

PQS 2023/24 Information

8 days to make your claim for payment!

The Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2023/24 declaration period opened at **9am on Monday 5th February 2024 and will be available until 11.59pm on 1st March 2024**. Pharmacy contractors should make their declaration to the NHSBSA using the [MYS Portal application](#). Contractors must have evidence to demonstrate meeting the quality criteria they have claimed for by the end of the 31 March 2024. For advice and support, please contact Phil Wiles via email at phil@cpwy.org or via mobile: 07793 218 060.

Services Information

Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire has a Services Checklist to help contractors with the different services offered, where to claim and when to claim by. The Services Checklist can be found on our website [here](#).

Action Required! Pharmacy Contraception Service (PCS)

Another reminder that those pharmacies that signed up to provide the Pharmacy Contraception Service before 1st December 2023, will need to “opt-in” to provide the extended PCS **by Thursday 29th February 2024**. Any pharmacies providing the Tier 1 service who do not opt-in by that date will be automatically deregistered from the service (they will be informed of this by the NHSBSA). See the CPE website for more information on the service [here](#). There is a useful webinar on the CPE website [here](#).

Pharmacy First – National Advanced Service

It is fantastic to see more than 95% of pharmacies nationally now offering the service, with a similar number across West Yorkshire. How are you getting on in your pharmacy? See top tips / reminders below:

IT Systems

An NHS-assured Pharmacy First IT system is required to meet the minimum digital requirements of the service (as specified within the [Community Pharmacy Clinical Services Standard](#)). If you previously had an IT system for CPCS, this automatically transfers over to the Pharmacy First Service. Please see the CPE website [here](#) for information including the list of approved IT supplier (*under the ‘Getting ready to provide the service’ heading, you will need to scroll down to the 7th section titled ‘Selecting an IT System’*).

Funding

To achieve the monthly fixed payment of £1000, you must complete a minimum number of clinical pathways consultations each month. For February, the minimum number of clinical pathways consultations which must be delivered is **ONE** (the threshold increases each month – see under funding [here](#)). You must complete at least **FIVE** clinical pathway consultations by the end of March 2024 to keep the £2000 initial fixed payment which was made available ahead of the launch of the service.

Training

You must ensure you are competent to offer **all** aspects of the service. The easiest way to help you identify your own training needs is by using the Self-Assessment Framework developed by CPPE. You can find this [here](#). This allows you to record your competence and links to a wealth of training resources to aid you in delivering the service. If you use PharmOutcomes for referrals, it may be useful for you to attend the webinar they are hosting next week on **Wednesday 28th February 7–8pm**. For further details and to register, please see [here](#).

Communication

Looking at some of the successes in our area since the service started, it is clear that good communication with your local surgeries is incredibly beneficial for service delivery. Please make time to speak with your local surgeries to highlight how you can work together to help manage eligible patients via the service pathways. It is a great opportunity to showcase your other services too!

Availability

In line with the service specification, you must ensure the service is available throughout the pharmacy's full opening hours. We have, unfortunately, received some feedback from recent meetings with GPs that referrals have been refused despite Service Finder showing a pharmacy is available to offer the service. *If the service must be temporarily withdrawn by the pharmacy contractor due to circumstances beyond the scope of the business continuity plan, they must inform the NHS Directory of Services Provider and Commissioner Helpline (0300 0200 363) as soon as possible to stop referrals being made to the pharmacy. GP practices and UEC settings within the local Primary Care Network must also be contacted to prevent them making further direct referrals. The pharmacy contractor must also inform the local commissioner of the service of their temporary withdrawal from the service.* This is really important to remember to avoid GP practices losing confidence in the availability of the service.

Further Questions?

We have a third drop-in session available for you to join next week – these are being hosted by CPWY and West Yorkshire ICB and is a chance for anyone connected with the service to ask questions. Join the meeting [here](#) on **Wednesday 28th February 1–2pm**. Please share with your local surgery if you feel it would be beneficial for them.

CPE FAQs

CPE has been compiling a list of commonly asked questions and is updating this section regularly– this is a great resource for you and your teams and can be found [here](#).

Reviewing Your Services

If you are a new pharmacy or have recently changed ownership, why not review the services you are providing? Please visit our website to see what is offered in your area – see the details of all [National Services](#) and [Local Services](#). Additional services not only benefit the patients in your community but can be a valuable additional source of income for you too.

Information for Pharmacies across West Yorkshire

Nominations for CPWY Committee 2024 – Reminder

The term of office for members of the Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire Committee expires on 31st March 2024. Nomination forms have been sent to all independent contractors on 14th February 2024.

If you would like to put forward a nomination, please complete and return the form **by 12 noon on Wednesday 28th February 2024**.

Help Improve the NHS App for Pharmacy Teams

NHS England, in collaboration with RSM, is seeking feedback from pharmacy teams regarding their experience of and requirements for the NHS App. [Complete the NHS App pharmacy survey](#). The survey closes on 1st March 2024.

Trainee Pharmacist Recruitment Oriel Deadline 1st March 2024

Oriel will be the only training route to get a funded trainee for 2025/26 – deadline for registering training sites into Oriel is **1st March 2024**.

- It will not be possible to provide foundation training without recruitment via the Oriel system, nor receive the training grant.
- It is possible to withdraw a training place from Oriel, but you can't add one in later.
- Funding harmonisation offers training sites the same grant for Foundation trainees of £26,500.
- DPP may be identified at later date. See [update](#) from NHSE with full information and a range of resources.

[Prepare for change: Visit the Oriel/NRS website](#)

Smartcard Model Changes and Rights Extension

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the NHS made changes to Smartcards issued to pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. This included adding multi-site codes and Summary Care Record (SCR) rights. NHS England has extended these rights until 1st February 2027 and made other updates. See the CPE news story [here](#).

Sharp Rise in People Waiting Over 12 Hours in A&E

See the Sky News story [here](#). This may lead to an increase in patients contacting community pharmacy as a first port of call. This will give pharmacists and pharmacy teams the opportunity to reassure patients where self-care and OTC treatments are appropriate but also to ensure more serious cases are signposted accordingly.

Medicines Waste Campaign Insight

The WY ICB is gathering insight to support a campaign focusing on the environmental impacts of incorrect disposal of medicines, and how unnecessary prescription and stockpiling of medicine can lead to over-production. You can help by:

- Sending the name, job title, email address and telephone number of anyone who would be willing to provide information on dispensing and medicine wastage in your area to georgina.culliford@qaresearch.co.uk (see [here](#) for more information).
- Suggesting any community groups or patient reference groups in your area that may be able to act as a focus group and provide information about insights and attitudes towards prescribed medicines that could inform the campaign to steven.reed3@nhs.net.

Key News and Guidance: The Latest Updates from Community Pharmacy England

Please ensure you are regularly checking your emails for updates from Community Pharmacy England. The most up to date information can be found on their News page [here](#). Sign up to the mailing list [here](#). Community Pharmacy England also has checklist of important dates for community pharmacies regarding services and requirements. See this information [here](#).

Training and Development

- **CPWY Events** – details of upcoming event will be posted on our website.
- **CPWY e-Learning** – [click here](#) to see the latest Virtual Outcomes e-Learning modules available for West Yorkshire pharmacy teams to access!
- **CPPE Events** – [click here](#) to see the current workshops available to pharmacists, pre-registration pharmacists and pharmacy technicians, **from December 2023**.

CPWY Connect

[CPWY Connect](#) has been set up on the social media site Telegram with the aim of connecting pharmacy teams across West Yorkshire and we'd love you to join by [clicking here](#).