

## Quality Payments - Gateway Criteria Round Up

We have been receiving a few queries around the **four** Gateway criteria which must **ALL** be met before you can qualify to receive any Quality Payments cash, so with this in mind, we set out some brief advice below which we hope will help:



### **1. Provision of at least one specified advanced service**

This can be any one of these three: MURs, NMS or the new NUMSAS pilot (NHS Urgent Medicine Supply Advanced Service).

In most cases, offering either or both of the MUR/NMS services can be evidenced by the claims for payments you make leading up to the review points - however, where such claims are not regularly being received by NHSBSA, you may need to think about how else you can evidence that you do these if asked to do so by NHS England.

Offering the NUMSAS service before the first review point of 28th April is a little more interesting as this pilot is only to be launched in our area in March/April time, however NHS England has said that 'registering' to provide this service will be accepted as evidence of offering it, thereby meeting the criteria. The slight issue with this is that you can only register for the service if you have your NHSmail account up and running, so it's all a bit 'chicken and egg' with this one!



### **2. NHS Choices entry up to date**

If you already have an up to date NHS Choices page and you are confident that this is 100% accurate (in line with the details held by the local area team) and there will be no changes between now and April 28th 2017, you can now VALIDATE your

profile. If it is not currently up to date, you will need to AMEND it accordingly.

**Pharmacies making the declaration on their claim to NHSBSA that they are offering either the NMS or MURs under the advanced service gateway criterion must ensure this service is visible on their NHS Choices profile on the review dates. A check will be carried out so it is ESSENTIAL to include this!**

***Please be aware that the 'departments and services' section has recently been updated to include tick boxes - which makes it easy to just tick all the things you offer at your pharmacy - possibly some things you wouldn't even think to mention - so please make sure you update this.***

By each review date, you need to amend or validate three parts of your profile:

- opening hours;
- the facilities the pharmacy provides e.g. consulting room, parking etc; and
- the services the pharmacy provides.

All three parts will need to have been amended or validated for you to have met the requirement to update your NHS Choices profile.

NHS Choices will maintain a record of when each contractor last updated its NHS Choices profile from 7th February 2017 until the first review date; and then again from **11th September 2017 (this has recently changed from 1st May 2017)** until the second review date in November 2017. This record will then be provided to NHS England regional teams to enable them to confirm which community pharmacies have achieved this gateway criteria for the Quality Payments Scheme when reviewing contractors' declarations.

Any inaccuracies between a contractor's NHS Choices profile and their contractual opening hours, facilities and the services provided is the responsibility of the contractor. **As this is a gateway criterion, an inaccurate NHS Choices profile may then jeopardise the entire payment claimed for under the Quality Payments Scheme.**

**PLEASE NOTE: CPNY will shortly be carrying out a joint 'checking' exercise with the local area team of core/supplementary hours recorded and once this has been completed, the area team will send you a notification to check that the information they hold matches that of your pharmacy. In order for us to effectively do this checking, we would urge you to ensure your NHS Choices is up to date as soon as possible - we can see when you last updated it!**

If you are yet to register to self-manage the content of your NHS Choices page, then please do so now by clicking on the link below for instructions - it may take a couple of weeks for you to be issued with passwords etc. so please do not leave it too long!

[Register for NHS Choices](#)



### **3. Ability for staff to send and receive NHSmail**

We have been 'going on, pestering, nagging' about this for the past few weeks and we are hopeful that you all have this one ticked off by now but if not please email [laura.smart@cpny.co.uk](mailto:laura.smart@cpny.co.uk) for advice on what to do as the deadline for ensuring you meet this criterion has now passed!



### **4. Ongoing utilisation of the Electronic Prescription Service**

To meet this criteria, you must:

- have EPS Release 2 enabled - if you do not, you will need to contact your system supplier to order a system upgrade (and contact NHS England for dispensing tokens and the RA team for smart cards)
- carry out the ongoing nomination of patients who are suitable for the service and who have chosen to nominate your pharmacy (ensuring you follow the national nomination guidance at all times)
- appropriately endorse and claim for EPS Release 2 prescriptions each month

All seems pretty straightforward except the question has been raised as to what if your GP surgeries do not use EPS Release 2 - but our understanding is that as long as you are EPS Release 2 enabled this should be adequate.