

Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey 2025 – Now Open

NHS England's mandatory Workforce Survey is open. Pharmacy owners have **until 11.59pm on Friday 21st November 2025** to complete it. Pharmacy businesses can complete this requirement online or, if appropriate, submit data via their head office. See more information about the survey and how to complete it [here](#). **Completion of the survey is a mandatory requirement for all pharmacy owners.**

Services Information



Key Dates for October 2025 and Upcoming Months

CPE has published key dates for October 2025 on its updated CPCF Services and Terms of Service – Important dates page. This month includes start dates for Pharmacy First, vaccination services, and Terms of Service amendments. See [here](#).

Pharmacy teams should also note upcoming changes to the Pharmacy Contraception and New Medicine Services, with implementation set for 29th October 2025.

Pharmacy Contraception Service – Emergency Contraception Webinar Tonight (Registration Required by Midday Today)

A reminder about the CPE webinar that is happening tonight (9th October at 7:30pm) to discuss the changes to the PCS (e.g. the addition of oral emergency contraception and the ability of pharmacy technicians to provide the service). **Anyone interested in attending tonight's webinar must register by midday today.** See [here](#) to book your place.

Pharmacy teams should also note upcoming changes to the Pharmacy Contraception and New Medicine Services, with implementation set for 29th October 2025. See [here](#).

NHS Flu & COVID Seasonal Vaccination Campaigns

Unfortunately, the winter vaccination campaign did not start smoothly for many contractors with issues reported relating to large numbers of patients booking COVID vaccinations via the National Booking System (NBS) who are not eligible. The significant change in the eligibility of patients for COVID vaccination this winter compared with last winter seems to be the key issue that is creating confusion amongst members of the public, with many of those aged under 75 years who were eligible for vaccination last winter thinking that they are still eligible.

CPE has produced 3 posters that might be helpful for pharmacy teams to use to explain vaccine eligibility:

- [Who should have the COVID-19 vaccine this winter \(Poster\)](#)
- [Information on immunosuppression and C-19 vaccination \(Poster\)](#)
- [The NHS has changed who can get a COVID-19 vaccine this winter \(Poster\)](#)

NHSE has also produced a factsheet (see [here](#)) that pharmacy teams can use in discussions with patients.

CPE is continuing to work with NHSE to get more NHS communications issued to help patients understand whether they are eligible for the vaccine. For further information see [here](#).

CPWY Resource

In case you missed this last week, CPWY has developed a new resource to support pharmacy teams with this season's Flu and COVID Vaccination Services following changes to some of the eligible cohorts. This can be downloaded [here](#).

Make Every Contact Count

Winter vaccination season often brings many patients into the pharmacy who may not visit regularly – including those who usually receive deliveries. This creates an excellent opportunity to raise awareness of the other services your pharmacy provides.

For example, you could use these interactions to talk to patients about the Pharmacy First service, highlighting that they can visit the pharmacy for advice and treatment for minor ailments. Ensure that flyers and promotional materials are readily available to hand out, helping patients remember the range of services you offer.

CPWY has recently produced a helpful patient resource (pictured opposite) that can support these conversations. This resource can be downloaded [here](#).

Eligible Groups	COVID-19	Flu	1 st Line Flu Vaccine	2 nd Line Flu Vaccine
70 years or older	✓	✓	Offer a/cv, IV-I-D or IV-I	IV-I
65 to 74 years and immunosuppressed	✓	✓	First line vaccine should be offered ahead of second line vaccine and should be offered when the vaccine is in stock. When a pharmacy does not have a first line vaccine in stock, patients should be directed to an alternative provider who has stock of a first line vaccine or be asked to return when stock is available.	IV-I
65 to 74 years – NOT immunosuppressed	X	✓		
Resident in a care home for older adults (as defined through CQC registration), irrespective of the resident's age	✓	✓		
16 years to 64 years and immunosuppressed* as defined in Tables 2 and 4 of the COVID-19 chapter of the Green Book	✓	✓	IV-I or IV-I	
16 to 54 years in a clinical risk group (not including immunosuppression which is covered above):				
• Pregnant women			From 50 years of age and over	IV-I
• Those in long stay residential care homes				
• Household contacts of immunosuppressed individuals				
• Carers			From 60 years of age (IV-I-D)	
• Front line social care workers without an employer-led occupational health scheme including those working for a registered residential care or nursing home, registered domiciliary care providers, voluntary managed housing providers and those who are employed by individuals who receive direct payments (General Budgets) or Personal Health Budgets, such as Personal Assistants	X	✓		

