

Community Pharmacy Harrow

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IMPORTANT DATES

Date: 30th September 2024

ToS: Deadline for meeting the requirement to ensure pharmacy owners have verified and, where necessary, updated the information contained in their [NHS website](#) profile and their [DoS](#) profile for the 1st July to 30th September 2024 quarter of the financial year.

Action: If you have not updated your NHS website profile and your DoS profile using [NHS Profile Manager](#), complete this by the end of the day.

Date: 1st October 2024

ToS: Pharmacy First: The activity threshold of clinical pathway consultations increases to a minimum of 30 clinical pathways per month. This means pharmacy owners have to provide a minimum of 30 consultations that pass the gateway point (as detailed in the clinical pathways) in October 2024 to be eligible for the £1,000 monthly payment.

Action: Ensure pharmacy team members are aware of the increase in activity threshold and discuss [actions](#) that can support the team to reach the increased target. Full resources available [here](#).

Date: 3rd October 2024

ToS: COVID-19: Vaccination of all eligible groups can start under the autumn/winter 2024/25 COVID-19 Vaccination Service.

Action: If not already done so, consider what promotional materials you can use or display to promote uptake of the service; links to promotional resources are available on our COVID-19 Vaccination Service page.

ToS: Flu: Vaccination of all eligible groups can start under the 2024/25 Flu Vaccination Service (pregnant women could be vaccinated from 1st September 2024).

Action: If not already done so, consider what promotional materials you can use or display to promote uptake of the service; links to promotional resources are available on our Flu Vaccination Service page.

Date: Between 1st October and 31st December 2024

ToS: Pharmacy owners are required to verify and, where necessary, update the information contained in their NHS website profile and their DoS profile at least once each quarter of the financial year. The new quarter starts on 1st October and ends on 31st December 2024.

Action: Register for NHS Profile Manager with your personal NHSmail address if you haven't already; and: Once registered, update your NHS Profile Manager pharmacy profile; for each profile check that the pharmacy's opening times, contact information and services information are up to date or verify this information if it is correct (even if no changes have been made during the financial quarter, pharmacy owners must still verify this information using NHS Profile Manager as this creates a record which will act as evidence to NHS England that these actions have been undertaken).

COMMUNITY PHARMACY SERVICES

Pharmacy First

As a result of the queries the MPG Office received regarding the Pharmacy First September threshold, help us obtain as much data on we can by answering the short poll below

<https://forms.gle/s8bGABGyooBqaB7M8>

All Pharmacy First training webinars arranged by the MPG can be found on our website here

<https://www.middlesexlpcs.org.uk/pharmacy-first-clinical-pathways-training-webinar-recording/>

Pharmacy Contraception

Updated service specification, PGDs and webinars can be found at the following link:

<https://cpe.org.uk/national-pharmacy-services/advanced-services/pharmacy-contraception-service/>

All Contraception training materials arranged by the MPG can be found on our website here:

<https://www.middlesexlpcs.org.uk/contraception-service-webinar-slides/>

Hypertension Case-Finding

Reminder to all contractors: Where the clinic blood pressure measurements are 140/90mmHg or higher but less than 180/120mmHg, then ABPM should be offered to the patient in a timely manner. For example, either on the same day as the clinic reading where an ABPM device is available, as soon as convenient to the patient, or as soon as an ABPM device will become available. **GPs must be notified by email each time an ABPM check is carried out as part of the Hypertension Case Finding Service.**

Please see service specification at <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PRN00173-adv-service-spec-nhs-community-pharmacy-hypertension-case-finding-advanced-service-v2.3.pdf>

Test results, including 'normal' clinic readings (BP \geq 90/60mmHg and <140/90mmHg), should be sent on a minimum of a weekly basis, or as locally agreed, to general practices for patients who complete the service that week and do not need a referral. These results should be sent at the end of each week with a standardised title, e.g. 'WEEKLY SUMMARY OF BP MEASUREMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO PATIENT RECORDS'.

