



Supporting and Fighting for Pharmacy

Campaign News



PSNC Rejects DoH Proposed Funding Package

PSNC has rejected the Department of Health's proposed funding package for 2016/17. The proposed package includes reckless cuts to pharmacy funding that will, if implemented, see patients suffer as services are withdrawn.

The Department will now have to propose a revised package, or impose their proposed funding changes on England's community pharmacies.

Rejecting the offer, PSNC noted that the proposals:

- Would reduce funding from December 2016 to March 2017 by 12% on current levels, to set funding for this year at £2.687bn;
- Would reduce funding for 2017-18 by 7.4% on current levels, to set funding at £2.592bn for that year;
- Would force pharmacies to reduce staffing and cut back on services; and
- Are rooted in the government's professed aim to close pharmacies.

Unlike all previous negotiations between community pharmacy and the Department of Health, this year's negotiations were not characterised by collaborative working. From the start, the proposals were presented by the Department as a fait accompli. To read PSNC's response letter of 13th October 2016, please click here:

<http://psnc.org.uk/our-news/contractor-announcement-psnc-rejects-dh-proposed-funding-package/>

Government Imposes Community Pharmacy Funding Reduction

The Government has imposed a two-year funding package on community pharmacy, with a £113 million reduction in funding in 2016/17.

This will take total funding to £2.687 billion for this financial year. This is a reduction of 4% compared with last year, but it will mean that contractors will see their funding for December 2016 to March 2017 fall by an average of 12% compared with current levels. This will be followed by a reduction in 2017/18 to £2.592 billion for the financial year, which will see funding levels from April 2017 drop by around 7.5% compared with current levels.

PSNC will shortly be publishing indicative income tables to help contractors to predict the impact on their businesses.

As part of the package the Department of Health (DH) will make changes to the way in which funding is distributed, introducing quality payments and a Pharmacy Access Scheme (PhAS). Further information on these and on which pharmacies will be eligible for the payments is outlined in [PSNC Briefing 057/16: Information for Contractors](#).

The Government has also recently announced a pharmacy urgent repeat medicines supply pilot along with plans to refer NHS 111 callers with minor ailments to pharmacies. The service specification for this is still under discussion but further details are also available in [PSNC Briefing 057/16: Information for Contractors](#).

The imposition, which was announced by minister David Mowat in Parliament on October 20th, comes after PSNC unanimously rejected the package last week.

For more information, including related PSNC Briefings and a statement from PSNC Chief Executive Sue Sharpe, please visit: ow.ly/Ypcy305mCOk

Flu Vaccination Programme 2016/17

Locally.....

The number of flu vaccinations undertaken by North Yorkshire community pharmacists, under the national NHS service, has reached 7,544 so far (as at 21st October 2016).

Last year's end of season total was 6,954....and this has been exceeded after just seven weeks.

What a FLU-TASTIC achievement 😊😊😊

The success of the scheme has been backed by ALL eight of our local MPs, together with the Chair of York Health and Wellbeing Board, who have all promoted it throughout September/October by visiting their local pharmacies and showing support for the community pharmacy service.

This has been another valuable opportunity to gain press coverage on what pharmacies can do above and beyond prescriptions!



(Pictured from left to right, top to bottom: Kevin Hollinrake MP, Anna Horton, Julian Smith MP, Samina Khan, Rishi Sunak MP, Paul Gale, Andrew Jones MP, Shaun Davies, Robert Goodwill MP, Nigel Adams MP, Jon Kaye, Rachael Maskell MP, Delia Aragon, Linda Fells, Julian Sturdy MP, Cllr Carol Runciman, Sarah Cuthbertson)

Nationally.....

Community pharmacists in 7,195 pharmacies across England provided 595,467 flu vaccinations to patients under the national NHS Flu Vaccination Service in 2015/16.

Nationwide, this year, community pharmacy looks set to improve on last year's total.....and indeed the number of vaccines administered has already reached 560,440 (as at 20th October 2016).

The number of pharmacy teams signed up this year to provide the service is 8,424 (72.3% of all contractors in England).

Identifying Carers Eligible for a Flu Vaccination

Carers are included in the group of patients eligible for an NHS flu vaccination under the national Flu Vaccination service but it can be difficult to identify who is a carer.

A carer is a person who provides unpaid care for a family member, partner or friend who cannot cope without their support due to an illness, frailty, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction. The term 'carer' is sometimes confused with a care worker or care assistant; however, the difference is that a carer is unpaid whereas a care worker or care assistant is paid for looking after someone.

The Carers Trust has produced 'ten signs that tell community pharmacy teams that someone may be a carer' as set out below:

Carers are often the people who:-

1. Drop off and collect prescriptions for another person.
2. Collect medications for someone who has a condition (e.g. dementia) which suggests that they wouldn't be able to get by on their own.
3. Buy incontinence products or other items associated with ill health, frailty or disability.
4. Ask for advice about someone else's medication, health condition or disability rather than their own.
5. Sit in on a Medicines Use Review and give the impression that they are main 'manager' of your patient's medications.
6. May seem to be in a hurry to get back home because they don't want to leave someone on their own for very long.
7. Visit the pharmacy with someone who appears to need their support.
8. May look tired, depressed or anxious when the person they usually accompany isn't with them.
9. Take delivery of medications from the pharmacy delivery driver.
10. Regularly buy over-the-counter medicines for another person.

