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Newsletter

6th February 2026

Week 6

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



- [Oriel Foundation Trainee Pharmacist](#)
- [Dapagliflozin changes](#)
- [Covid19 Vaccination](#)

- [Manage Your Service \(MYS\)](#)
- [KMCR and Community Pharmacy Kent Webinar](#)
- [CPPE Pharmacy Technician Workshop](#)
- [Pharmacy First](#)
- [Pharmacy Quality Scheme](#)
- [DSP Toolkit](#)
- [Pharmacy First myth-busting](#)

Other newsletters:

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



Oriel – Foundation Trainee Pharmacist National Recruitment Scheme 2026 (2027 Intake) - Reminder to Participate

If you intend to be part of the 2026 Foundation Trainee Pharmacist National Recruitment Scheme (NRS) for the 2027-28 training year, you must register by Midday on Tuesday 3 March 2026. Please note late submissions will not be accepted.

The on-line registration form can be found [here](#).

Please note the below information before registering.

Recruitment via the NRS is the only route to employing a trainee pharmacist for foundation training. You cannot recruit trainee pharmacists via any other

route. Participating in the national recruitment scheme does not guarantee that your programme(s) will fill, as historically there have been more training places available than potential trainees to fill them.

Terms of Participation

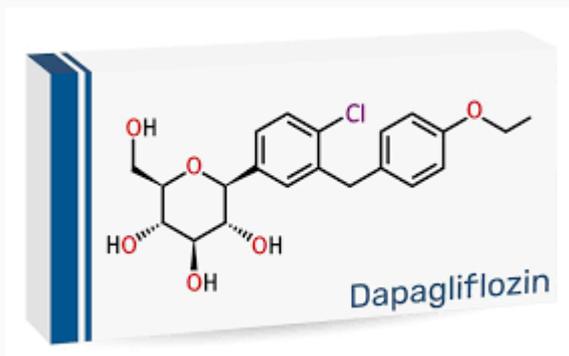
The [Employer Terms of Participation](#) (ToP) have been updated for 2026 recruitment. Please read these carefully and understand the implications before registering, even if you have been part of the NRS before. You will be asked to sign up to the ToP and [NHS England's Quality Framework](#) as part of the registration process.

Employer Guidance

We strongly advise you to read the guidance in the [Employer Handbook](#) before registering, paying particular attention to our advice on writing your programme description(s), as this is your main opportunity to promote your programme(s) to potential trainees.

Foundation Training from 2025-26 onwards.

Further details about foundation training following the full implementation of the reforms to the initial education and training of pharmacists, including NHS England requirements, can be found [here](#).



National work to change SGLT2i to generic Dapagliflozin

Practices in Kent and Medway ICB will be undertaking work to change Sodium-glucose co-transporter-2 inhibitors (SGLT2i) such as Empagliflozin and Canagliflozin to generic Dapagliflozin. This is where a patient may be clinically suitable for this change and the majority of these patients are expected to be taking these medications for the management of type 2 diabetes.

This is part of a national programme of work to maximise the change in price of generic Dapagliflozin. General practices may also refer patients who have had their medication changed to the new medicines service (NMS).

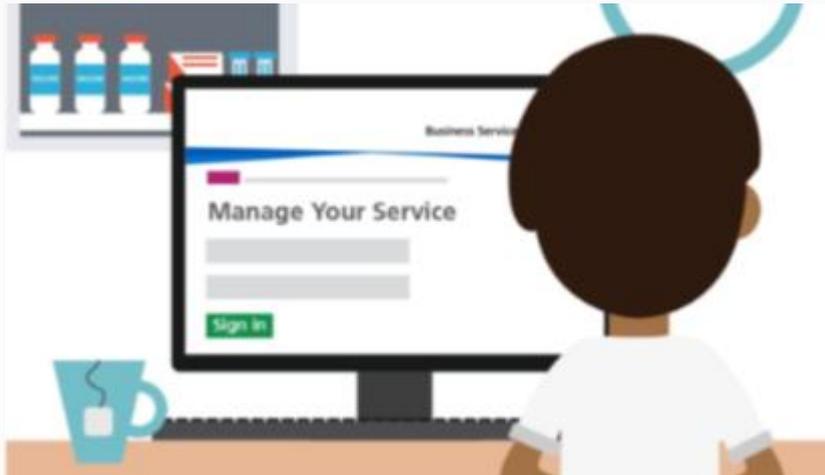


Setting Up FDP access for SS26 COVID-19 vaccine ordering

Providers taking part in the spring COVID-19 vaccination programme will require Federated Data Platform (FDP) access to order COVID-19 vaccine. [A step-by-step guide is available.](#)

If access issues occur, providers should clear their browser cache, switch to Microsoft Edge or use an InPrivate/Incognito window, and paste the [link](#) directly into the address bar. Persistent issues are typically caused by local firewall settings: providers should contact their local IT Service Desk for assistance.

