



Newsletter

26th July 2024

Week 30

This newsletter contains important information for
Community Pharmacy Kent owners and staff in Kent & Medway



In today's edition:

- [Deadline Tracker](#)
- [Virtual outcome](#)
- [Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework \(CPAF\)](#)
- [Pharmacist Independent prescribing NHSE funded](#)
- [Kent and Medway Conference](#)
- [South East CVD Updates](#)

- [MHRA alert](#)
 - [Whooping Cough updates](#)
 - [NHS Updates](#)
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To download July 2024 Deadline Tracker click [here](#);



VIRTUAL
OUTCOMES

Online Training for
Community Pharmacy Teams

Virtual outcome

All Kent pharmacies should have access to Virtual outcome training platform.
Please use this as you wish for the training and development for your team.

Click the link to access [Pharmacy Training - Virtual Outcomes](#) and enter your ODS

Access update



Pharmacy contractors should soon receive confirmation from NHSBSA that the

Users of the [NHSBSA's Manage Your Service \(MYS\)](#) portal will be able to complete

have a sign in for MYS will be able to complete the questionnaire online and will receive email details on how to do this.

Completion of the screening questionnaire is compulsory, and the results of the questionnaire will form the basis of which contractors will be asked to complete the full CPAF survey and may be visited later.



Pharmacist Independent prescribing NHSE funded places at the University of Bath

****Applications now open****

There will be 2 versions of the course, one hybrid with 4 days on campus at Bath and 4 days delivered online via Zoom. The other with all 8 days completely online via Zoom.

Apply [here](#)

Applicants will need –

- A copy of their pharmacy undergraduate degree certificate
- An academic reference – this can be from their university tutor. If it is several years since studying at university a second professional reference can be used instead. This should indicate the ability to be able to study at a high level.
- Professional reference – this can be from an educational lead, manager, supervisor or mentor.
- A DPP (designated prescribing practitioner) who will supervise their learning to prescribe in a practice setting. 90 hours of ‘practice based learning’ is part of the GPhC requirements for pharmacist prescribers.

The DPP must meet the GPhC standard 9.2 which states that prospective

Designated Prescribing Practitioners must have:

- Active prescribing competence applicable to the areas in which they will be

supervising

- Appropriate patient-facing clinical and diagnostic skills
- Supported or supervised other healthcare professionals
- The ability to assess patient-facing clinical and diagnostic skills.

DPPs do not have to have 3 years of prescribing practice. There is a form for the DPP to complete which can be found [here](#).

The university website has a link to the universal university application form which is completed online. There is a second information form to be completed which captures the clinical area the applicant will start their prescribing in and the funding information and the aspects NHSE need us to report on.

The study days are as follows -

Workshop dates: October 2024 start (Remote)

Workshop days 1 & 2 (Induction): 7 & 8 November 2024 (Remote)

Workshop day 3: 5 December 2024 (Remote)

Workshop day 4: 9 January 2025 (Remote)

Workshop day 5: 30 January 2025 (Remote)

Workshop day 6: 26 February 2025 (Remote)

Workshop day 7: 20 March 2025 (Remote)

Workshop day 8 (Assessment): 8 May 2025 (Remote)

Workshop dates: October 2024 start (Hybrid)

Workshop days 1 & 2 (Induction): 4 & 6 November 2024 (Remote)

Workshop day 3: 2 December 2024 (Remote)

Workshop day 4: 6 January 2025 (face to face)

Workshop day 5: 27 January 2025 (Remote)

Workshop day 6: 24 February 2025 (face to face)

Workshop day 7: 17 March 2025 (face to face)

Workshop day 8 (Assessment): 7 May 2025 (face to face)

Deadline for applications: Monday 16 September 5pm

If you need support finding a DPP please email neha.bhatia1@nhs.net

Kent and Medway Pharmacy Professionals Conference 8th September 2024

Register to attend, nominate colleagues for awards and submit your posters

You are all invited to **Kent and Medway's first face-to-face Pharmacy Professionals' Celebratory Conference on 8th September, Hosted by Medway School of Pharmacy.**

This event will be an opportunity for pharmacy professionals from across the system to come together, hear about local initiatives and collaborative working, celebrate success with awards, share project posters and network to build stronger links.

