**DERBYSHIRE LPC - COMMUNITY PHARMACY UPDATE 29.07.20**  

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 Wednesday 29.07.20. Please note things continue to change rapidly.

1. **Risk Assessments**

Please remember the second window to submit your declaration about progress on completion of risk assessments of staff with the NHS BSA closes at 23:59 on 31st July. Please note you are asked to submit a declaration in this second window – even if all staff assessments were completed in the first.

1. **Antibody tests in Derbyshire**

A reminder that community pharmacists and pharmacy team members can access antibody testing in Derbyshire. Appointments are available until the 17th of August for testing. Pharmacy staff should ring 0300 1000404 between the hours of 9:00 and 16:00 Monday to Friday to book appointments.

1. **Flu Vaccinations**

This flu season is expected to be the biggest yet with additional patient groups added and a high take up from the public. Another question remains whether a COVID-19 vaccine will become available this Autumn/Winter.

We are expecting the second flu letter to be available soon and hope it will answer many questions:

* Which patient groups will be included?
* Will off-site vaccinations be permitted?
* Will Pharmacy Technicians be able to vaccinate?
* What will the PPE requirement be? At the moment there is conflicting advice out there – some saying masks/visor per session, apron per patient and gloves optional with hand washing and gel between every patient; some saying masks/visor per session with gloves and apron per patient
* How will pharmacies be able to source additional vaccines over what you have ordered?

We are attending all flu meetings across Joined Up Care Derbyshire and the wider Midlands region so will keep everyone informed!

Although no-one can complete their flu plans until we have some more answers nationally, there a few initial things that it might be useful for community pharmacists to consider in preparation:

1. Ensure update training is completed. Some training providers you can contact include:

· [**https://ecgtraining.co.uk/product/vaccinationfull/**](https://northstaffslpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3bab06d779bcd5668c46690db&id=e1550d485c&e=40dd869cdb)? - Accredited vaccination training provider
· [**https://www.npa.co.uk/services-and-support/**](https://northstaffslpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3bab06d779bcd5668c46690db&id=5f928ea2de&e=40dd869cdb) - NPA provides both PGD and training.
· [**http://www.alliance-healthcare.co.uk/pharmacies/flu-vaccination-service**](https://northstaffslpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3bab06d779bcd5668c46690db&id=785ce15e26&e=40dd869cdb) - Alliance Healthcare provides flu vaccination service and you don’t have to be a member.
· [**http://www.aah.co.uk/shop/en-GB/aahpoint/flubooking**](https://northstaffslpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3bab06d779bcd5668c46690db&id=21120d2bef&e=40dd869cdb) - AAH provides flu training
· [**https://www.buttercupstraining.co.uk/course/vaccination-training-full-practical-online**](https://northstaffslpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3bab06d779bcd5668c46690db&id=f4cdb51200&e=40dd869cdb) - Buttercups provides flu training
· [**https://www.flujabtraining.co.uk/courses/**](https://northstaffslpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3bab06d779bcd5668c46690db&id=013ca10588&e=40dd869cdb) - Flu Jab Training provides flu training and online refresher course

1. Keep up-to-date with developments by signing up with PSNC for flu updates at [http://psnc.org.uk/services-commissioning/advanced-services/flu-vaccination-service/](https://northstaffslpc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3bab06d779bcd5668c46690db&id=6d5c837a0d&e=40dd869cdb)
2. Consider how you will provide vaccinations:
* How will you maintain social distancing? Where will patients wait before and after their vaccination?
* Will you provide ad hoc vaccinations or just planned clinics?
* How can you minimise the amount of time each patient spends in the pharmacy by completing as much documentation remotely before they arrive?
1. **CCG Medicines Management Website**

The Clinical Policies and Decisions Team at Derby and Derbyshire CCG have developed a survey to gain a better understanding of users' views of the Medicines Management website. They would like to gather information from users of the website to help refine and improve it so if you have chance please complete their survey (by 14th August) at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MedicinesManagementWebsite>

1. **Pharmacist Education and Training Reform**

A joint letter was issued this week about Pharmacist Education and Training Reform by Alan Ryan, Director for National Transformational Programmes of HEE and Richard Cattell, Deputy Chief Pharmaceutical Officer of NHSE&I. This letter is shown at Appendix 1.

1. **NHS Register for volunteers for COVID-19 vaccines**

There will soon be calls for community pharmacists to take part in the **research** delivery of COVID-19 vaccines. However, there is already a request for community pharmacists to help with potential recruitment for service user volunteers for these studies.  Please note at this stage it is not known how many participants will be chosen and needed to partake in the studies chosen for delivery in the East Midlands. The information is:

‘***The government has launched the*** [**NHS Covid-19 vaccine research registry**](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/research/coronavirus-vaccine-research/) ***to aid efforts in getting access to a safe and effective vaccine. The new website will enable people in the UK to volunteer for future vaccine studies more easily, allowing members of the public to register their interest and be contacted to participate in clinical studies.***

***In order to enable large-scale vaccine studies across the UK, the government is aiming to recruit 500,000 by October – a target considered essential in their strategy in quickly combatting coronavirus and securing an effective, viable vaccine. Clinical studies with hundreds of thousands of volunteers will help scientists and researchers better understand the effectiveness of each vaccine candidate and will considerably speed up efforts to discover a safe and workable vaccine.

