code 3219250. |
| **Measles don’t let your child catch it:** flyer addresses common questions about measles and the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine that protects against the disease. | Parents – schools, Early Years settings, GPs, A&E, hospital wards | Afrikaans, Arabic, Bengali, Cantonese, Chinese, French, Italian, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Romani, Romanian, Swahili, Spanish, Turkish, Tagalog, Tamil, Ukranian and Urdu. It is also available in Audio, Braille, BSL, Easy Read and Large Print accessible versions. | All languages available as PDF download Most languages available to order printed copies. | Go to [UKHSA Health Publications](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=5cf6e0f8e2&e=3e5221b889) and search for document code M23. |

 Below are some useful national and local resources [Recognising Measles](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=4f375bdb0b&e=3e5221b889)[Think Measles Poster](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=5924982d5f&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Salbutamol  |

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| **Medicine Supply Notification: Salbutamol 2.5mg/2.5ml and 5mg/2.5ml nebuliser liquid unit dose vials**The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has issued a medicine supply notification for Salbutamol 2.5mg/2.5ml and 5mg/2.5ml nebuliser liquid unit dose vials, warning of very limited supply with a resolution date to be confirmed. Relevant information and advice for pharmacy teams is highlighted in a Community Pharmacy England  news story.[Find out more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=e25ff95227&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Data Security |

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| **Data Security and Protection Toolkit**Community Pharmacy England (CPE) has published [new guidance](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=c6e9328e6f&e=3e5221b889) to help pharmacy owners complete the 2023/24 Data Security and Protection Toolkit. The Toolkit is used to make a pharmacy’s information governance (IG) declaration and must be completed **by** **Friday 30th June 2024.**CPE recommend that you log in to the Toolkit as soon as possible and begin reviewing our guidance documents. |

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| NHS Mail Update |

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| **Reminder: NHSmail set to make multi-factor authentication mandatory**The NHSmail team announced that multi-factor authentication (MFA) is set to become mandatory across the platform for all NHSmail users later in 2024. MFA adds an extra layer of security when logging into your account, helping to prevent cyber attacks and ensuring the security of patient data. Pharmacy NHSmail users are encouraged to enrol for MFA using the Authenticator App. [More information](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=3f843b930b&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Foundation Trainee Pharmacists |

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| **Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Programme 2025/26 Course Provision**All Foundation Trainee Pharmacists (FTP) commencing training in 2025 will have access to a core training offer provided by NHS England. This offer aims to support the delivery of learning outcomes in practice and will include an induction day, communities of practice for additional support, online learning materials, and First Aid training. It is important to note that this national offer **does not cover training related to site-specific service provision**. Individual organisations or employers will continue to provide training specific to their needs to ensure safe and effective patient care. [More Information](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=b52abdc8fe&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Reminder: CPCF services and Terms of Service – Important dates page**Community Pharmacy England have a page on their website which provides a list of important dates for the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) which relate to national pharmacy services (Advanced services and National Enhanced services).The page also includes important dates for Terms of Service (ToS) requirements and provides links to relevant news stories and resources. This page is regularly updated as and when announcements and dates are confirmed.[View the webpage](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=cc7839a230&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Omega 3 Products |

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| **MHRA alert for Omega 3 products**Please note that the MHRA have issued the following alert for Omega 3 products.[Alert](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=159bedb64c&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Metoject Pen |

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| **Metoject PEN is changing pen design in March**The new pen is very simple to use but the injection process is different from the old one. More information can be found on their [website.](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=d0932d3a46&e=3e5221b889)  |

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| PQS - Claim now! |

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| **Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) - claim now**Declaration period for the PQS 23 23 is now open for your pharmacy to claim payment. The MYS portal will remain open between 09.00am on 5th February 2024 until; 23.59 on 1st March 2024. Please remember that you must have evidence to demonstrate meeting the quality criteria you have claimed for by 31st March 2024. |

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| Contraception Service |

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| **NHS Contraception Service - opt in**If your pharmacy signed up for the oral contraction service before 1st December 2023 you must be ready to offer the expanded service (ie ongoing supply and initiation) by the 29th February 2024. Your pharmacy must completed the opt-in declaration on the MYS portal. |

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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 this [link](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=2c1e68c1cc&e=3e5221b889) and then enter your F code. |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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| Pharmacy First FAQs |

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| **Pharmacy First FAQs and patient leaflets**As pharmacy owners and their teams continue to implement the Pharmacy First service, Community Pharmacy England (CPE) have been actively addressing questions through online drop-in events. The most frequently asked questions have been compiled and added to their [Pharmacy First FAQ webpage](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=92277ffe4f&e=3e5221b889).Other resources includes a comprehensive list of [patient-facing leaflets](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=f54dcebc6c&e=3e5221b889)as well as website links. These can be accessed through QR codes or hyperlinks, allowing patients to easily access relevant information on their mobile phones. |

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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=51265a1e56&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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| Cetostearyl Alcohol |

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| **Epimax and products containing cetostearyl alcohol - please advise patients**BNSSG ICB have been made aware from one of the acute trusts/Bristol Eye Hospital of increasing reports of patients presenting to Emergency Eye Services with ocular toxicity related to Epimax emollient use. It causes corneal epithelial loss (like a corneal abrasion) where patients are using it on the eye area.  It seems to be due to the ingredient that is contained in Epimax but also a number of other emollients called cetostearyl alcohol. The products do say to avoid contact with the eyes but I think perhaps this is not being communicated well to patients. There was an MHRA FSN published last year about it and SPC updated too. BNSSG ICB will be sending the attached article out in GP bulletin to primary care to remind clinicians to ensure patients using these emollients containing cetostearyl alcohol to avoid contact of these products with their eyes/eyelids and wash their hands after use. We are sharing with you for information as appreciate a number of these products can be bought OTC. [Article shared by the trust that is helpful info too:](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=34838218d8&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Oral Contraception Service |

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| **NHSE Contraception Service Notification for 3 local GP practices**Community Pharmacy Avon have created a simple template on PharmOutcomes to help your pharmacy inform 3 of your local GP practices that you can now provide both the initiation and continuing supply of oral contraception. Once you have pharmacists who are ready to complete the service AND you have visibility of the  contraception service on PharmOutcomes please use this quick and easy form to notify your GP practices that you are live. |

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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=d52957852f&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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| Technicians |

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| **Community Pharmacy Technicians**Training options are available for those who are newly qualified or returning to learning, or for those looking for further professional development to deliver more services.[Please click here for more information](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=1067249170&e=3e5221b889) |

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