

Primary Care Networks: Community Pharmacy Integration



Working with Primary Care Networks (PCNs)

Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire is leading and guiding local community pharmacy contractors to set up local community pharmacy networks and identifying a community pharmacist (PCN Representative) to lead on engagement with local GP practices on behalf of the network. In the majority of the PCN Areas, a PCN Representative has been identified along with the pharmacies falling within each PCN area. Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire has also created email groups connecting all pharmacies within each PCN area (PCN Gaggles Group), to enable quick and easy discussion and sharing of information.

Please see your pharmacy premises NHSmail account for your 'invitation to join the Gaggles Group'. Please note that when sending emails via the Gaggles Group, this can only be done from your pharmacy NHS email account.

Note – We are in the process of creating email groups for Leeds, following the changes to Community Partnership and Primary Care Networks announced last week.

Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire and community pharmacy PCN Representatives are collectively engaging with PCN network leaders, clinical directors, NHS health and social care stakeholders and the Local Medical Committee (LMC), to identify key opportunities where they can support the aims and objectives of the NHS Long Term Plan and support meeting local health population needs through:

1. Mobilisation

2. Communication

3. Collaboration

4. Implementation

1. Mobilisation: Working to ensure all West Yorkshire community pharmacy contractors and teams understand the NHS Long Term Plan and PCNs using the Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire website, News Digest and via the PCN Gaggles Groups. The community pharmacy PCN Representatives will continue to develop local relationships, to support integrated multidisciplinary team working with GP practices and other health and social care providers across care settings to support care closer to home.

2. Communication: Identifying ways to support PCNs to improve access and quality of care and with improved outcomes for patients to meet local health population needs through local conversations and local data analysis.

3. Collaboration: Co-developing proposals with PCN leaders to meet the healthcare needs of the local population.

4. Implementation: Developing and implementing local services with community pharmacy teams and Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire.

What Should Local Community Pharmacies be Doing?

Key actions for community pharmacists during this period will be:

- **Starting a conversation with other local pharmacies and their PCN Representative about how to collaborate within PCNs.** For example, use your PCN Gaggles Group to introduce yourself and start a conversation and respond to messages from your PCN representative to let them know you received it.
- **Working together with other pharmacies and your PCN Representative, to talk to local GPs about their plans for the future.**
- **Taking all opportunities for further training and to provide services.**
- Attend local events and training such as the CPWY Connect Events and our Academy training events. Full details of upcoming events can be found on the Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire website here: <https://www.cpwpy.org/training-development/events-training/>.

What Happens Next?

Please monitor your pharmacy NHSmail account for further updates on PCNs from your PCN Representative and Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire. Please share your insights and questions regarding PCNs via the Gaggles Group email.

Sign up to the Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire mailing list to receive our regular News Digest for the latest news about Primary Care Networks and see our website for further information and resources <https://www.cpwpy.org/pharmacy-contracts-services/primary-care-network/>.