

Community Pharmacy England Regional Roadshow – Yorkshire (2nd June 2026)

CPE is coming to Yorkshire in a few weeks to meet directly with pharmacy owners and their representatives as part of their annual series of regional evening roadshow events. The evening brings senior CPE figures together with local pharmacies to talk honestly about funding, pressures on the sector, and what needs to happen next.

Tuesday 2nd June 2026 at 7.30–9.30pm (food and networking from 6.45pm)
Mercure Barnsley Tankersley Manor Hotel, Church Ln, Barnsley, S75 3DQ
This event is free to attend, but registration is required

For more information on the regional events, please see [here](#). To register to attend the Yorkshire event, please see [here](#).

Services Information

Calling Pharmacy Technicians – Please Complete our Survey!

A reminder that CPWY is currently carrying out a survey for community pharmacy technicians across West Yorkshire. The survey closes next week (31st May 2026), so if you have not yet completed it, please take a few minutes to do so as soon as possible. **Your feedback will help shape future training and support opportunities.** Complete the survey [here](#).



Thank you for your support.

Promoting Pharmacy First for Infected Insect Bites

As the weather becomes warmer and more people spend time outdoors during the spring and summer months, the incidence of insect bites and stings is likely to increase. This presents a timely opportunity to raise awareness of the infected insect bites pathway available through Pharmacy First.

Over the coming months, pharmacies may wish to consider how they can proactively promote the service within their local communities and increase public awareness of when Pharmacy First can support patients with infected insect bites and stings. This could include the use of targeted seasonal messaging, for example:

“Don’t let insect bites ruin your summer – get fast, expert care at your local pharmacy.”

Pharmacies may also wish to utilise window displays, digital screens and social media channels to reinforce key messages and promote the Think Pharmacy First Campaign for common summer ailments. In addition, including promotional flyers in retail bags or alongside prescriptions may help further increased awareness and encourage appropriate use of the service.

You can download the NHS A4 insect bite poster [here](#).



Recognition of Tick Bites & the Symptoms of Lyme Disease

While tick bites and Lyme Disease are not covered within the Pharmacy First Clinical Pathway for infected insect bites, it is important that pharmacy teams are able to recognise key symptoms that may require onward referral. In particular, awareness of the characteristic “bullseye” (erythema migrans) rash can support appropriate signposting and timely access to treatment. Lyme Disease UK running its annual [Be Tick Aware monthly campaign](#) throughout May to raise awareness of tick bite prevention, safe tick removal and the importance of early treatment for individuals who become unwell following a bite. The organisation also provides a range of useful information and downloadable resources to support pharmacy teams which can be downloaded [here](#).

Pharmacy professionals may also find our Quick Dose Knowledge Capsule episode helpful, in which Dr Phil Xiu shares expert insight on recognising tick bites and associated symptoms. You can watch this [here](#).

Clinical Pathway Reminder

The [Clinical Pathways](#) were updated in September 2025 and included several important changes, including revisions to Gateway criteria. Within the Infected Insect Bites Clinical Pathway, patients previously only passed the Gateway point where there was clear evidence of infection. Under the updated pathway, patients presenting with a bite or sting sustained more than 48 hours previously may now meet the Gateway criteria if they present with three or more of the following symptoms:

- *Redness of the skin.*
- *Pain or tenderness at the affected area.*
- *Swelling of the skin.*
- *Surrounding skin feeling hot to touch.*

Where there is currently no evidence to suggest the bite is infected, for example, no spreading redness, increasing swelling or pustular discharge, patients can be provided with self-care advice alongside treatment options such as oral antihistamines and/or topical corticosteroids. Patients should also be advised to return if symptoms worsen at any stage or have not improved after three days. If the patient re-presents, a new consultation should be initiated.

Living Well Stop Smoking Service in Bradford – Signposting Information

In Bradford there are around 66,000 adults who smoke, (this is around 15.6%), which is higher than the national average. Smoking remains one of the leading contributors to health inequalities and accounts for around half of the gap in healthy life expectancy between the most and least deprived communities.

Community pharmacy teams are ideally placed to support local residents by signposting them to the Living Well Stop Smoking Service. Referring patients is straightforward: you can share the Living Well contact number (01274 437 700, Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm) or direct them to the online service [here](#).

Provision of Prescription Only Smoking Cessation Medication in Bradford

Living Well has recently announced that stop smoking medications are now available as part of their Stop Smoking Service. Working in partnership with Bradford Care Alliance and Modality, the following medications are available (subject to suitability following assessment):

- *Varenicline*
- *Cytisinicline*
- *Bupropion*

Please see [here](#) for more information.

