



Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire were invited to present at the recent **West Yorkshire Primary Care Workforce Summit** event held on **1<sup>st</sup> May 2025** to talk about community pharmacy integration and showcase the significant role community pharmacy can play in supporting with the Primary Care Access & Recovery Plan. The event was attended by a range of colleagues who work in our local communities from GPs, PCN Business Managers, Care Navigators, nurses and ICB and primary care colleagues.

Community pharmacy is well placed to support more patients than ever before through the **Pharmacy First Service**, the **Pharmacy Contraception Service** and the **Hypertension Case-Finding Service**. We shared the details of these 3 services and discussed how they can be utilised by GP practices. It was great to be able to share some of our local data to show the successes we have seen to date and some testimonials of the great work our pharmacy teams are doing in supporting both GP practice and patients.

During the day the team also provided BP checks for attendees!  
Kathryn Giles, Associate Director of Primary Care, stated:



I visited the CPWY stand at the West Yorkshire ICB Workforce Summit and I was offered to have my BP taken. Although I have had my BP checked in the past, and the results have been within normal limits, I took the opportunity to have this done again.

Amanda carried out the test and it turns out my BP was a little high! It might have been due to a combination of things, such as having a cup of coffee and I was also about to do a presentation, however had I not got it checked, I would have had no idea. Amanda reassured me that we could check it again later on and see if it had returned to within the normal range, and if it hadn't, it was explained for me to visit my local community pharmacy to have an ABPM fitted.

This experience really does show the benefit of the Hypertension Case-Finding Service! Busy lives and rushing around, you never really think to have your BP checked without a prompt. This is such an important check and doesn't take long at all and can save lives! Thank you, CPWY!



**"The Pharmacy Contraception Service is brilliant; it needs to be promoted more"**

Attendees were also impressed with the local escalation rates for Pharmacy First, (latest data for February 25 suggests for every 15 referrals to pharmacy, only 1 requires escalating back to the GP), which made practices feel more confident that referrals to the service would be actioned.

We received some wonderful feedback from practices, including lots of positive comments about the PCS. Please make sure you and your teams are ready and waiting to deliver this service if you have signed up.

**"Great to see local Pharmacy First escalation rates back to the GP are much lower than national"**

We did also receive some constructive feedback about the Hypertension Case-Finding Service where there was a general feeling that although this is a good service, there are some issues to be addressed locally:

➤ Practices would like to refer more patients back to the pharmacy for an ABPM but felt that machine availability was a limiting factor.

➤ Patients being provided the service more frequently than NICE guidelines recommend.

**Please can we ask contractors to consider this feedback and reflect on their own practice?**