

Responses Required – Independent Prescribing Survey

CPWY, in collaboration with West Yorkshire ICB, has created a survey to gather information on Independent Prescribing within the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF). This survey is vital for pharmacies intending to deliver this, now or in the near future. Completing it will identify your pharmacy to the ICB so they can follow up with next steps, plan onboarding, and ensure you receive the appropriate support for implementation.

If your pharmacy does not intend to prescribe within the CPCF, we still need you to complete the survey as this helps the ICB understand overall readiness, capacity, and where future support or workforce development may be needed.

We emailed a reminder to pharmacies who haven't yet completed the survey, via their shared NHSmail address yesterday afternoon (Wednesday 16th September 2026). We'd really appreciate your input **by Monday 21st September 2026**. Thank you in advance! 🙏

Services Information

Supporting Pharmacy Technicians: Clinical Skills & PCS Training Day

We're down to the final few places remaining on our upcoming Pharmacy Technician Event. If you'd like to attend, or want to secure a spot for a pharmacy technician in your team, please register as soon as possible. Once the event reaches capacity, we're unable to accept further registrations.

The training will focus on developing clinical skills and confidence, helping pharmacy technicians prepare for expanded roles and supporting more technicians to become involved in delivering the PCS.

Wednesday 7th October 2026 – 9.30am – 5pm
Snozone Yorkshire (Within Xscape), Colorado Way, Castleford, WF10 4TA

See full details including how to register [here](#).

New Pharmacy First Prescribing Pathways Announced!

You may have seen the recent announcement confirming the five new prescribing-only clinical pathways which will be added to the Pharmacy First Service this autumn. The new pathways are:

1. **Acute otitis externa** – adults aged 18 years and over
2. **Seasonal allergic rhinitis** – children aged 4–11 years
3. **Mild to moderate acne** – for young people
4. **Migraine** – low-frequency episodic migraine in adults aged 18–64 years
5. **Mild skin and soft tissue infections and scabies**

This follows the agreement on the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) arrangements for 2026/27, that Independent Prescribing will be introduced into the CPCF as an extension of [Pharmacy First](#) and the [Pharmacy Contraception Service](#) (PCS) from the Autumn of 2026. Find out more about prescribing within the CPCF [here](#).

What does this mean for Pharmacy First? – The five new Pharmacy First prescribing-only pathways will sit alongside the existing seven clinical pathways and consultations delivered through the new prescribing pathways will count towards the monthly minimum clinical pathway activity requirement.

Community pharmacist prescribers will also prescribe within the existing Pharmacy First clinical pathways, where appropriate, rather than using the current Patient Group Directions (PGDs).

Preparing for the New Prescribing Pathways – With the introduction of NHS prescribing within the CPCF expected from October 2026, we want to make sure pharmacy teams feel informed, supported and confident about the changes. We will therefore be sharing a series of bulletins with pharmacies that told us through our recent Independent Prescribing Survey that they:

- *Have a qualified Independent Prescriber.*
- *Have a pharmacist currently undertaking training to become an Independent Prescriber.*
- *Intend to begin prescribing within the CPCF at the earliest opportunity.*

These bulletins will provide information and updates to help pharmacies prepare for the introduction of prescribing. Our first bulletin is available [here](#).

Planning to Start Prescribing? – If your pharmacy intends to start prescribing within the CPCF but you have not yet completed our survey, please complete it as soon as possible (details can be found at the top of this News Digest).

Webinar – Community Pharmacy Prescribing; Overview of IT Requirements – NHS England is hosting a webinar to provide an overview of available prescribing IT solutions and to support pharmacies in preparing for future prescribing services.

- **Thursday 1st October 2026 6:30pm – 7:30pm** – [reserve your place here](#).

We would encourage all contractors who are planning for, or considering, prescribing activity within their pharmacy to attend.

Seasonal Vaccination Services

NHS Flu Vaccinations for Pregnant Women – Reminder – Just a reminder that the NHS Flu Vaccination Programme for pregnant women commenced on 1st September 2026. Following national reports that some pharmacies may not yet be aware that the programme has started for this cohort, please ensure your pharmacy is prepared to offer flu vaccinations to eligible pregnant women. All other eligible cohorts will be able to receive their NHS flu vaccination from 1st October 2026.

NHS Profile Manager – Action Before 1st October 2026 – Pharmacies are required to reconfirm their Flu and COVID-19 Vaccination Services in the NHS Profile Manager before Thursday 1st October, to be ready for when the NHS website service finders reopen for patients.