Information for Pharmacies across West Yorkshire

A Blog From Aneta Paluch – Independent Prescribing

Thinking about becoming an Independent Prescriber? NHS-funded places are currently available for pharmacists who meet the criteria.



At CPWY, we're running a series of updates over the coming weeks to support anyone who is thinking about starting their own IP journey. Whether you're already preparing your application, still weighing up your options, or simply curious about what the training involves, we want to help you feel informed, supported, and confident. See the document [here](#) which details the steps to take if this is something you are interested in.

Our next blog, written by Aneta Paluch (Well Pharmacy), reflects on her Independent Prescribing journey. She shares honest insights, challenges, and practical tips for anyone considering becoming an IP. Read Aneta's blog [here](#).

Neighbourhood Health – What We Know So Far!

The NHS 10 year plan introduced the concept of [Neighbourhood Health](#), as a basis through which Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INTs) would deliver a shift in the way NHS services are delivered to patients:

- **From hospital to community** – providing better care close to or in people's own homes, helping them to maintain their independence for as long as possible, only using hospitals when it is clinically necessary for their care.
- **From treatment to prevention** – promoting health literacy, supporting early intervention and reducing health deterioration or avoidable exacerbations of ill health.
- **From analogue to digital** – greater use of digital infrastructure and solutions to improve care.

See our website [here](#) to read about latest developments in West Yorkshire.

If you are a PCN Lead or a pharmacist invited to an INT meeting, please get in touch with us. The information on the website will help you prepare for the meeting, however CPWY is happy to attend with you to support you in representing community pharmacy in your local area as we evolve into these new ways of working. It's important that the local NHS team sees community pharmacy as part of the local neighbourhood team and having a voice in the local meetings is one way to achieve this.

NHS Health Checks: Support Requested from Chapeltown & BHR Pharmacies

A new pathway is being introduced across Chapeltown and BHR PCNs, bringing community pharmacies and general practice closer together to improve access to care and support healthier communities. This initiative focuses on increasing uptake of the NHS Health Check programme.

Pharmacy teams are encouraged to actively signpost eligible patients to the NHS Health Check programme. This involves providing a patient leaflet and encouraging them to book their check.

As part of this joined-up approach, PCN teams will also help raise awareness of Pharmacy First and Pharmacy Contraception Services, ensuring patients benefit from the full range of support available.

Patient leaflets will be delivered to your pharmacy by PCN team members in the coming weeks; keep an eye out and get ready to start the conversation. For more information, please see the email [here](#) that CPWY has sent pharmacies within these PCN areas.

Drug Alert: Ketamine/ Fentanyl – May 2026

Please see the information [here](#) about the risks associated with the current illicit drug supply, following the recent overdose and adverse reactions experienced in Kirklees, relating to Ketamine and Fentanyl.

Skills Investment Funding

Expression of Interest (EOI) for Skills Investment Funding is now open. This funding is intended to support the upskilling of GPhC-registered pharmacy professionals who are directly employed by the NHS in the North East and Yorkshire region.

The deadline for submissions is 11.50pm on Sunday 14th June 2026.

Full details can be found [here](#). The Expression of Interest spreadsheet to be completed and returned can be found [here](#). You can also join the Employer Engagement Session on MS Teams. To register, please see the link below:

- Wednesday 27th May 2026, 12:00–13:00 – [register here](#)

Please complete the submission form [here](#) if you have any questions.

Polypharmacy During Cancer Care – Patient & HCP Surveys

Macmillan Cancer Support and the Royal College of Pharmacy are inviting patients and healthcare professionals to complete a short anonymous survey about experiences of taking and managing medicines during cancer care, particularly where people are taking multiple medicines (polypharmacy).

The surveys close at 5pm on 27th May 2026 (subject to extension).

- [Patient survey](#) – For adults living in the UK who are affected by cancer and other long-term conditions and are currently prescribed one or more medicines.
- [Professional survey](#) – For healthcare professionals involved in the care of adults with cancer and long-term conditions.

Training and Development

- **CPWY Events:**
 - Future events will be included here once announced.
- **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 document below for further details on workshops and resources:
 - [CPPE Community Pharmacy Update – Spring/Summer 2026](#)

CPWY Connect – WhatsApp Group

Our CPWY Connect WhatsApp group is a messaging group created to connect and support pharmacy teams across West Yorkshire. *The group was originally hosted on Telegram, however, was retired in the new year.*