Key: ✓ = Eligible for vaccination; X = Not eligible for vaccination; IV-I = Intramuscular, Intradermal or Intranasal; IV-I-D = Intramuscular, Intradermal or Intranasal, Dose 2 only.

Providers must ensure they follow the latest Service Specifications and PGDs for vaccine administration to eligible cohorts – [see 2025](#).

Information in this guide was correct for the Autumn 2025/26 campaign at the time of publishing but may be subject to change.

Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire

NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

Most pharmacies can help you with seven common conditions without needing a GP appointment

- Sinusitis** (adults and children aged 12 years and over)
- Sore throat** (adults and children aged 5 years and over)
- Earache** (children and young adults aged 1 year to 17 years)
- Infected insect bite** (adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- Impetigo** (adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- Shingles** (adults aged 16 years and over)
- Urinary tract infection** (women, aged 16 to 64 years)

Pharmacists can also offer advice on a range of illnesses, such as coughs, colds, sore throats, ear infections and aches and pains.

If you are not within these age ranges, a pharmacist can still offer advice and support decisions about self care treatment with over the counter medicines, but you may need to see a GP for treatment.

Visit your Pharmacy First!

Scan the code to find your nearest pharmacy

Ask your pharmacy for more information about this free NHS Service

Scan the code to find out more information about the service

*NHS prescription charge rules apply where a medicine is supplied.

Calderdale Council Flu Vaccination Service – Reminder

Calderdale Council is still looking for pharmacies to provide their locally commissioned flu service for eligible staff which include the following groups:

- *Calderdale Council employees*
- *Staff in Calderdale care settings, including domiciliary care*
- *Staff in early years settings and early years providers*
- *Staff in all primary, secondary and post-16 education providers*
- *Volunteers for Calderdale Council*

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](#)). 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.

There are approximately 3000 council staff who may be eligible for vaccination plus 98 primary and 15 secondary schools across Calderdale which employ approximately 7000 staff, so this could be a sizable opportunity to generate extra income for your pharmacy.

Calderdale Stop Smoking Level 1 Service: NEW SLA – Revised Fees for the Supply of Varenicline Under PGD

Pharmacies in Calderdale have recently been sent an email from CPWY with details of a new SLA agreed with Yorkshire Smokefree for the Stop Smoking Level 1 Service following a fee uplift for the supply of varenicline under PGD.

Changes have also been made to the PGD for Varenicline, including enabling Pharmacy Technicians to work under it (subject to conditions within the PGD).

The Yorkshire Smokefree team is hosting 2 update events for pharmacies who provide the service or for anyone who might be interested in providing this service in the future on Tuesday 21st October 3–5pm **OR** Friday 24th October 12–2pm. To book onto one of these events please email help.2quit@swyt.nhs.uk

The new SLA is available to view/download [here](#). If your pharmacy would like to provide this service, please download and complete the SLA and return **by 31st October 2025** to: help.2quit@swyt.nhs.uk. Refer to your pharmacy NHSmail for further information.

Supervised Consumption & Substance Misuse Training for Pharmacy Teams in Bradford, Calderdale & Leeds – Wednesday 22nd October 2025

Waythrough, the commissioner of substance misuse services in Bradford, Calderdale & Leeds, is running two online 1-hour training / update sessions on Wednesday 22nd October at 12–1pm **OR** 7–8pm. See the poster [here](#) for details. Registration is not required and you can join either of these sessions by scanning the appropriate QR code on the poster.

