**DERBYSHIRE LPC - COMMUNITY PHARMACY UPDATE 09.07.20**  

This update is intended to highlight and add helpful and local information to the key areas that affect community pharmacies this week. This summary is accurate at 5pm on Thursday 09.07.20. Please note things continue to change rapidly.

1. **NHS Test and Trace and wearing PPE**

Following our update last week on this topic, the Midlands NHSE&I team issued an SOP to all community pharmacies, dental and optometry practices on Tuesday 7th July. The email is titled ‘Management of COVID-19 in Pharmacy, Optometry and Dentistry Primary Care Practices.’

The email was sent to your shared NHS mail and includes two attachments. The information it contains is inline with our update last week but includes more detailed information including who you need to contact and what steps you must take in various situations. There are some flow diagrams and some FAQs.

A situation occurred at the end of last week in another part of the Midlands (not Derbyshire) in an independent pharmacy situated in a rural area (so some distance from other community pharmacies). A member of staff tested positive, other members of the team had not worn PPE consistently and the team have to self-isolate for 14 days. Another pharmacist, dispenser and volunteer have now meant the pharmacy has been able to re-open. Everyone acted promptly and responsibly in this situation and (as expected) there are some learns particularly about who needs to be informed and governance around decision making.

Please do read the email and attachments from the NHSE&I team carefully. This is a situation which can happen to any pharmacy and the more prepared everyone is the better!

1. **Antibody tests in Derbyshire**

Still waiting for the final details how pharmacists and pharmacy teams can book antibody tests………..!

Please remember that although a positive antibody test signifies previous exposure, it is currently unknown whether this correlates with immunity, including protection against future infections.

1. **The Wright Review into community pharmacy representation**

Andrea and I have joined two further meetings this week about the recommendations of the Wright review into community pharmacy representation. Professor David Wright answered many of the questions we submitted in yesterday’s meeting which was with all LPC Chairs and Chief Officers, the PSNC team and various other pharmacy company representatives. At the end of the session some questions were posed and the responses (from 162 people across England) were:

**The report highlights a number of issues and makes specific recommendations. Looking first at the issues, which statement best describes your view of the report:**

I recognise the vast majority of the issues highlighted in the report – 56%
Many of the issues ring true and some do not – 40%
A minority of the issues highlighted ring true, but most do not – 4%
I don’t recognise any of the issues highlighted in the report – 0%
(162 voted)

**Moving on to the recommendations, which statement best describes your view of the report:**

I agree with all of the recommendations – 6%
Many of the recommendations have merit, but others need further work and exploration – 75%
Some of the recommendations have merit, others are not practicable or acceptable – 19%
I don’t agree with any of the recommendations – 0%
(163 voted)

These responses show that the recommendations are largely supported with some further work in some areas. It is likely that a Project Team will be established to take this forward - we await further details.

1. **Consultation Audit – IMPORTANT**

Approximately 50% Derbyshire community pharmacies have completed and submitted their Consultation Audit – thank you! Please complete and submit this by tomorrow (Friday 10th July) if you haven’t already. I am sure many more of you are underway with it. This audit is vital in supporting the PSNC in demonstrating the added value you provide to patients and the public every day.

1. **Pilot of Video Consultations in Community Pharmacies**

The Expressions of Interest are now open for the pilot of Video Consultations in community pharmacy. It will be open until next week but applications will be treated ‘first come, first served’ so please apply asap. I have put the information in Appendix 1.

1. **Delivery Service**

You will have seen that the community pharmacy delivery service to support the pandemic has been extended until the end of July. This information was communicated in a letter from Keith Ridge and Ed Waller dated 30 June and is repeated in Appendix 2 incase you missed it.

Although we don’t know what the future holds, we do not expect it to be extended again after July because the requirements for shielded patients is expected to change at that time. We are continuing to discuss with the Derbyshire community hubs and other organisations who have been helping pharmacies and patients. They are keen to continue to help pharmacies and patients where necessary, although some of the people who have been making deliveries have returned to ‘day jobs’ so they have less capacity.

1. **Supporting Pre Registration Year and Undergraduates**

Emma Anderson from CPPE has sent the following support message – thanks Emma!

***A number of you are looking at how you can adapt education and training for the pre-registration year and undergraduates, in the light of the pandemic.***

***I want to highlight two key resources to support you to do this, the*** [CPPE guide to *Your pre-registration year*](https://www.cppe.ac.uk/programmes/l/prereg-g-01)***and the*** [CPPE *undergraduate guide*](https://www.cppe.ac.uk/programmes/l/undergrad-g-01).