For more information please click on the following link:*** <http://www.nationalhealthexecutive.com/News/uk-early-access-coronavirus-vaccine?utm_source=National%20Health%20Executive&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=11693949_NHE%20Newsletter%2020th%20July%2020&dm_i=IJV,6YN3X,LHCUV8,S0PHO,1>

Thanks

Jackie

**Jackie Buxton**

**Chief Officer**

**Derbyshire Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC)**

**Email:** **jackie.buxton@derbyshirelpc.org**

**Mob: 07725 427300**

[**www.derbyshirelpc.org**](http://www.derbyshirelpc.org/)

**Appendix 1 – Pharmacist Education and Training Reform**

**\*** Joint Letter on behalf of Alan Ryan, Director of National Transformational

Programmes, Health Education England and Richard Cattell, Deputy Chief

Pharmaceutical Officer, NHS England and NHS Improvement \*

23 July 2020

Dear Colleague,

**Re: Pharmacist Education and Training Reform**

Patients and other health professionals are becoming increasingly reliant on the

clinical knowledge and skills of pharmacists. Clinical pharmacists are being deployed

across Primary Care Networks, hospital pharmacists are now firmly part of

multidisciplinary teams and practice in specialist areas including at consultant level,

and community pharmacists are providing urgent care for low acuity conditions

through the Community Pharmacist Consultation Service. Many more pharmacists

are becoming prescribers.

These types of clinical services are largely replicated across the UK, and all require

pharmacists to have additional training, in part because their initial education and

training does not fully support these needs. This has been recognised by the

pharmacy professional regulator, the General Pharmaceutical Council, who are

shortly to finalise new regulatory standards for the five years of pharmacist initial

education and training.

This reform is required to standardise the uptake of this additional training, providing

future newly qualified pharmacists with the necessary consultation skills and

confidence to provide the clinical services expected by patients and the NHS. This

type of structured training, where workplace based clinical training is very

significantly enhanced, will more easily link to post registration training in research

and advanced practice.

The Covid-19 pandemic continues to be a huge challenge. The pharmacy profession

across all sectors has responded remarkably. It has also brought with it the

opportunity to innovate quickly to support patient needs.

The pandemic has also affected the training of the current cohort of pre-registration

pharmacists, who have not had the full experience necessary for registration. The

GPhC has decided to provisionally register this cohort, with the final assessment

likely to take place later this year, with full registration to follow for those successful

in the exam.

This situation provides an opportunity to accelerate the reform of pharmacist

education. The first phase is to provide provisionally registered pharmacists with the

foundation training support they need. Together with the duties of employers and

supervising pharmacists, it will help mitigate any risks to patients. The NHS is

therefore introducing a standard one-year foundation training for all provisionally

registered pharmacists providing NHS funded care and services in England from

September 2020, that we are calling the Interim Foundation Pharmacist

Programme (IFPP). The aims of the programme are:

**• To support provisionally registered pharmacists in England transition to full GPhC registration and beyond**

**• To develop pharmacists’ ability to achieve high quality outcomes for patients and improve patient safety**

**• To inform the next stage of pharmacist education and reform**

The next phase of pharmacist education and reform, subject to further consideration

by a broad range of stakeholders, and led by the General Pharmaceutical Council, is

to replace the current pre-registration year with a one-year foundation programme.

The programme will form the 5th year of a continuum of pharmacist initial education

and training. The aim is to commence this approach from the Summer of 2021.

Whilst this timetable is demanding, it will consolidate the profession’s standing

amongst the wider clinical workforce, be worthwhile for the care of patients, the

needs of the NHS, and the careers of future pharmacists.

The UK Chief Pharmaceutical Officers’ group is supportive of the direction of travel

and this approach was agreed by the national Education Governance Oversight

Board on 4 June 2020, with the proviso that implementation would need to take

account of each country’s circumstances and subject to appropriate consultation.

To summarise, the first phase of pharmacist education and reform is to build support

around the current cohort of pre-registration pharmacists who will become

provisionally registered pharmacists in August 2020. There will be further

communications shortly setting out the details, together with FAQs and points of

contact should you have further questions. The second phase will be to introduce

reform in earnest. The intention is to both ensure the NHS has a sustainable supply

of the well trained, clinically focussed pharmacists it needs, and to provide

pharmacists with a rewarding career.

Thank you for your continued support.

Richard Cattell Alan Ryan

Deputy Chief Pharmaceutical Officer Director of National Transformational Programmes

NHS England and NHS Improvement Health Education England

Alan Ryan