

Reminders!

	Date	Action Required
NHS Profile Manager	By 31 st March 2024	Pharmacy owners need to update the NHS Profile Manager to ensure that their pharmacy's NHS website and Directory of Service (DoS) is up to date. See more here . This is a Terms of Service requirement.
Pharmacy First	By 31 st March 2024	Complete at least five clinical pathway consultations that pass the gateway point to retain the initial £2000 fixed payment. Service fee details can be found on the CPE website here under 'Funding and Claiming Payment' heading. <i>Please ensure any outstanding referrals you have are completed before this date.</i>
Pharmacy First	From 1 st April 2024	An otoscope must be available, and you must be able to offer all clinical pathways. You must also ensure the service is available throughout the pharmacy's full opening hours (i.e. core and supplementary). See more here .
Pressures Survey	Closes on Tuesday 2 nd April 2024	See the CPE news story here for further information and access to the surveys!

CPE also has checklist of important dates for community pharmacies regarding services and requirements. See this information [here](#).

Services Information

Pharmacy First – National Advanced Service

Recording Your Consultations

We have prepared a resource, available [here](#), to help ensure you are recording your patient consultations fully and with enough detail. This is to ensure a GP, or other healthcare professional, can understand the reasoning behind your course of action at the time of the consultation and with the information you had available. This is especially important in advance of the rollout of GP Connect where your consultation notes will be added directly into the patient's medical records.

GP Connect

New functionality to provide GP practices with structured information about pharmacy consultations for the Hypertension Case-Finding Service, Pharmacy Contraception Service and Pharmacy First (minor illness and clinical pathways) will begin a phased roll out next week. Practice staff will no longer have to manually manage this information via NHSmail; data will go straight into the workflow and can be automatically filed or viewed and filed with a single click. Practices will see a gradual increase in messages as pharmacy systems go live. The service is intended to improve patient safety by minimising the number of times information is inputted and showing relevant information more quickly in the Summary Care Record. More information can be found [here](#).

NHSmail

Please ensure your teams have access to your pharmacy's shared mailbox and it is checked regularly throughout the day.

When there are issues with the normal referral mechanism, as has been seen recently with PharmOutcomes, GP surgeries and other referral agencies e.g. NHS 111 will use NHSmail to send referrals through to you. They will use the pharmacy's NHSmail address, so it is important that it is this mailbox that is checked regularly throughout the day.

Accurx Pharmacy First Webinar

Accurx is hosting a webinar on Thursday 25th April at 6.30pm for community pharmacies. You'll learn how to use Accurx to support the delivery of Pharmacy First services with demos from the team and a Q&A with two super users. See more information and register [here](#). Please share this with your colleagues across the community pharmacy community.

West Yorkshire Healthier Together Website

We have been made aware of some resources that will prove useful for you when examining children, especially Pharmacy First ENT referrals. The [West Yorkshire Healthier Together website](#) has a section for healthcare professionals and the Paediatric Resources page [here](#) has recently been updated with a [video](#) by Dr Cristina Costache (who attended our Pharmacy First Event in January 2024) which will be beneficial for pharmacists conducting ENT examinations. The website also allows you to share the page via free SMS text message with parents or carers so they can access the resource from their phone. More information can be found [here](#).

Further Resources & CPE FAQs

Further resources are available on our website [here](#) to help support you in delivering the service and in conversations with your local GP practices. CPE is also continually updating their Pharmacy First FAQ page – please go [here](#) for help with a wide range of Pharmacy First related queries.

Palliative Care Formulary Service – Extension to 30th September 2024

The West Yorkshire ICB has emailed pharmacies who provide the Palliative Care Formulary Service on Tuesday 26th March 2024 to confirm a 6-month extension of the service, until the end of September 2024, whilst the service is reviewed. Pharmacies providing this service should continue to submit their quarterly audits. The next quarterly audit return for quarter 4, (January to March 2024), is required after the end of this month.