                

***The CPPE undergraduate guide contains information on CPPE programmes for pharmacy undergraduates to access now without charge, support to gain success in the workplace and support to apply for your pre-registration placement, this includes support for the OREIL process as well as external pre-registration applications.***

***The CPPE guide to Your pre-registration year content includes information on engaging with learning from the start of the year, a pre-registration year timeline with information for each of the stages,  support to meet General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) performance standards for pre-registration pharmacists, support to prepare for the GPhC registration assessment and support to gain success in the training site. We know that soft skills can take time to acquire and we have information on our guides to support this. Titles include feedback, being influential and time management.***

***Because it’s important for undergraduates and pre-registration pharmacists to be able to work independently to gain the most from CPPE please encourage them to register with us and download their own copies of the guides and other programmes. This is quick, easy and free of charge but if they need to they can contact us for support to do this.***

***Emma Anderson***

***CPPE pre-registration tutor lead***

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: **The Derbyshire LPC Annual General Meeting will be held on TUESDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2020. This will be a virtual meeting starting at 19:30 in the evening and we hope many of you will attend. If guidance indicates we can meet face-to-face by then we may also have a venue as well, but this will be in addition to the virtual meeting not instead.**

Thanks

Jackie

**Jackie Buxton**

**Chief Officer**

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**APPENDIX 1 – Letter from Keith Ridge and Ed Waller about the Community Pharmacy Home Delivery Service**

Dear colleagues,

Home delivery of medicines and appliances during the COVID-19 outbreak Thank you for your continued hard work responding to the pandemic and the challenges it brings. On 22 June 2020 the Government published plans for a phased easing of the shielding guidance for people who are clinically extremely vulnerable, effective from 6 July 2020. In in order to assist in the management of the serious risk or potentially serious risk to human health, eligible patients are advised to continue to stay away from pharmacy premises in the circumstances set out in this letter, Service Specifications and guidance until 31 July 2020. The NHS will continue to maintain the shielded patient list, and the government shielding support package will remain in place until the end of July.

This letter confirms that the Community Pharmacy Home Delivery Service and the Dispensing Doctor Home Delivery Service will be commissioned from 2 July until 31 July 2020. The services, introduced on 9 April 2020, were due to run until 1 July 2020. This letter announces that both pharmacies and dispensing doctors across England will be required to ensure shielded patients can receive a home delivery of their medicines until 31 July 2020.

The provision of this service throughout July will enable patients who are shielding time to make alternative arrangements for access to their prescription medications, after which both the essential and advanced pharmaceutical service, and both elements of the dispensing doctor COVID-19 home delivery service cease to be commissioned.

The NHS volunteer responders programme will remain active after 31 July 2020, and previously shielded and/or otherwise vulnerable patients can access this support by calling 0808 196 3646. Please pass this number on to your patients who could benefit from this support.

It should be noted that only patients on the Government’s shielded list (or who fulfil the shielding criteria) are eligible for this service. Pharmacies and dispensing doctors should familiarise themselves with the details of the service before making a claim. Evidence of delivery to shielded patients should be retained for post-payment verification purposes.

Claims Community pharmacy contractors can claim payment for delivery of medicines under the Community Pharmacy Home Delivery Service on the Manage Your Service (MYS) portal. Contractors must submit their claims for payment via the MYS platform by 5 August 2020. Claims for this service will not be accepted after 5 August 2020. Payment for the essential service will be made automatically for July. Dispensing doctors can claim payment for delivery of medicines under the Pandemic Delivery Service using this form. Contractors must submit their claims for payment monthly by 5 August 2020. Claims for this service will not be accepted after 5 August 2020. Payment for the mandatory element of the Pandemic Delivery Service will be made automatically for July.

**APPENDIX 2 – Letter to pharmacy contractors from NHSE&I Midlands Team about EOI for Video Consultations pilot in Pharmacy, Optometry and Dentistry**

Dear Colleagues

NHS England and NHS Improvement (Midlands) is seeking expression of interest from Pharmacies, Dentists and Optometry practices to be involved in a pilot to trial the use of Video consultation in your practice or pharmacy.

Early engagement with the local professional networks suggests that there is an interest within professions to promote patients’ use of video consultations for primary care services to support Covid19 response and to further support the aims and ambitions in the long-term plan utilising the digital transformation programme.  Video consultations may enable services that have paused or reduced during the pandemic to resume safely.

Video consultation platforms can support direct patient care, this has been clearly evidenced with the roll out of this platform within General Practice and Acute Trust services. This pilot will allow us to evaluate how best to deploy this resource to support both patients and your staff.

We are undertaking a process to identify/recommend potential providers and their specific technology/platforms that can deliver Video consultations in your practice and pharmacy as part of this pilot.

Practices and pharmacies involved in the pilot will be responsible for choosing their preferred provider from the recommended list at the end of the above process. Practices and pharmacies will be responsible for signing up to any specific agreement, if applicable, with the chosen provider.

We are looking for pilot sites to be geographically spread in the Midlands region with a mixture of corporate and independent practices and pharmacies.  There are however a limited number of opportunities to be involved in the pilot and interest recorded will be on a first come, first served basis.  We therefore urge you to register your interest as a priority.

At this point, we are not looking to fund any equipment to support the rollout such as tablets, webcams or smartphones but would look to the practices and pharmacies to utilise those that are available within the individual businesses.

If you would like to be involved in the pilot, can you please complete the expression of interest form: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=kp4VA8ZyI0umSq9Q55Ctv251oFQn3MBAhyzHAP8Xr7JURFA5RjFUNDNNR05WWkxUUFJOUkhETkhIWS4u>

The Expression of Interest window will go live at **midday today - Thursday 9th July** **2020**.

*The closing date for submitting an expression of interest is:* ***midday on Wednesday 15th July 2020.***

If you have any questions, please contact us at: midlands.gpfv@nhs.net

Kind regards

Primary Care Support

NHS England and NHS Improvement – Midlands