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| **September 2023 Newsletter** |

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| **Independent Prescribing**Independent Prescribing within community pharmacy is central to the vision and strategy of CPSW.  As you may know we worked closely with the BSW ICB on an EOI for the Independent Prescribing Pathfinder Programme. We are pleased to announce that BSW has been allocated five sites within the programme, with the service focusing on minor ailments. More details around the next steps and the local EOI process will be released over the next month. If you have any queries in the meantime please be in touch with us.  For more general information on the Pathfinder Programme you can visit the [CPE website](https://cpsw.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cde253b9a7a0d756abff54699&id=6e4f3cf32c&e=0e67bb3669) or register to join a [national webinar](https://cpsw.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cde253b9a7a0d756abff54699&id=ff63f7b1ed&e=0e67bb3669) on 14 September at 6.30pm.  With a strong background of experience from a Swindon CCG commissioned community pharmacy prescribing service, we are really excited about this new opportunity. |

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| **Local services update****Wiltshire Council Public Health Contracts – Action Needed (Wiltshire pharmacies only)**As CPSW we would like to highlight some important information from Wiltshire Council about a stakeholder engagement event for the Public Health Services contracts. This is taking place online on Wednesday 20th September 2-3pm. You can book via the Eventbrite link below:-[Online event](https://cpsw.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cde253b9a7a0d756abff54699&id=327e48114f&e=0e67bb3669) The closing date to book your place is **Monday 18 September at 2pm.**(Please note that Turning Point now hold the pharmacy contracts for supervised consumption and needle exchange in Wiltshire. These services are therefore not included in the information below. The current contracts for these continue until March 2024 in line with the end date of the Wiltshire Council public health contracts, but details on these new contracts, including the SLAs for substance misuse services, will be shared later in the year).  |

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| **Local Leadership****Community Pharmacy PCN leads**In Swindon & Wiltshire we have some PCN leads that took up funding offered by the NHSE regional team in 22/23 to support the role. This funding has been extended into 23/24 so that the leads can continue providing valuable integration and collaboration of community pharmacy at the neighbourhood level. There are also several new leads taking on the role for this year, who will also be supported by a regional leadership training programme. If you would like to know more about the work your community pharmacy PCN lead is doing in your area please be in touch with carolyn.beale@cpsw.org.uk.**The role of Pharmacy Technicians**On Friday the 18th of August the Department of Health and Social Care launched a consultation on the proposal to enable registered pharmacy technicians to supply and administer medicines under a Patient Group Direction (PGD). We would encourage you to take part in this consultation, which is open until the 29th of September 2023:[click here.](https://cpsw.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cde253b9a7a0d756abff54699&id=845aa2fa4c&e=0e67bb3669)It should take approximately 5-10 mins.  |

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| **Important CPE updates**CPE are holding a digital engagement event for all community pharmacy owners in England on **Monday 18th September at 7pm-8.30pm**. This is your opportunity to join the discussions and share your views on important matters that shape the national picture.  You can find out more and register below.[Click here](https://cpsw.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cde253b9a7a0d756abff54699&id=38885ebeba&e=0e67bb3669) |

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| As CPSW we recognise the significant financial pressures that are facing contractors at this time.  CPE held a price concessions webinar last week highlighting the important aspects of this ongoing work (catch up will be available online [here](https://cpsw.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cde253b9a7a0d756abff54699&id=e94029358c&e=0e67bb3669) in the near future!).  Don’t forget that you can report a medicine shortage where the product can only be obtained at a price higher than the Drug Tariff listed price using the simple reporting form found [here](https://cpsw.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cde253b9a7a0d756abff54699&id=7beff929f8&e=0e67bb3669).  We would encourage you to continue to contribute to this important work; CPE rely on these contractor reports which help feed into the market surveillance and inform the discussions with DHSC. |

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| **Did you know?**BSW has a single Covid Medicines Delivery Unit (CMDU) where any clinician can refer patients directly for further assessment for eligibility and clinically review for treatment if appropriate.  The CMDU now prescribes within a primary care system and sends prescriptions to the patients’ chosen pharmacy.  Each pharmacy received an email in June 2023 from the BSW ICB detailing the community pharmacy role in this process.  A reminder email is also being sent out later this week – please keep an eye out for this!As this has been a new way of providing Paxlovid® to patients we are interested in any feedback you may have on the practicalities of this new system for patients, and from a community pharmacy perspective.  If you have any feedback or questions we would love to hear from you; please contact sarah.cotton@cpsw.org.uk.  If you have any queries about the processes involved please be in touch or refer to the emails from the BSW ICB. |

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| **Research**CPSW is committed to engaging in research, with our focus on opportunities for community pharmacy.  Two studies that you can get involved with are highlighted below:- GeonomicsClinical academics have developed a [**short online survey**](https://cpsw.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cde253b9a7a0d756abff54699&id=610ff807a7&e=0e67bb3669) to investigate healthcare professional’s preferences for the development of a pharmacogenetic service in the UK, as part of the NHS PROGRESS trial. The research team is asking community pharmacists to take part in this study, by completing the survey.The survey introduces the concept of pharmacogenetics and presents a series of hypothetical choices which you will be asked to choose between. Pharmacists will play a significant role in the development of any future pharmacogenetic programme, and their involvement in its development will be critical to its success.[**Complete the short online survey**](https://cpsw.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cde253b9a7a0d756abff54699&id=7e00e63fda&e=0e67bb3669)**NHS Profile**The NHS Profile Manager team is currently seeking participation from NHS website pharmacy editors for a brief research study. The aim of this study is to enhance the functionality of the NHS Profile Manager. To provide feedback, you are invited to take part in an online exercise that should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.[Click here.](https://cpsw.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cde253b9a7a0d756abff54699&id=486f0d5652&e=0e67bb3669) |

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| **Don’t forget!****AGM 2023  - Reminder to contractors to vote in advance or register to attend the AGM****You** are invited to the 2023 Annual General Meeting for Community Pharmacy Swindon and Wiltshire which will take place on Thursday 21st September at 10am at the BSW ICB Offices, Jenner House, Chippenham.  There is also the opportunity to join us online.  Contractors are entitled to cast one vote for each of the pharmacy contractor premises you have in the Swindon and Wiltshire LPC area. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you can cast your vote by completing the voting form via the link below. **Votes cast by this method must be received by 10am on Tuesday 19th September**.If you are planning on attending either in person or online, please email admin@cpsw.org.uk to register **by Thursday 14th September.**  All contractors and their representatives, along with all pharmacy team members are invited.[More information is available here.](https://cpsw.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cde253b9a7a0d756abff54699&id=b4a93e4ede&e=0e67bb3669) |

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| **Communication**Are you a new contractor or member of staff working in Community Pharmacy in Swindon & Wiltshire? Join our new CPSW [Telegram group](https://cpsw.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cde253b9a7a0d756abff54699&id=390200d9d0&e=0e67bb3669) to keep up to date and in touch with CPSW staff and committee members.***Do you want to know more about Swindon & Wiltshire LPC and the work we are doing?***Why not visit our website and find out…[About us – Community Pharmacy Swindon & Wiltshire](https://cpsw.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cde253b9a7a0d756abff54699&id=d826ac4982&e=0e67bb3669)If you wish to attend an LPC meeting to discuss an issue, or have an item included in the agenda, please feel free to contact us.https://gallery.mailchimp.com/cde253b9a7a0d756abff54699/images/dfdfb1c2-b609-4c0f-93db-dc8a051c75d8.jpg |

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