Flu Vaccination Service 2024/25 – Service Specification Published

Following discussions with Community Pharmacy England, NHS England has published the service specification for the [2024/25 Community Pharmacy Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Advanced Service](#) on Friday 22nd March 2023. This early publication aims to support the planning and provision of the service by pharmacy owners. See more information [here](#).

Changes to Commissioning for the Needle Exchange Service in Leeds

From 1st April 2024, Humankind Charity, who provide the Forward Leeds Drug and Alcohol Service in Leeds, will assume commissioning and budget responsibility from the Council for the pharmacy Needle Exchange Service in Leeds and current arrangements with Leeds City Council will come to an end. Forward Leeds will contact you to provide further information on these changes so please check your pharmacy NHSmail for details. CPWY recently emailed out about these changes which can be found [here](#) for further information.

Information for Pharmacies across West Yorkshire

#Pharmacy24 is Back Today! Get Involved on Social Media

Today, Thursday 28th March 2024, sees the return of [#Pharmacy24](#), celebrating the breadth, diversity and great work of pharmacy and their teams. More details on the RPS website [here](#). Get involved posting on social media using the hashtag #Pharmacy24.

Easter 2024 Bank Holiday Pharmacy Opening Times (v4)

The updated Easter 2024 Bank Holiday pharmacy opening times which we have received from the West Yorkshire ICB can be found below.

[Easter 2024 Bank Holiday Pharmacy Opening Times \(v4\)](#)

Important: Ensure your Directory of Services (DoS) profile and NHS.uk website profile reflect your opening hours over the upcoming Bank Holiday as per the document.

The ICB has asked that pharmacies display the Bank Holiday Opening Times poster in the window, or somewhere that it can be viewed, to signpost patients / public to the nearest open pharmacy during the Bank Holiday period.

Easter 2024 Bank Holiday Leaflets for Patients on Methadone and Subutex

A leaflet has been produced which you may wish to use to help inform patients who pick up regular instalments for methadone and Subutex of your opening hours over the Easter 2024 Bank Holiday period.

[Methadone Collection Over Holiday Periods – Easter 2024](#)

MDS / Compliance Aids

We have recently received a number of queries around supply of MDS. We have updated the [guidance](#) on our website on how to respond to requests for MDS and how to determine what level of assistance a patient requires – please note that in most cases an MDS tray is **not** the most appropriate adjustment to make as Original Packs are still the safest option for the majority of patients.

Please ensure you are using an assessment tool to determine the type of assistance required and documenting why you decide whether or not to offer MDS.

Stress Awareness Month – April 2024

April is Stress Awareness Month to raise awareness of the causes and cures for our modern-day stress epidemic. It is the time when we have an opportunity for an open conversation on the impact of stress. Health care professionals and health promotion experts across the country will join forces to increase public awareness about both the causes and cures for our modern stress epidemic.

You can access helpful resources to help you, a team member, patient or a family member here: <https://www.stress.org.uk/SAM2024/>

Measles Update

With an increase in the number of cases of measles, please see the updated guidance [here](#) and guidance [here](#) for risk assessment and infection prevention and control measures. Please be extra vigilant for cases of measles if you have referrals for skin rashes with other associated symptoms. Patients can access easy to read information on measles on the NHS website [here](#).

Chief Pharmaceutical Officer's Pharmacy Leaders Development Programme – Open for Applications

The Chief Pharmaceutical Officer's Pharmacy Leaders Development Programme has been developed in conjunction with senior leaders from across the pharmacy profession as a self-directed programme, delivered using experiential and action learning. More information about the programme is available at <https://www.cppe.ac.uk/skills/pharmacy-leaders>. The closing date for applications to join Cohort 6 will be **midday on Monday 15th April 2024**.

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](#).

Training and Development

- **CPWY Events** – details of upcoming events 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 March 2024**.

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](#).