

# How PCNs Can Engage with Community Pharmacy

- PCN Leaders / Clinical Directors should **engage with community pharmacy**, through the PCN CP Lead.
- Encourage all GP practices to engage with their local pharmacies (PCN pharmacist / pharmacy technician).
- Discuss and agree best method of communication / how best to engage with each other.
- Consider topics **to discuss / joint projects** to support the development of local relationships, e.g. Walk in my Shoes, optimising business as usual processes such as electronic Repeat Dispensing (eRD), efficient communication routes. **Chose topics of mutual benefit.**
- Plan how efforts on public health and wellbeing could be coordinated across pharmacy, general practice and others, e.g. common campaign topics.

## Collaboration Opportunities

- **Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF)**  
Year 3 (2021/22) 2-page summary can be accessed [here](#).

There are several opportunities for links, collaboration and improved patient outcomes between community pharmacy and general practice / PCNs.

- **Improving prevention and health inequalities**  
Flu – aligned incentives (through Investment Impact Fund (IIF) and Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS)) to increase uptake.
- Cardiovascular disease diagnosis and prevention – Directed Enhanced Services (DES) link with community pharmacy Hypertension Case Finding Service.
- Inequalities – PCN, local commissioners and Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC) to agree an approach, link with [NICE QS196](#) and supported by PQS.
- Healthy Living Pharmacy (HLP)
- [Pharmacy commissioned services](#) – Emergency Contraception, Stop Smoking, Hep C.
- **Improved primary care access**  
Community Pharmacist Consultation Service ([CPCS / GP CPCS](#)) – Winter Access Fund, within IIF and NHS Operational Planning Guidance 2022/23.
- Community pharmacy open and providing services outside of GP operating hours.
- **Delivering better outcomes for patients on medicines**  
Structured Medication Reviews (SMR) – link with pharmacy services, Discharge Medicines Service (DMS), requests for Multiple Compartment Compliance Aids (MCCAs).

- Community pharmacy PQS Anticoagulant Audit.
- Antimicrobial Resistance – PQS supporting this work.
- New Medicines Service (NMS) – opportunity for GP practice to routinely refer patients starting a new medicine to the service, link to SMR referral from community pharmacy for patients with unresolved issues.
- Relationships – improve and grow, PCN SMR DES includes role of pharmacy technician in developing a relationship with community pharmacies.
- **Sustainable NHS**  
Reducing carbon emissions – supported by PQS inhaler return for destruction. Inhaler changes – link to NMS for patients who change device.