1. **Save the date and register for your free place** using the link <https://buytickets.at/nhskentandmedway1/1281519> or QR code:
(See attached poster for details)



2. **Nominate your colleagues or yourself for an award** using the link: <https://forms.office.com/e/pCTtqw2uWg> or QR code:



Winners will be presented with an award at the conference, 5 categories to choose from.

3. **Submit a poster of a recent project** to showcase your success and share your learning. Use the poster submission form attached and if you

have not yet created a poster, use the attached suggested template as a guide. Live voting for best poster and runner up on the day.

If you have any questions about the event or award or poster entries, please email mariastaines@nhs.net

Click [here](#) for suggested poster template.

Click [here](#) for poster submission form.



South East CVD Prevention Community of Practice

The Health Innovation Networks for Kent Surrey Sussex, Oxford & Thames Valley and Wessex (South East Collaborative) are excited to launch a new series of webinars focussing on cardiovascular disease. The webinars are open to all healthcare professionals/clinicians and programme managers with an interest or role in the subject matter. Each online webinar (delivered via MS Teams) will be led by local expert clinical speakers and will include examples of best practice.

Note: It is not a requirement to register for all three events, although please feel free to do so if of interest.

Webinar information and registration links below:

Lipid Optimisation - Thursday 26 September 12 - 1pm

Register here: [South East Collaborative - Focus on CVD - Lipid Optimisation Tickets, Thu 26 Sep 2024 at 12:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Hypertension - Thursday 7 November 12 - 1pm

Register here: [South East Collaborative - Focus on CVD - Hypertension Tickets, Thu 7 Nov 2024 at 12:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Heart Failure - Thursday 21 November 12 - 1pm

Register here: [South East Collaborative - Focus on CVD - Heart Failure Tickets, Thu 21 Nov 2024 at 12:00 | Eventbrite](#)

More information for each of the webinars will be shared nearer the time as agendas are firmed up.

As this event is open to all colleagues across and beyond the South East region with an interest or role in cardiovascular disease.



MHRA alert: Topiramate (Topamax): introduction of new safety measures, including a Pregnancy Prevention Programme

Topiramate is now contraindicated in pregnancy and in women of childbearing potential unless the conditions of a Pregnancy Prevention Programme are fulfilled. This follows a review by the MHRA which concluded that the use of topiramate during pregnancy is associated with significant harm to the unborn child. See the full alert ([here](#))

The MHRA alert has specified the following advice for dispensers:

- **A [Patient Card](#) - to be given by pharmacists to all female patients who are dispensed topiramate to inform them of the risks**
- a visual warning symbol will be added to the pack of topiramate. This symbol will show a pregnant woman in a red circle with a line through it,

with warning text about the risks and information about the new measures

- until warning symbols are present on packs, stickers will be available to print locally on eMC
 - pharmacists should dispense in whole packs whenever possible. This will ensure that patients always see the warning symbol and receive the statutory information
 - pharmacists should give the patient card to female patients when dispensing topiramate
 - ask women or girls of childbearing potential if they are taking highly effective contraception, if they are not, pharmacists should advise them to contact their GP for a follow-up appointment
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Whooping cough vaccination in pregnancy communications

Pertussis cases continue to rise rapidly and sadly there have been 9 infant deaths since the current outbreak began in November last year.

The NHS is encouraging staff who come into contact with pregnant women to signpost or offer pertussis vaccination at every opportunity.

New communications resources to support pertussis vaccine uptake in pregnancy, in partnership with RCOG & RCM, are available here: [Vaccinations in Pregnancy | Campaigns | Campaign Resource Centre \(dhsc.gov.uk\)](#)

A bipartite letter providing key information to both commissioners and healthcare professionals outlining the changes and delivery of the maternal pertussis vaccination from 1 July is available [here](#):



Updated Incident Reporting Approved Particulars

[New Incident Reporting Approved Particulars](#) have been published to the NHS England website (as of 23 July 2024).

This document will replace the previous Approved Particular which has been in place since 2012. Contractors should familiarise themselves with the content of this new document to ensure they understand what is required should an incident occur, including being familiar with what is considered an incident.



To read the latest edition of the NHSE Primary Care Bulletin click [here](#).

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