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Newsletter

6th June 2025

Week 24

This newsletter contains important information for Pharmacy Owners and Staffs in Kent & Medway



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To download June 2025 Deadline Tracker click [here](#).



Pharmacy First: Summary of changes from 1st June 2025

From the 1st of June, the bundling requirement for Pharmacy First come into

force, which impacts on whether pharmacy owners are entitled to the variable monthly payment for the service.

Pharmacy owners must be registered and able to deliver the Hypertension Case Finding Service, the Pharmacy Contraception Service (PCS) **and** the Pharmacy First service, in addition to delivering the minimum number of Clinical pathway consultations to achieve the variable monthly payment. Please click [here](#) to read more.



Independent Prescribing Funding

Applications for NHS England-funded independent prescribing courses are open.

Courses are available up to March 2026, with several universities offering multiple dates for cohort intakes. Please check with the universities of your choice to confirm the start date.

Pharmacists who meet the eligibility criteria will be able to apply for independent prescribing courses at a variety of universities across England:

1. Community pharmacists (including locum pharmacists)

Eligible pharmacists may apply only to those universities as listed on the [here](#). They will need to demonstrate (as a minimum):

- The support of an identified designated prescribing practitioner (DPP).
- An appropriate practice-based learning environment in a prescribing setting that can offer appropriate clinical support.
- Evidence that you meet the course provider eligibility criteria (applicants will be subject to their chosen university's enrolment processes).

Commitment to use the skill within your area of competence and expertise, for the delivery of NHS clinical services as they emerge.

Independent Prescribing training is available to pharmacists who meet the eligibility criteria. Tuition fees are fully funded by NHS England. Pharmacists that are successful in applying to one of the approved universities will be allocated a fully funded place directly by the university. They do not need to apply to NHS England for funding separately.

For any further enquiries, please contact england.pharmacyteam@nhs.net



COVID Vaccination

NHS England has opened the procurement process for pharmacies that wish to provide the COVID-19 vaccination service from their healthcare premises from 1st October 2025. This process only applies to:

- Pharmacies not already contracted to provide the service and wishing to apply to provide it from 1st October 2025; and
- Pharmacies already contracted to provide the service but whose contract only runs up until the end of August 2025.

Most pharmacies already providing the service are contracted until 31st March 2026; those pharmacies do not need to reapply to continue to provide the service from October 2025, as their contract already covers provision until 31st March 2026.

Guidance documents and details on how pharmacy owners can submit a response can be found [here](#).

Pharmacy owners who plan to apply to provide the service should read the guidance (which outlines key deadlines and processes) and contractual agreements which are available on the [here](#) and submit their response document by the deadline.

The interim response deadline for submissions for the Autumn/Winter 2025/26 campaign is 11:59pm on **16th June 2025**.



Data Security and Protection Toolkit – Deadline 30th June 2025

The deadline for community pharmacy contractors to complete the Data Security and Protection Toolkit 2025 is 30th June 2025. Click this link for more information [Data Security and Protection Toolkit - Deadline 30th June 2025 - Community Pharmacy England](#)



Early Career funding for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians

Nationally, and within Kent and Medway, there is an identified workforce priority to ensure Newly Qualified and Early Careers Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians are supported to meet the requirements of the Initial Education and Training of Pharmacists (IETP) reform work, as outlined in the NHS Long Term Workforce Plan. This includes readiness for the rapidly changing roles of

Pharmacy Professionals, including Independent Prescribing, evolving future supervision roles, and ensuring the appropriate skill-mix of pharmacy teams providing care to NHS patients. To learn more about this, a webinar series has been scheduled to help. To book a webinar session, please click [here](#).



- [NHSE Primary Care Bulletin](#)
 - [Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board](#)
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