NHS Flu – Confirm that your flu vaccination service settings are correct for:

- *Your eligible age cohorts, for who can receive the service.*
- *Your service access methods, such as through the National Booking Service.*

Walk-in COVID-19 vaccinations – Review your services list to select your correct age cohorts for walk-in COVID-19 vaccinations. Set up clinics with opening times and dates, to help let patients know when the service is available and manage demand for when patients visit your pharmacy.

National Booking Service (NBS) – Reminder to Publish Vaccination Appointments – If you are using the NBS to offer flu vaccination appointments, remember to publish appointments on Manage Your Appointments (MYA) for all relevant cohorts. NBS is open and eligible members of the public can now book appointments.

Note: the NBS uses the patient's NHS number to check eligibility based on age. Where eligibility is based on other criteria, the system cannot verify this automatically, and patients are asked to review the eligibility criteria and self-declare and advised that vaccination will only be provided if they meet the eligibility criteria, which will be confirmed by the clinician at the appointment.

REMINDER – Registration is Mandatory to Provide COVID and/or Adult Flu Vaccinations – Pharmacy owners must use the NHSBSA [Manage Your Service \(MYS\) portal](#) to register to provide COVID and/or adult flu vaccinations. Registration to provide adult flu vaccinations is a new requirement this year. **Vaccinations given before registration will not be paid.**

Naloxone Locations in Leeds

Naloxone can temporarily reverse an opioid overdose and can save a person's life while emergency help is sought. Naloxone kits are available at various pharmacies across Leeds – see this poster [here](#).

Following International Overdose Awareness Day, we're highlighting where people can access this life-saving medication. Pharmacies providing substance use services in Leeds are encouraged to:

- *Print and display the [poster](#) in a prominent location. Forward Leeds will also distribute copies during pharmacy visits.*
- *Use the locations listed on the poster to signpost people seeking naloxone.*

A few minutes spent displaying the information and signposting people appropriately can make a real difference in ensuring naloxone is available when it is needed most.

Information for Pharmacies across West Yorkshire

Mandatory Workforce Survey for 2026 Now Open!

NHS England's Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey is now open, and pharmacy owners have until **14th November 2026** to complete it.

The mandatory survey collects workforce data from community pharmacies to provide policymakers with a better understanding of capacity and challenges that can help inform workforce planning and training decisions.

For more information on the survey and how to complete it, please see the Community Pharmacy England website [here](#).

Preparing for World AMR Awareness Week – Webinar

UKHSA will host a webinar sharing updates on the UK AMR action plan, upcoming campaigns and toolkits, and the latest resources supporting engagement and health inequalities work, including the launch of World AMR Awareness Week 2026 plans.

- **Wednesday 30th September 2026 – 1-4pm – [register here](#).**

See more in the flyer [here](#).

Levemir® (Insulin Detemir) Discontinuation Community Pharmacy Guidance – September 2026

Novo Nordisk will discontinue Levemir® (insulin detemir) in both Penfill® and Flexpen® forms, with UK supply ending by December 2026. Patients will be switched to an alternative insulin by GP practice teams or secondary care specialists. Please see the letter below which includes the support you can provide to patients affected by this change.

[Levemir® \(Insulin Detemir\) Discontinuation Guidance](#)

Responding to Measles Outbreaks: Local Learning to Improve Uptake and Reduce Health Inequalities Webinar

NHS England is hosting a webinar which aims to share practical insights and highlight effective approaches to improving vaccine uptake in underserved communities. Speakers will discuss approaches for building trust and confidence in specific communities, as well as improving access through tailored engagement, communications, and service delivery.

- **Friday 25th September 2026 – 1.30–2.30pm – [register here](#).**

If you have questions or would like further information on the webinar, please contact Priyanka Tamang – priyanka.tamang@nhs.net.

Your Best Practice – Summer/Autumn 2026

The Summer/Autumn edition of the Your Best Practice newsletter is now available to view [here](#). It showcases and celebrates some of the innovative and amazing work which takes place in primary care and community services, throughout the North East and Yorkshire region.

Share2Care– WYICB App Live to Support Unpaid Carers Across West Yorkshire

Developed in partnership with Care Networkx and co-designed with unpaid carers, Share2Care–WYICB provides a simple and secure way for carers to store important information in one place and share it with the people who matter most, helping them coordinate their caring role more effectively. Most importantly, the app enables carers to create a digital contingency plan that can be securely uploaded to their NHS record within the Yorkshire & Humber Care Record (YHCR) and flags them as a carer, ensuring vital information is available when it is needed most. See more in the flyer [here](#).

Training and Development

- **CPWY Events:**
 - CPWY Clinical Skills & PCS Training for Pharmacy Technicians – [click here](#).
- **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.

