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| **Weekly Update**Tuesday 9th April 2024 |

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| **NEW this week** |

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| Important Action Required! |

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| **Urgent Action Required - Data Sharing agreement with Community Pharmacy Avon****PLEASE NOTE if you cant’t see the service on  your PharmOutcomes screen it is because we have contacted your head office directly and there is NO action required from your pharmacy**Community Pharmacy Avon would like to have access to certain service data recorded in PharmOutcomes.Please note that the data shared will be non-patient identifiable and you can withdraw your consent at any time.Community Pharmacy Avon currently has access to non-patient identifiable PharmOutcomes Pharmacy First data that has been initiated by a referral through either the Pharm Refer App or through the Patient Services services button on EMIS but do not have any sight of any data that have been initiated via NHS mail (we previously did have this data when we were running the GP CPCS pilot).We have always used this data to produce monthly packs for each individual GP practice. These reports have proved pivotal in engaging GP practices in GP CPCS (now Pharmacy First) as they use them to not only support their team development but also to increase the number of referrals etc they do. Some practices are using them as a tool to incentivise performance as they are that keen to get their care navigators to do referrals to Community Pharmacy. I also use them when visiting, training or talking to practices as it helps identify opportunities for example the opportunity to do more clinical pathway referrals  etc. The reports have also helped us to support our local pharmacies as we can see the data in real time and going forward will allow us to work with you to help you meet the threshold levels for Pharmacy First payments.We would also like have to access to the PharmOutcomes data for the hypertension case finding service and contraception service  so that we can use it to increase practice awareness and to support these services in the community pharmacies. **Action required by Monday 15th April.****PLEASE NOTE if you cant’t see the service on  your PharmOutcomes screen it is because we have contacted your head office directly and there is NO action required from your pharmacy**1. Please access PharmOutcomes and find the following service (detailed in the above picture).2. Tick all the services you are happy to share data with us and submit it.3. Please e mail me judith.avonlpc@gmail.com by Monday 15th April if you do not wish to share your data so we don’t chase you.  |

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| Free Online Training |

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| **New Free Training - Common Skin Conditions - Acne**VirtualOutcomes will be producing a number of FREE training modules over the coming months for the whole pharmacy team on common skin conditions. The modules will include fungal skin conditions, dermatitis, psoriasis and acne. The first of these modules is now available and is short (10 mins) training module on acne. The training will cover the definition of acne, advice you can give people and what foods and products they should avoid. Once completed and the MCQ  successfully answered at the end the team member can download a certificate for their records.To access the training please [click here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=2da1d75917&e=3e5221b889) and then enter your F code. |

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| Prescription Charge |

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| **Prescription charge to rise to £9.90 in May 2024**The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has announced that from**1st May 2024**, the NHS prescription charge will **increase to £9.90 per prescription item**(note: some items may incur more than one charge). For prescriptions dispensed in April 2024, the NHS prescription charge will remain at £9.65.Amendments to the NHS Charges Regulations also introduce increases to prescription prepayment certificates (PPCs), including the Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) PPC. [Click here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=53deeeb35c&e=3e5221b889) for more information and a downloadable poster  |

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| HRT PPC |

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| **Medicines not covered by the HRT PPC**Community Pharmacy England have been informed that the NHSBSA is seeing an increase in patients claiming exemption from prescription charges under "HRT only prescription prepayment certificate", even for medications that are not covered by the HRT Prescription Prepayment Certificate (HRT PPC). [Learn more](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=dae820ae2d&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Schedule of Payments |

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| **Revised Schedule of Payments expected in April**The monthly Schedule of Payments (and eSchedules) is changing this month. The next payment schedule, due to be received on the **23rd April (for February 2024 dispensing month),** will have several improvements, including a breakdown of Pharmacy First payments and reimbursement figures split into generics/brands/appliances. The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) will shortly publish an example of the new payment schedule / eSchedule along with guidance on their website.[Read some of the improvements](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=851332c75c&e=3e5221b889) |

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| CPA Strategic Plan |

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| **Community Pharmacy Avon (CPA) Strategic Plan 2024**Please [click here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=13a8bca7d4&e=3e5221b889)for the link to the strategic plan that Community Pharmacy Avon has agreed for 2024.If you have any questions please contact avonlpc@gmail.com |

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| Translation Services |

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| **Translation and integration Services**Please can we remind all pharmacy teams that you have access to translation services.For more information [please click here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=0305e29d3e&e=3e5221b889) |

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| BNSSG Emergency Supply |

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| **BNSSG Emergency Supply LES**Please can we reminder all pharmacies that the above service will **finish on 31st March 2024** and that you should be directing patients to the [NHS111 scheme.](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=fe5262eb5c&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework** |

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| NHS Mail |

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| **NHS Mail - 2 factor authentication (2FA) coming soon**Please can we remind all pharmacy team members and Locums that 2FA will become mandatory for NHS mail in the next few months. Please can you ensure that everyone who needs access to it is aware of this and takes the required steps before it becomes mandatory . Information on what is required is on the log on page for NHS mail. |

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| Flu 2024/25 Service Spec |

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| **Flu Vaccination Service : NHSE publishes 2024/25 service spec**Following discussions with Community Pharmacy England, NHS England has published the service specification for the2024/25 Community Pharmacy Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Advanced Service. The early publication of the specification aims to support pharmacy owners in planning and providing the service, particularly if an autumn COVID-19 vaccination service is considered. Only a few amendments have been made to the service requirements for next season. Key changes include a revised start date and priority order for administration (to be announced later by NHS England), as well as the requirement to maximise vaccine administration by 30th November 2024. [More information here](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=6f7d22d3f4&e=3e5221b889) |

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| Ear Referrals |

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| **Ear referrals**We have had a number of complaints from GP practices and the UTC and ED dept of UHB about patients who they have referred via Pharmacy First for minor ear issues ie wax etc being referred back to them by pharmacist stating that they can only deal with children aged 1-17 with ear problems. Please can we remind pharmacists and their teams have always given advice on ear wax, blocked ears etc. |

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| Pharmacy First Consultations |

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| **Pharmacy First - Claiming for Consultations**We have had feedback that there is still confusion as to when you can claim for a Pharmacy First Consultation. If the patient has been referred FORMALLY via a secure electronic method to you from any of the accepted healthcare providers ie GP, ED, UTC or NHS111 **whatever the outcome**ie whether they pass the gateway or not or they have just have had advice only and /or a sale of a product you should **be claiming** for a Pharmacy First consultation by completing the form on PharmOutcomes.If you have any questions please contact either Roger Herbert Roger.avonlpc@gmail.com or Judith Poulton Judith.avonlpc@gmail.com |

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| Payment for Consultations |

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| **Pharmacy First Payment for consultations**There has been some confusion about when a payment is made for a Pharmacy First minor illness referral.**Walk in patient** (either self presents or informal referral from NHS111/GP practice) - If the patient does not pass the gateway on a clinical pathway NO PAYMENT will be made.**Referred patent** (as long as the referral is sent via electronic means eg PharmOutcomes, NHS mail etc from an authorised source eg GP practice, ED dept, NHS 111) your pharmacy WILL BE paid even if the patient does not pass the gateway criteria. |

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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=81538efba4&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Local Services & Information** |

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| PrescQIPP |

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| **Sign up to PrescQIPP**This free service supports community pharmacists to deliver clinical services. For more information as well as details on how to sign up please see attached flyer.[Click here.](https://avonlpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4c41af9cdb2c8602a37b9d52d&id=1cd3fdf3e3&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.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=9a532e13b3&e=3e5221b889) |

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| **Training** |

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