

West Yorkshire ICB has emailed all pharmacies (via the pharmacy's shared NHSmail) on Friday 12th September regarding the bank holiday opening hours for Christmas and New Year's Day. Please ensure you have responded to this email, **as soon as possible and by Friday 26th September 2025**. Thank you to all who have already responded!

Back to Basics Event – Resources

Thank you to all those who attended our Back to Basics Event last week! We hope you found the evening beneficial. We have now published the presentation and resources document on our website following the event. Please see [here](#).

Services Information

NHS Flu Vaccination Service & Childhood Flu Vaccination Service

Permission for Off-Site Vaccinations (Adult & Childhood Flu Services) – A key change for this season includes a requirement to seek permission from the commissioner prior to undertaking vaccinations at a location off the pharmacy premises. To apply for permission contractors are required to complete and submit the following form [here](#) – you must be logged into your NHSmail to access the form.

Note: a separate form needs to be completed for each location, except for housebound patients (only one form needs to be completed for all housebound patients).

Confirmation of the decision (consent /decline) to vaccinate off-site will be emailed back to your NHS pharmacy generic email address as soon as possible and within 48 hours of receipt. For any queries please contact england.wysit@nhs.net

Childhood Flu Vaccination Service – PGD Published – The patient group direction (PGD) for this new service, starting 1st October 2025, has been approved and published by NHS England. The publication follows the earlier announcement of the launch of the service and the publication of the childhood flu service specification. See further information [here](#).

Joint Flu Collaboration – CPWY shared last week the joint Leeds Local Medical Committee (LMC) letter, encouraging general practices and community pharmacies to work together in supporting each other's flu campaign. We have now collaborated with Kirklees LMC to replicate the letter for this area. Please see both letters below:

Kirklees – [CPWY Kirklees LMC Joint Flu Letter – 2025/26](#)

Leeds – [CPWY Leeds LMC Joint Flu Letter – 2025/26](#)

Pharmacy First Service

Updated Pharmacy First Clinical Pathways & PGDs – Following a clinical review of the clinical pathways by NHSE, draft updated pathways and PGDs were recently published, (see [here](#)), to provide contractors and their teams advanced notice of the changes. **The provisional date for commencement of use of the new clinical pathways and PGDs is Wednesday 1st October 2025.**

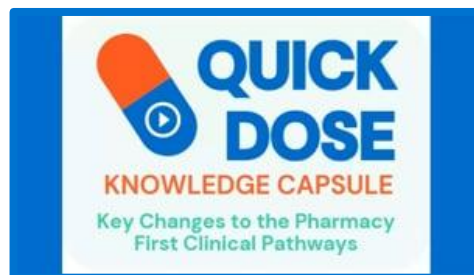
Whilst the changes to the PGDs are mostly minor, the changes to the clinical pathways are more substantive and include movement of some of the Gateway points within the pathways and the addition of further Gateway points, which should increase the number of patients for whom a consultation fee can be claimed.

To help our pharmacy teams with these changes our latest Quick Dose: Knowledge Capsule video covers the key changes to the clinical pathways (information and video below).

IT system suppliers will look to amend existing systems to incorporate these updates the night of 30th September 2025 so that from 1st October 2025 the updated service can be provided in accordance with the updated service documentation. The updated documentation will be published on the NHSE website on 1st October 2025.

Quick Dose: Knowledge Capsule – Pharmacy First: Key Changes to Clinical Pathways – Our 'Quick Dose: Knowledge Capsule' items are designed to deliver key pharmacy insights in clear, bite-sized formats for fast learning. This one focuses on the **key changes to the clinical pathways** which are expected to be implemented from 1st October 2025.

Please see this short, 5-minute, video produced by Lisa Meeks, Service Implementation Lead and Amanda Smith, Advanced Services Facilitator, talking about the key changes to the 7 clinical pathways including the movement to the gateway points within the pathways and additions to the gateway points. [Watch the video here.](#)



See more about the Pharmacy First Service on our website [here](#).

Calderdale Council Flu Vaccination Service for Council Staff, School Staff & Staff Working in Care Settings – Service Opportunity

All Calderdale pharmacies have been invited to provide Calderdale Council's locally commissioned Flu Vaccination Service aimed at council staff, school staff and staff working in care settings across Calderdale, including domiciliary care. This is not a voucher service and staff can receive a free flu vaccination under this service by providing proof of their employment (refer to the service specification [here](#)). Pharmacies can also arrange off-site visits to council sites to provide vaccinations. Please check your pharmacy NHSmail for further details.

Pharmacies who wish to provide this service should first read the [service specification](#) and, if they can meet all the service requirements, complete and return this [contract](#) to Joanne.Ngan@calderdale.gov.uk as soon as possible and by the 30th September 2025.

Please ensure all the required sections of the contract are completed, including the expression of interest form on page 23.

Leeds Community Ambulatory Paediatric Service (CAPS)

The Community Ambulatory Paediatric Service (CAPS) is a Leeds based clinic for children with acute respiratory symptoms, located at Harehills Community Centre. Following a referral from a healthcare professional, it offers same-day, face-to-face appointments, giving families fast access to appropriate care in a familiar community setting.