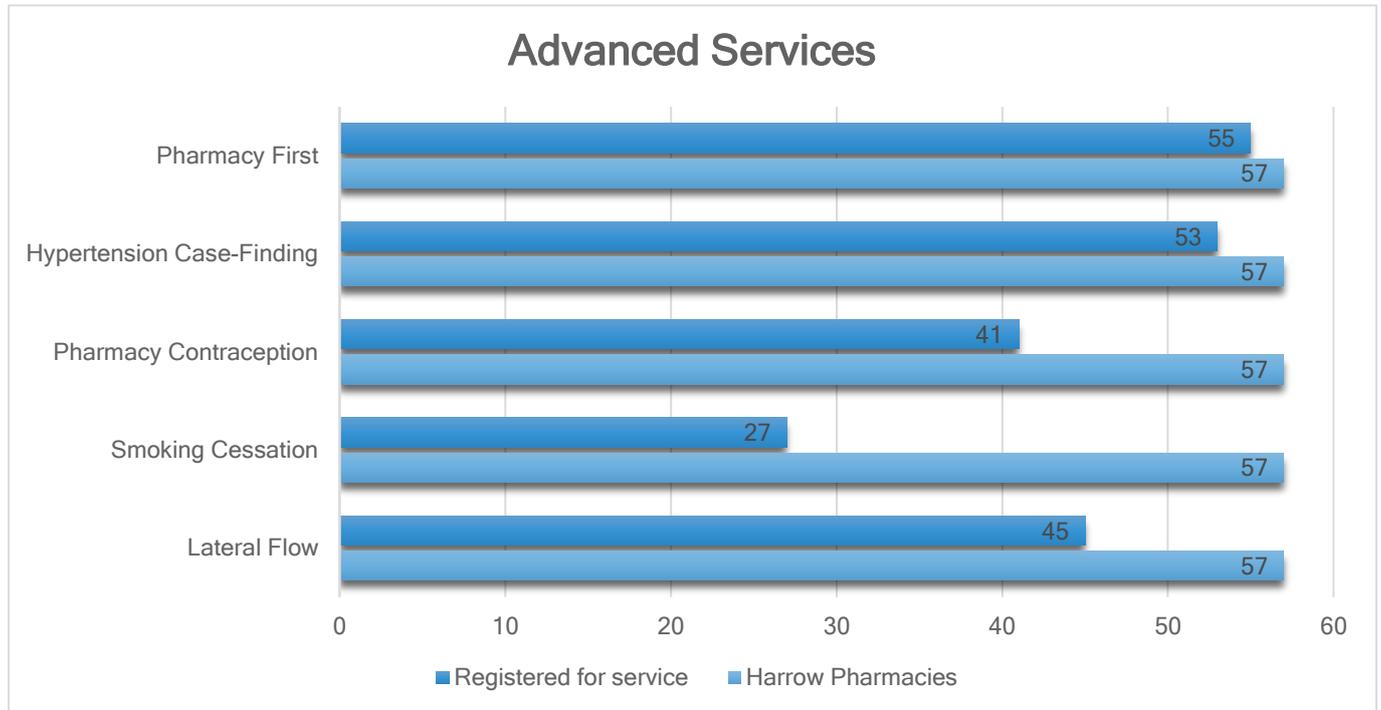
The service specification must be complied with in all respects.

The Middlesex Pharmaceutical Group working with Community Pharmacy Kensington, Chelsea & Westminster & Community Pharmacy Camden & Islington are pleased to announce a webinar focusing on the clinical, legal/medical and practical components of the ABPM section of the Hypertension Case-Finding Service.

The recording can be found on our website here:

<https://www.middlesexlpcs.org.uk/community-pharmacy-abpm-webinar-recording/>

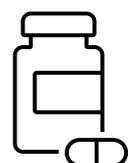
The below graph details the number of pharmacies within Harrow that are registered for each of the Advanced Services.



This table lists the Locally Commissioned Services currently available in Harrow (as of the most recent PNA)

Please contact the LPC office for further details on group@middlesexpharmacy.org

Harrow Locally Commissioned Services
Supervised Consumption
Needle Exchange
London Flu and PPV Vaccination
In hours Palliative Care
Out of hours Palliative Care





[Safety reminders: Valproate advice for men and new safety measures including a Pregnancy Prevention Programme for topiramate](#)

Please note the September 2024 [MHRA advice](#) for men receiving medicines containing valproate. As a precaution, men and their partners should use effective contraception during valproate treatment and for at least 3 months after stopping valproate.

Please ensure all appropriate actions are taken on dispensing these medicines as recommended by the [GPhC](#).

