**Community Pharmacy Newsletter**

**March 2024**

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# Pharmacies across Southwest London - important messages to share with your teams this week and any necessary actions.

Dear Colleagues ,

We face a very busy year with an impending general election. It is vital all of Community Pharmacy (CCA, AIMS and NPA) speak with one voice so we can articulate our professional ambitions and system pressures. I urge you to do three things.

**1) Please fill in the Community Pharmacy England** [**Pharmacy Pressures Survey**](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcpe.org.uk%2Four-news%2Fpharmacy-pressures-survey-2024-we-want-to-hear-from-you%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cdavid.tambyrajah%40nhs.net%7C9bd1a84aee2c4847f8a708dc3d0ee3ff%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638452382679292981%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=L%2F%2FdDK1J0yh0EzJCF%2F%2BgOtQVcqQ1Ugi06fXdR5sMqoc%3D&reserved=0) **.**

Community pharmacy owners and teams across England are now facing a critical situation, with majorly impacts on workloads, stress levels, patients, and businesses. The 2024 Pharmacy Pressures Survey aims to find out more about these issues and other areas such as medicines supply problems and workforce challenges. This year the survey will also aim to find out the sector’s view on the recently launched Pharmacy First service. CPE have produced resources to help LPCs promote the survey, including a template news story, template tweets and promotional graphics.

**2) Please complete the** [**LPC workforce survey**](https://form.jotform.com/233532472932052)**.**

This information will help the LPC ascertain what support you need and gives you an opportunity to highlight your team and training needs. The response rate has been low, and this information is urgently needed so the LPC can support your teams and you.

**3) Please read this newsletter.**

The LPC are keen to develop this form of communication and welcome your suggestions for future development.

1. **LPC update**

**1.1 Sub Committees**

The LPC is strengthening its governance arrangements to make sure Community Pharmacy is highlighted to the ICS and maintains local borough contact:

**Borough Leads** – will communicate with the borough community pharmacies particularly with local authority services and uptake of national services. This will give community pharmacies an ideal opportunity to have a direct relationship and communicate your views, areas of support and advice to an LPC member

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| **Merton** | **Sutton** | **Wandsworth** |
| **Deven Jethwa /Kishan Patel** | **Jaymil Patel** | **Subha Subramanian**  **Shahil Soni /Umesh Amin** |
| **Croydon** | **Kingston** | **Richmond** |
| **Amish Patel/ Beran Patel** | **Kishan Patel** | **CJ Patel** |

**Services Committee** – will focus on progressing NHS services and reviewing locally commissioned services.

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| **Mayank Patel** | **Beran patel** | **Rachna Chhatralia** |
| **Jaymil Patel** | **Amish Patel** | **Subhashini Subramanian** |
| **Deven Jethwa** |  |  |

**Market entry and governance committee** – this group will review any Market entry applications to SW London i.e. new applications , changes of opening hours or closures. As well as act as a group to review our governance and any governance related issues raised.

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| **Jaymil Patel** | **Amish Patel** | **Shahil Soni** | **Umesh Amin** |

**Audit and Finance committee** – will scrutinise LPC finances and the financial structure of services as and when the services committee needs their support.

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| **Mayank Patel MP** | **Mansukh Sheth** |
| **CJ Patel** | **Kishan Patel** |

**1.2 Events -** [**MP visit to Battersea**](https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7169384187001556994/) **–** Marsha de Cordova MP for Battersea visited Northcote Pharmacy on Friday 1st March 2024 and heard the excellent work the team were doing with services such as Pharmacy First and serving the local community. This was a great opportunity to feedback that Community Pharmacy as a willing and proactive patter to the NHS, ICS, and local community, in addition the MP heard the system challenges this sector faces. It is important the LPC maintain this political engagement to highlight professional progress and the infrastructure challenges of funding, and equity in local commissioning. If there any local events you would like to plan, please let us know so we can support.

**1.3 LPC support –** The LPC will be moving to finalise the website and creating a LinkedIn account. We need to use social medial to promote your work, improve community pharmacy understanding. The LPC services group will be contacting a sample of 30 Community pharmacies to understanding your issues, progress with services and how we can support you better.