[FDP Access drop-in sessions](#) are available on 23 February, 27 February, and 10 March. Any issues should be escalated to the [System Vaccination Operation Centre](#) (SVOC) (log-in required).



Hub and spoke notifications – using Manage Your Service (MYS)

Following changes to the Human Medicines Regulations and updates to the Terms of Service to permit hub and spoke arrangements between different legal entities on 1 October 2025, [new Approved Particulars have been published](#). From 9 February 2026 community pharmacies must make hub and spoke notifications via the [MYS platform](#).

[Completing the MYS page](#) will notify the relevant ICB of the arrangements and you will not need to email/notify the ICB separately.



Funded Kent and Medway Care Record (KMCR) access for Community Pharmacy

Thank you to those who were able to attend our lunchtime webinar. During the session, we discussed the Kent and Medway Care Record (KMCR), the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS), and shared key LPC updates.

Please find the presentation slides below for your reference:

- [KMCR presentation](#)
- [PQS presentation](#)

Kent and Medway ICB has funded KMCR access for all community pharmacies across Kent. This is a valuable resource for pharmacy teams and will support safer, more integrated care as we move towards neighbourhood working.

If you would like KMCR access for your team, please complete the short expression of interest form below. The KMCR team will then contact you to support the set-up process.

[Kent and Medway KMCR Expression of Interest – Fill in form](#)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at admin@kentlpc.org.uk



CPPE Pharmacy Technician exclusive face to face workshop in Canterbury on 11th February.

Be part of the **FIRST** [PGDs: Empowering pharmacy technicians to provide services workshop](#) in the **South East Coast region** — a **FREE** event, with light refreshments included. Pharmacy technicians are taking on exciting new responsibilities with Patient Group Directions (PGDs), and this workshop is the ideal opportunity to get ahead.

Why not **bring a colleague with you** for the chance to connect, share experiences, and build your professional network?

Our workshop — ***PGDs: Empowering pharmacy technicians to provide services*** — is designed to help you build confidence in supplying medicines under a PGD within both the **NHS Pharmacy Contraception Service** and the **Smoking Cessation Service**.

With peer discussion, practical case work, and guidance on consultation skills, this interactive session will support you in developing competence and confidence.

Whether you're completely new to PGDs or looking to strengthen your existing experience, this workshop offers a supportive, practice-focused environment. You'll come away feeling more prepared to deliver high-quality services and expand your professional role.

Bookings are **open now** for this in-person workshop:

 **Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, Canterbury, Kent**

 **Tuesday 11th February**

 **7:00pm – 9:00pm**

 **Free event — light refreshments provided**

Places are limited so secure your place **today** — and bring a colleague to make the most of the networking opportunities.



Reminder: promote Pharmacy First this February

As part of the [Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework \(CPCF\) 2025/26](#) pharmacy contractors are required to take part in two national health

campaigns promoting the Pharmacy First service to the public.

The second campaign runs from 2 - 22 February 2026. Contractors can meet the requirements of the campaign through any of the following activities:

- displaying posters, leaflets or other promotional materials at the pharmacy;
- information on your pharmacy's website;
- information posted your pharmacy's social media channels; and
- including information in emails or SMS sent to patients.

Materials are available [on the DHSC Campaign Resource Centre](#).



Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2025/26 declaration period

The Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2025/26 declaration period opens at 9am on Monday 2 February 2026. Community Pharmacy contractors are encouraged to prepare now to submit their declaration through the [Manage Your Service \(MYS\) portal](#). Contractors must complete their submission via this portal before the deadline of 11:59pm on Friday 27 February 2026 for their claim to be eligible for payment.

Further information, including the full PQS requirements and guidance, is available on the [NHS England website](#). Contractors should review the criteria, gather evidence and plan their submission ahead of the declaration deadline. The declaration questions are available on the [NHSBSA website](#)



Data Security and Protection (DSP) Toolkit

DSP Tool Kit

Community Pharmacy England has published new guidance to help community pharmacy owners complete the Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPTK) 2026. The Toolkit is used to make a pharmacy's information governance (IG) declaration and must be completed by Tuesday 30th June 2026. Community

Pharmacy England has collaborated with the NHS DSPTK team to keep the workload associated with Toolkit completion manageable whilst maintaining the appropriate data security protections.

Community Pharmacy England will be holding a webinar on Wednesday, 11th February at 7.30pm to help community pharmacy owners complete the Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPTK) 2026. Date and time: Wednesday 11th February at 7.30pm To register, please click on [this link](#).



Pharmacy First myth-busting

The CPE have published an article that tackles some of the misconceptions around who can provide Pharmacy First consultations and aims to bust myths to increase understanding of the service. Please click on [this link](#) to learn more information

Oriel – Foundation Trainee Pharmacist National Recruitment Scheme 2026 (2027 Intake) - Reminder to Participate



Useful information to support you in your practice.

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

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