A new escalation route has been opened for community pharmacies for use during Winter 2025/2026 for children registered with a Leeds GP aged 12 weeks to 16 years with acute respiratory illness. Referrals to the CAPS can be considered by community pharmacy for a child registered with a Leeds GP with respiratory symptoms where the pharmacy cannot complete the episode of care within community pharmacy and the acuity and / or complexity of the symptoms requires an onward referral. Any patient meeting the inclusion criteria can be booked into an available appointment, whether this is a self-care (walk-in) patient, or a patient seen under Pharmacy First.

Further details and the referral process can be found in the document [here](#).

Please do offer this referral option to suitable patients; it complements the existing escalation (onward referral routes) available, and CAPS will assist patients in accessing prompt and appropriate management of acute respiratory illness.

Information for Pharmacies across West Yorkshire

Urgent Completion of Pre-Acceptance Audit – Waste Collections

West Yorkshire ICB has emailed those pharmacies that have not yet completed the Pre-Acceptance Audit for waste collections to remind them to do so as soon as possible. A Pre-Acceptance Audit is a legal document which ensures waste collections are compliant.

To prevent disruption to your clinical waste collections, please visit the site [here](#) to complete the Audit if you haven't already done so. If you have not yet registered for Vector, before you are able to access Vector and complete the audit, you will need to register for Vector [here](#).

World Pharmacists Day 2025

Next Thursday (25th September 2025) marks this year's World Pharmacists Day, an annual awareness day led by the [International Pharmaceutical Federation \(FIP\)](#).

This year's theme, **"Think Health, Think Pharmacist"**, an opportunity to celebrate and make visible the profession's contributions to better health outcomes. It is also a time to advocate for the full integration of pharmacists into health strategies and to remind governments, institutions, and stakeholders that investing in pharmacists is investing in a healthier future for all.



[World Pharmacists Day 2025 – Factsheet](#)

CPWY wants to say thank you to all our community pharmacists – you and your teams continue to provide services to your patients, support your communities and reduce pressure on other NHS healthcare providers.

Propranolol Patient Safety Incidents

Following multiple incidents where patients have come to harm whilst taking propranolol due to the toxicity and risk associated with overdose, please see this Greenlight Alert [here](#) which will give you more information for supporting you in your practice, whilst managing patients being prescribed propranolol, especially those newly initiated.

Quality and Regulations Updates

As of 1st October 2025, several regulatory changes will come into force that directly affect how community pharmacies operate, and how local authorities conduct their pharmaceutical needs assessments (PNAs). Below are two key developments you need to be aware of:

- [Additional Regulatory Changes from 1st October](#)
- [Updated DHSC Guidance for PNA Development](#)

These changes are significant both for compliance and strategic planning. Pharmacy owners are encouraged to review this information to ensure they are aware of the changes in requirements.

Rybelsus® (oral semaglutide): Risk of Medication Error Due to Introduction of a New Formulation with Increased Bioavailability

Novo Nordisk recently announced that Rybelsus® (oral semaglutide) 3mg, 7mg, 14mg tablets, will be replaced by a new formulation, which have an increased bioavailability, resulting in lower doses to attain the same drug exposure. The strength of the new tablets differs (1.5mg, 4mg, 9mg), and their bioequivalence is listed in the table below:

Initial formulation [one Oval tablet]	bioequivalent	new formulation [one Round tablet]
3mg (starting dose)	=	1.5mg (starting dose)
7mg (maintenance dose)	=	4mg (maintenance dose)
14mg (maintenance dose)	=	9mg (maintenance dose)

The two formulations will temporarily co-exist on the market, which may lead to prescribing and dispensing errors, resulting in overdosing, and an increased risk of adverse events. The new formulation tablets will be available in the UK from **15th September**, and there may be a short delay as they are added to GP clinical systems.

West Yorkshire ICB has made the decision to categorise the new formulation as '**Do not prescribe – not yet classified**', which will give more time to explore how to safely transition across, whilst minimising workload to GP practices. For now, please do not prescribe the new formulation, and local formularies will be updated accordingly. Further information can be found [here](#). Information for people living with diabetes can be found [here](#).

Key Dates for September 2025 and Upcoming Months

Key dates for September 2025 and beyond are now available on CPE's website [here](#). This resource is regularly updated to help pharmacy teams stay on top of deadlines linked to national services, payment claims, and Terms of Service requirements, to ensure you're prepared well in advance.

Training and Development

- **CPWY Events** – future events will be posted in due course.
- **CPWY e-Learning** – [click here](#) to see the latest Virtual Outcomes e-Learning modules available for West Yorkshire pharmacy teams to access!
- **CPPE Events** – The next set of face to face and online workshops are now live for booking. See the documents below for further details on workshops and resources:
 - [CPPE Community Pharmacy Update – September 2025](#)

CPWY Connect – Telegram Group

Our CPWY Connect Telegram group is a messaging group created to connect and support pharmacy teams across West Yorkshire.