**The LPC has sent up a single email for any queries or issues** [**communitypharmacyswl@gmail.com**](mailto:communitypharmacyswl@gmail.com) **please use this to communicate to the LPC and this will be managed by Amit, David and Hina.**

1. **Services Update**

**2.1** [**SCS**](https://cpe.org.uk/national-pharmacy-services/advanced-services/smoking-cessation-service/) **and** [**DMS**](https://cpe.org.uk/national-pharmacy-services/essential-services/discharge-medicines-service/) – the LPC and ICS are working with the SW London Acute trusts to improve and increase roll out of these service. DMS is an essential service and must be offered by all pharmacies. More pharmacies are required for SCS. Please contact David Tamby Rajah Pharmacy Consultant if you wish to take up this service.

[**The Targeted Lung Health Check smoking cessation service**](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/dispensing-contractors-information/nhs-smoking-cessation-service-pilot-support-targeted-lung-health-check-tlhc-screening)being pilot in Croydon has seen a rise in referrals. **The LPC and ICS need more Croydon Pharmacies to join the pilot** , please contract David Tamby Rajah Pharmacy consultant LPC and Neshat Rezai [Neshat.Rezaei@swlondon.nhs.uk](mailto:Neshat.Rezaei@swlondon.nhs.uk) , SW London ICS Pharmacy integration project manager for more details.

[**2.2 Pharmacy First**](https://cpe.org.uk/national-pharmacy-services/advanced-services/pharmacy-first-service/) **–** Community Pharmacy England (CPE) has updated the resource section on the

[**Pharmacy First FAQ webpage**](https://cpe.org.uk/national-pharmacy-services/advanced-services/pharmacy-first-service/pharmacy-first-service-faqs/). There are updates on leaflets and clinical pathways.

The LPC has produced a guide to service resources , please see attachment 1.

[**2.3 Hypertension case finding service**](https://cpe.org.uk/national-pharmacy-services/advanced-services/hypertension-case-finding-service/hypertension-case-finding-service-faqs/) **-** The LPC have produced a top tips guide , please see email attachment 2.

**2.3 Local authority service update –** The LPC has been working with all 6 SW London Local authorities to map out locally commisoned services (LCS). The aim is to produce services guides for community pharmacies to clarify the service, payment, and accreditation. There has been mixed feedback from some of the local authorities , which has been formally raised to the ICS.

**To date 3 guides for Wandsworth , Richmond and Kingston will be send to those contractors this month.** The LPC will be raising concerns to the other 3 boroughs about lack of progress.

**Merton Local Authority (LA) -**The LPC has worked closely with the Merton LA to set up a naloxone nasal spray distribution service through selected Merton Community Pharmacies. The LPC has sent out an Expression of Interest to the Merton contractors to complete and return to the by 28th March 2024.

The LA would like to send Merton Community Pharmacies details of the Family hubs initiative.

**Richmond –** The LA has updated resources for Age UK in the borough. This will be sent to Richmond Pharmacies. Richmond contactors can receive local authority newsletters by sign up to this distribution list [Age UK Richmond upon Thames (list-manage.com)](https://ageukrichmond.us3.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=91e1f29a6be9baa3e5c967423&id=1db1fd7c42)

**Kingston** – The LA Authority have updated that the Wolverton Sexual Health service is launching a new walk-in service for young people aged 21 and under, information will be sent to Kingston Community Pharmacies.

**Croydon –** as raised in 2.1 , the LPC and ICS need more Croydon Pharmacies to undertake the [**The Targeted Lung Health Check smoking cessation service**](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/dispensing-contractors-information/nhs-smoking-cessation-service-pilot-support-targeted-lung-health-check-tlhc-screening)**.**

**2.4 Community Pharmacy feedback on Apps**

NHS England is working with RSM to understand how primary care providers are using the NHS App and the NHS.uk website. They would like to hear about how/whether pharmacies are currently using the NHS App, including perceptions of the NHS App, reasons behind using any other specific patient-facing apps/websites (e.g., Patient Access), any challenges experienced when trying to use the NHS App, and how the NHS App could better meet the needs of pharmacies.

**Your input will be used to inform the future development of the NHS App, please take this opportunity to feedback. To access the survey the link is** [**here.**](https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/NDC_Research_Pharmacies/)

1. **Contractual updates**

Please ensure the following are completed by 31st March 2024 , for full details please refer to attachment 3 Task tracker and timelines.