Information for Pharmacies across West Yorkshire

World Mental Health Day 2025

Tomorrow (Friday 10th October 2025) is World Mental Health Day which is about raising awareness of mental health and driving positive change. It's also a chance to [talk about mental health](#), how we need to look after it, and how important it is to get help if you are struggling.

This year's theme is 'access to services – mental health in catastrophes and emergencies'. The theme highlights the importance of people being able to protect their mental health in times of global instability. A tip sheet can be found [here](#) to support this theme and managing overwhelm during global events and news.



Take a look at the Wellbeing page on our website [here](#) for resources for those working in West Yorkshire. You can also get involved in showing your support and to find tips for talking about mental health [here](#).

CPWY Prize Draw: Education and CPD Survey for Community Pharmacists

We would be grateful if you can fill in this [4-minute survey](#) to help us and [DPP Support](#) create tailored CPD/resources and a new educational website for your professional growth. As a thanks, you can enter a prize draw to win a **FREE bespoke virtual coaching package** (1:1 session) for career advancement with Dr Xiu:

- **Aspiring Prescribers:** Prep for IP courses, master clinical skills, navigate applications.
- **Current IP Trainees:** Refine OSCE techniques, clinical reasoning, ace assessments.
- **Qualified Prescribers:** Expand practice scope, tackle complex cases, refresh expertise.

Meet Your Expert Coach & Mentor

*This exclusive coaching will be delivered by Dr Phil Xiu, a leader in the field of healthcare education. As an **active Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP)**, he has a proven track record of success, having personally guided over 18 trainees to achieve their Independent Prescriber qualification in the last year alone. His practical expertise is underpinned by a **Master's degree specialising in OSCEs**, giving him a unique and in-depth understanding of how to excel in high-stakes clinical examinations.*



*Furthermore, he is a **standing member of a NICE committee**, directly contributing to the development of the national clinical guidelines that shape the practice of all UK health professionals.*

Beyond his qualifications, he is a passionate educationalist and mentor, dedicated to helping pharmacists widen their career pathways and reach their full potential and a strong advocate for empowering the wider pharmacy workforce, and this coaching is a direct extension of that commitment.

Complete the [4-minute survey](#) now for a fantastic opportunity to develop your career. **The survey will close at 5pm on Thursday 23rd October 2025.**

Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF) – Full Survey

The full CPAF survey monitoring pharmacy contractors' compliance in 2024/25 is available to complete until midnight on 31st October 2025. Contractors will have been contacted directly by the NHS Business Services Authority if their pharmacy has been selected. Completion is a mandatory requirement for all selected contractors, and the results will form the basis for which pharmacies will be considered for a visit. Users of the NHSBSA's [Manage Your Service \(MYS\) portal](#) will be able to complete the survey via their MYS login.

West Yorkshire ICB – Community Pharmacy Quality and Safety Bulletin

Please see below the first of West Yorkshire ICB Primary Care Team's Quality and Safety Bulletin that is designed to bring together some of the learning the team has identified and key national patient safety strategies.

[Community Pharmacy Quality and Safety Bulletin – September 2025](#)

West Yorkshire Hypertension Guidelines Launch – Online Event

The West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership is delighted to invite you to the online launch of the updated **West Yorkshire Hypertension Guidelines**, presented by Emily Turner and the CVD Prevention team. The session is free and open to all healthcare professionals and will take place via Microsoft Teams on:

- **Monday 13th October 2025, 12 – 1.30pm – [Register here](#)**

The original guideline was highly successful. Now, six years on, new evidence and evolving practice mean it's time for an update. **Registration is quick and simple so book your place now!** This event marks a vital step in our collective effort to optimise blood pressure management across West Yorkshire.

Supporting Patients to Manage Their Own Medicines

A new online resource is now available to help patients manage their own medicines. The website [I Manage My Meds](#) provides useful tips or more structured support for patients struggling to keep on top of ordering the repeat medication they need, understanding what their medicines are for and whether they have taken their medicines at the right times.

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.