To view this in a larger format and for lots more information and resources available on how to engage with and promote the service to carers, please see here: <http://psnc.org.uk/services-commissioning/advanced-services/flu-vaccination-service/identifying-carers-eligible-for-a-flu-vaccination/>

SCR Webinar Available On-Demand

More than 200 people tuned in to PSNC's recent webinar on the Summary Care Record (SCR) on Thursday (13th October) when NHS Digital's Community Pharmacy Lead for SCR, Harpreet Shergill, highlighted the value that regularly accessing SCR can bring. The webinar is a

valuable resource for community pharmacists and technicians considering using SCR or those about to go live, as well as those who have already begun using SCR. An online recording of the 60-minute webinar is available from: ow.ly/o6aB305bDjq



New Stop Smoking Service: A Breath of Fresh Air



With Stoptober at the forefront of health professionals' minds this month, we would like to share a recent success story with you.

SmokefreeLife North Yorkshire is run on the Council's behalf by healthcare innovations company Solutions 4 Health and their partnership work with contracted community pharmacies has already made all the difference for a Harrogate couple who have been heavy smokers for 35 years.

Jackie and Richard Green (both 49) from Bilton have been quit for over three months now after visiting Lloyd's Pharmacy at 154-156 Kings Road, Harrogate, and working closely with their healthcare supervisor, Christine Keen – taking advantage of an improved range of evidence based and easily accessible support methods.



Jackie explains: "I've tried to quit many times before on my own and via the local GP, but to no avail. With Christine there was a togetherness straight away and also a beyond the call of duty ethic from her, plus she didn't judge. Our weekly consultations were invaluable and even on her days off she would text, chase and cajole so I stayed focused. I think she deserves a medal really.

"I was so impressed that I got Richard to follow suit shortly after and now we both feel so much healthier and positive about the future. I have COPD so being able to stay quit was vital for me, plus we're saving nearly £700 per month, which

has allowed me to make the home improvements I've been putting off for ages and Richard to save for a new car."

Christine adds: "It's very gratifying to hear such praise from Jackie and Richard and I'm delighted that we have made the difference for them. We do take time to listen and get to know our customers properly and we don't pressurise them – it they're not ready to go down a level on their NRT then we consult and advise in a deliberately informal manner.

"Customers also like that they can just walk in, without an appointment and register there and then for our 12-week quit course. NRT products such as patches (which Jackie favoured) and lozenges, etc, are of course free to many and being able to talk and share experiences on a regular basis seems to be a major part of taking the decision to quit and staying quit."

Su Sear, Regional Public Health Services Lead for SmokefreeLife North Yorkshire, says: "Pharmacists are a key partner in the delivery of a successful service – particularly in our large rural area. Many pharmacies are already receiving a tariff payment for supporting smokers, as well as a payment in support of the Varenicline PGD. If you want to receive more details of how to become part of either of these programmes please email:

wayne.baxter@solutions4health.co.uk

"The Solutions 4 Health service will also be providing FREE training to all partners, in the form of refresher courses for current providers and Level 1 and 2 training for new providers, along with Varenicline training, so please keep an eye out for dates. This ensures there is seamless support in place so smokers can receive immediate help."

Action for Contractors (NYCC only)

- Consider signing up for Smoking Cessation Service

EPS Repeat Dispensing Service - Survey

Thanks to those of you who have already responded to our survey....if you are still yet to do so please see below.....

We would be grateful if you could please take the time to answer 9 simple questions in a quick survey we are conducting. We are seeking to ascertain how many pharmacies are currently using the EPS Repeat Dispensing service across North Yorkshire and to gain an idea of how many GP surgeries are engaging with it too. Your feedback is really important to us, so please spare three/four minutes to help us. Go to the link below to complete – thank you!

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RGQZFQ7>

Action for Contractors

- Complete EPS repeat dispensing survey

Reminder: Complaints Return for 2015/16

You should have seen a link to the annual complaints return form in our weekly update email. This is a contractual requirement each year so please complete and return your form to england.pharmacyreturns@nhs.net by 31st December 2016.

If you need another copy of the form, please follow this link: <http://cpny.co.uk/resources/annual-complaints-return/>

Action for Contractors

- Complete and return 'Complaints Return 15/16'

Lorraine Gell Resigns from the Committee



Lorraine Gell, CPNY Committee member for over five years, tendered her resignation at the last Committee meeting on 15th September 2016. Lorraine has been an active member of the Committee, taking pride in any discussions/decisions and always with good humour. She will be missed and we wish her all the best for the future.

Future CPNY Meeting Dates

Any contractor that wishes to attend any meeting is invited to do so. If you do wish to attend one of the meetings, arrange this by contacting either your assigned buddy from the Committee or Laura Smart (Engagement Officer) at laura.smart@cpny.co.uk. We can then amend any agenda to address any issues you feel should be raised at the time.

Committee Meeting Dates:

Time	Day	Date	Venue
12pm	Thursday	17 th November 2016	Rudding Park, Harrogate
12pm	Thursday	19 th January 2017	Innovation Centre, York Science Park
12pm	Thursday	16 th March 2017	Innovation Centre, York Science Park
12pm	Thursday	18 th May 2017	Innovation Centre, York Science Park
12pm	Thursday	20 th July 2017	Innovation Centre, York Science Park - AGM

Contractor Communication

CPNY urges all contractors to keep up to date with all the latest news by regularly checking our updated website frequently <http://cpny.co.uk/>.

Keeping Us Informed

We endeavour to keep our database up to date with your names/email addresses so that all important information and opportunities reach all of our contractors. We would therefore be grateful if you could let us know if you move to another pharmacy and/or new members of staff join you who would benefit from being on our mailing list and receiving our weekly email updates. Thank you!

Actions for Contractors	Complete (tick)
Consider signing up for Smoking Cessation Service (NYCC only)	
Complete EPS Repeat Dispensing Survey	
Complete and return annual Complaints Return by 31 st December 2016	

Key Contact Details

- Jack Davies (CPNY Chief Executive Officer)
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