* **Flu Vaccination Service** Flu vaccination service ends. Make sure all vaccinations done have been claimed for.
* **Healthy Living Pharmacy -** Pharmacies must have undertaken a community engagement exercise (at least one must be undertaken per financial year) on the promotion of healthy living.
* **PQS** - Pharmacies must complete all audits they have made the declaration for in February.
* **Online NHS Profile Update** Make sure you have updated your NHS profile with Xmas and New Year opening. Remember to add any new services you may now provide. (1st October – 31st December

1. **Meetings & Events**

The LPC apologised for the issues contractors facing trying to access the Hypertension case funding.

Multi-disciplinary meeting (MDT) on 21st February 2024. The turnout was low and incorrect meeting.

invite being sent. Due to this the LPC is reaching out a sample of contractors to engage and find out.

how we can support you better.

* **Virtual MDT on Pharmacy first 14th March 8pm- 9.00pm** [**Click here to join the meeting**](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NmU4MjM2MjEtMjkyYS00ZDg0LWE1MTktYmJmZmU3MzYzMjk2%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2237c354b2-85b0-47f5-b222-07b48d774ee3%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22d3f4d2c8-4ca0-4940-9bc3-420513f3463e%22%7d)This will go through the service, allowing you to share experiences, best practice and learning needs.
* **SWL Contractor face to face meeting 21st March** 7.30pm food & networking , meeting 8am- 9.30pm at The Grange, Beddington Park, London Road, Wallington, SM6 7BT
* **Benecol CPD Saturday 16th March 9.15am- 12pm the Grange Walling** - This is a sponsored CVD update event with GP leads and Dharshan Negandhi PCN Pharmacy lead providing a professional update . Please see attachment 4 .
* **SW London ICS webinar** Virtual meeting 13th March 2024 12.30 – 13.30 please [**Book Here**](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.co.uk%2Fe%2F852907879427%3Faff%3Doddtdtcreator&data=05%7C02%7Cdavid.tambyrajah%40nhs.net%7C06a11283a74745d6be2c08dc3ddb23e9%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638453258628395457%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Gpysb1yA5LpJ9Gy3kEDcCnHPqbPRaAT8dbOqCkOkiLM%3D&reserved=0) .

**Learning Outcomes**

1. Discussion of GLP-1 NPSA alert: formulary status of oral semaglutide and tirzepatide
2. Discussion of updated diabetes and frailty guidelines
3. SWL Diabetes blood glucose and ketone meters, testing strips, and lancets Position Statement
4. **SW London ICS update – KNOW YOUR ICS!!!**

All Community Pharmacies need to understand what the SWL London ICS do, as this is a principal customer for the LPC. Dina Thakker our hardworking Clinical Community Pharmacy lead has sent some ICS website links so you can start familiarising yourself with the ICS.

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| [South West London ICS](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.southwestlondonics.org.uk%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cdavid.tambyrajah%40nhs.net%7C83371d80fe6d4acbe89d08dc3d01c243%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638452324968108450%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1lly1PCCaDDNRDgKrel4dIrryeR6OvhTz5etqv8L%2Bg8%3D&reserved=0) | This is the main ICS website ,where you can information on each of the 6 SW London boroughs and news. |
| [NHS South West London Integrated Care Board (icb.nhs.uk)](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.southwestlondon.icb.nhs.uk%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cdavid.tambyrajah%40nhs.net%7C83371d80fe6d4acbe89d08dc3d01c243%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638452324968189008%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=w7iPezfyWo8cxULQGsJGqunYf%2Fc5N55hYy3bgoFKtDw%3D&reserved=0)  [2023 SW London ICB Joint forward plan](https://www.southwestlondon.icb.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/SWLICBJFP_June2023Final.pdf) | The ICB reports into the ICS and implements the strategic joint forward plan , which explains how the ICS works over the next 5 years |
| [Find NHS Services](https://www.southwestlondon.icb.nhs.uk/find-nhs-services/)  [NHS Live well resource](https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/) | This will support the signposting part of your essential services. |
| [NHS SW London Guide to vaccinations](https://www.southwestlondon.icb.nhs.uk/find-nhs-services/vaccinations/) | Provides an update and best practice on vaccinations |
| [South West London Integrated Medicines Optimisation Committee](https://swlimo.southwestlondon.icb.nhs.uk/) (IMOC)  [Discharge Medicines Service Page](https://swlimo.southwestlondon.icb.nhs.uk/information-for-patients/discharge-medicines-service-dms/) | The SWL IMOC provides clinical leadership on all aspects of medicines for NHS SWL working acute and primary care. You can find medicines management policies. |
| [Southwest London Joint Formulary.](https://www.swljointmedicinesformulary.nhs.uk/) | The Joint Medicines Formulary aims to recommend clinically effective, safe and economic medicines for use in both primary and secondary care and is designed to be used by all providers of healthcare. |