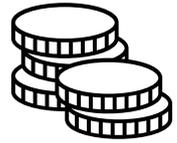
A reminder of the new safety measures including a Pregnancy Prevention Programme for topiramate advised by the [MHRA in June 2024](#).

[Important information for community pharmacies following an unexpected death related to clozapine prescribing](#)

Please read and note the attached summary of learning from an unexpected death in a patient receiving clozapine in a London ICB.

Suggested key learning points for community pharmacy:

- Clozapine is an antipsychotic used in the treatment of schizophrenia and psychosis related to Parkinson's Disease. It is usually prescribed and dispensed by secondary and community providers only. Clozapine has a [high-risk safety profile](#) and adverse reactions and interactions can be fatal.
- Prescribing of clozapine is restricted to secondary and community providers only. It is classified a [RED list drug](#) in NWL ICB
- GP practices are advised to [record](#) medicines prescribed elsewhere so that they appear in the Summary Care Record/GP Connect Record. However, this may not always be recorded. It is therefore important that community pharmacies maintain vigilance for clozapine prescribing in their patients.
- Comprehensive further information regarding the safer use of clozapine is available from the Specialist Pharmacy Service [here](#) and [here](#).
- Consider the risks of clozapine when advising patients with constipation in the community pharmacy and alert mental health or other services where appropriate. Full guidance on managing constipation in patients taking clozapine is available [here](#).
- Consider impacts on clozapine treatment when providing patients with stop smoking advice and / or treatments or when hearing a patient has restarted smoking and alert mental health or other services where appropriate.
- Consider drug interactions, including over-the-counter medicines, when dispensing for or advising patients receiving clozapine treatment and alert mental health or other services where appropriate.
- Full medicines information for clozapine is available via the [Summary of Product Characteristics](#) and [BNF](#).



FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY PHARMACY TECHNICIAN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME - THE DEADLINE FOR FUNDING APPLICATIONS IS 13 OCTOBER 2024.

NHS England launch the Community Pharmacy Technician Apprenticeship Programme.

This programme will support Pre-registration Trainee Pharmacy Technicians (PTPTs) to be employed and complete their full 24-month apprenticeship training within a **community pharmacy setting**. Upon completion of training and registration with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) this will support community pharmacy to utilise the expertise and knowledge of registered pharmacy technicians as part of pharmacy services and wider reform

Funding Offer

We are offering a training contribution of **£15,053 per trainee, per year for two years** (24 months) to support community pharmacies in developing a PTPT programme that meets the [GPhC IET standards for pharmacy technicians](#) and the [NHS England Education Quality Framework](#).

Next Steps

Application for funding is through expression of interest (Eoi) submitted via an [online application form](#). The application window will open on **Monday 23 September 2024 until Sunday 13 October 2024**.

Note the attached guidance that will support contractors in completing their Expression of Interest.

Webinar's via MS Teams to provide more information on the programme will be held on the dates below. You need only attend one webinar date.

- 11am, [Friday 27 September](#)
- 2pm, [Sunday 29 September](#)
- 1pm, [Wednesday 02 October](#)
- 7pm, [Tuesday 08 October](#)

If you have any questions, please email england.wtepharmacy.london@nhs.net with Community Pharmacy Technician Apprenticeship Programme in the subject field.



NEW MYS ROUTE FOR TEMPORARY SUSPENSIONS NOTIFICATIONS

NHS England has announced that notifications of unplanned temporary suspensions of services (closures) can now be made via the [Manage Your Service \(MYS\) portal](#).

The Terms of Service require NHS community pharmacy owners to have a business continuity plan for temporary suspensions due to illness or other reason beyond their control and to action the plan when necessary. One action of any plan is to notify the Integrated Care Board (ICB) of an unplanned temporary suspension, or a likely temporary suspension. The MYS portal provides a digital route for notifications.

The MYS portal can be updated with one or more unplanned, temporary suspensions and is editable for 7 days after it is submitted. It can be used for unplanned temporary suspensions and deleted if there is no subsequent suspension of services.

At this stage, the MYS portal notification route is optional. The hard-copy notification route can still be used. This can be found on the NHS England [website](#) titled Annex 18.

More information on unplanned temporary suspensions can be found [HERE](#).

ACTION: For pharmacy owners who use or have previously used PharmOutcomes

NHS England have sent out a further cascade message to NHS pharmacy contract teams for distribution to all pharmacies via email (this follows on from the initial message that was emailed on 24th June 2024) regarding post event messages on PharmOutcomes.

The new cascade message highlights the actions that pharmacy owners who use or have used PharmOutcomes, in the past must take if they have a queue of notification emails within PharmOutcomes for clinical services provided by the pharmacy.

NHS England is asking pharmacy owners to **complete these actions by 30th September 2024**. If pharmacy owners are unable to complete the required actions by this date, they are asked to inform their [local commissioning team](#).

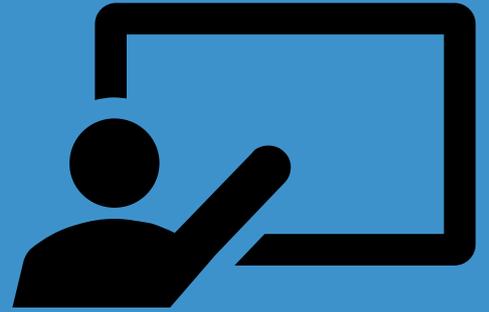
If you do not use or have never used PharmOutcomes for any clinical services, no action is required. In addition, if you do not have a queue of notification emails within PharmOutcomes for clinical services delivered by the pharmacy, no action is required.

<https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/action-for-pharmacy-owners-who-use-or-have-previously-used-pharmoutcomes/>

TRAINING

The MPG have held several successful training sessions covering, Pharmacy First, Hypertension Case-Finding and Contraception. All post event materials can be found on our website:

[Middlesex Pharmaceutical Group – Middlesex Group Of Local Pharmaceutical Committees | Representing Nine Middlesex Borough Areas \(middlesexlpcs.org.uk\)](http://middlesexlpcs.org.uk)



CPPE NEWS & UPDATES

- Supporting Pharmacy Technicians
- New e-learning: *Pharmacy technicians: using patient group directions in practice*
- CPPE Accuracy checking pharmacy technician programme open for funded applications
- CPPE launches *Common clinical conditions* e-learning programme

All details can be found on the email preciously sent, please contact us if you need a copy.

PAID Research opportunity

You are invited to participate in two focus groups to help shape research for oral treatment of breast cancer.

Participants will receive £75 plus expenses for each of two workshops (approx 4 hours each).

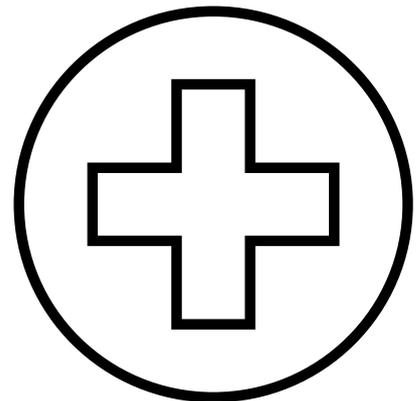
Participants can claim £140 per workshop for each backfill cover.

All details can be found on the email preciously sent, please contact us if you need a copy.

Virtual Outcome - Free Access

Reminder that you have free access to the pharmacy training platform Virtual Outcomes, more information can be found at the below link:

<https://www.virtualoutcomes.co.uk/vo8539-wp-content/uploads/2020/06/VirtualOutcomes-Login-Easy-Guide-May-19.pdf>



Latest FREE* Online Course - Flu vaccination Service 2024

Note the attached flyer from Virtual Outcomes.

[Drug Tariff Watch – September 2024](#)

DHSC has published the final list of price concessions for September 2024. Find out more:

<https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/drug-tariff-watch-september-2024/>

Serious Shortage Protocols

The SSP is available to view on the NHS Business Service Authority (BSA)'s [dedicated SSP web page](#).

We here at the LPC office support all MPG contractors and pharmacy teams. We would love to hear any feedback you may have about your LPC and if there is anything you would like raised at our next committee meeting.

Let us know on group@middlesexpharmacy.org

Join the Harrow LPC WhatsApp Alert Group

Please see the below link to join our LPC WhatsApp alert group (if not joined already) or scan the QR Code on your smartphone

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/J9lkV4DcixN31nZ9REzVzi>