1. **Workforce and training**

**6.1 Health Education England** is offering community pharmacists and pharmacy technicians a range of fully funded, flexible training to expand your clinical skills and improve patient care.

[Community Pharmacy Training LIVE NOW | Health Education England (hee.nhs.uk)](https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/pharmacy/community-pharmacy-training?utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=Orlo&utm_content=Community%20Pharmacy%20Training%202023&s=09)

Please see details below:\_

[Community Pharmacists -fully funded training.](https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/pharmacy/community-pharmacy-training/community-pharmacists)

[Community Pharmacy Technicians – Fully Funded training](https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/pharmacy/community-pharmacy-training/community-pharmacy-technicians)

Courses currently include:

* [Clinical Examination Training Skills](https://www.cliniskills.com/community-pharmacists/) - Delivered by CliniSkills
* [Independent Prescribing](https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/pharmacy/independent-prescribing/approved-suppliers-community-pharmacists-pharmacists-gp-health-justice-pharmacists) - Delivered by approved education providers.
* [Pharmacy Technicians: Advancing your role](https://www.cppe.ac.uk/career/pt-ayr/pt-advancing) - Delivered by CPPE
* [Education Supervisor Training for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians](https://propharmace.com/supervisors/) - Delivered by ProPharmace

**6.2 New Independent Prescribing (IP) supervision resource for prospective Designated Prescribing Practitioners (DPPs), employers and system leaders**

NHS England are pleased to announce a new multi-professional resource for clinicians considering becoming a DPP and employers and system leaders aiming to support DPP capacity in their workforce, particularly the pharmacy workforce. The resource consists of a suite of web pages, frameworks, real-life examples and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). It also includes information for prospective DPPs from professions other than pharmacy, wishing to support a pharmacist IP learner.

The resource aims to reduce barriers to the DPP role by ensuring those eligible understand the role, its expectations and where to find advice and training. This could contribute to an increase in DPP and Independent Prescribing capacity across all sectors, particularly pharmacy primary care settings, including community pharmacies. The resource can be accessed via the following link:

[https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/pharmacy/transforming-pharmacy-education-training/initial-education-training-pharmacists-reform-programme/pharmacy-integration-programme-super](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hee.nhs.uk%2Four-work%2Fpharmacy%2Ftransforming-pharmacy-education-training%2Finitial-education-training-pharmacists-reform-programme%2Fpharmacy-integration-programme-super&data=05%7C02%7Cdavid.tambyrajah%40nhs.net%7Cbf5a9a5c56d74b525ff608dc39362ee4%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638448152072588182%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=AesYr8veFk0%2B0OF0Ev5KTAB2eUJCtzsvXw3PaDh7Kx8%3D&reserved=0)

1. **Medicines Management and Therapeutics** 
   1. **SW London ICS Medicines Management Newsletter** is enclosed as email attachment 5. Please read to follow any prescribing updates. Please note the following updates added as attachments.

**NPSA alert - Shortage of Salbutamol 2.5mg/2.5ml and 5mg/2.5ml Nebuliser Liquid Unit Dose Vials**

Please take note and action – please see attachment 6.

* Please place urgent orders for unlicensed imports of salbutamol nebuliser liquid - do not wait for supplies to be exhausted before placing orders for imports.
* If supplying a product that is different to that previously supplied, please ensure your team and you have familiarised yourselves with the new product and you are able to counsel the patient/carer with relevant information about different presentation/how to use it.

**Sodium Valproate safety Update –** Please see attachment 7. The [community pharmacy poster guide](https://mhra-gov.filecamp.com/s/i/dr66W7LuRQ3pY7u5) is a helpful guide highlighting the actions to be taken by community pharmacies.