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Newsletter

17th March 2026

Week 12

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



URGENT UPDATE



Kent and Medway

Important information for GP practices and Community Pharmacies across Kent and Medway

Dear colleagues,

I wanted to thank you all for your collective responses to the ongoing meningitis outbreak in the Canterbury area.

There has been a large, coordinated response to this outbreak led by UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) after it was made aware of thirteen cases of invasive meningococcal disease. Sadly, two people are known to have died.

While many patients will understandably be concerned and NHS services will be under extra pressure as we respond to the issue, I wanted to outline some of the extra steps that are being taken:

- More antibiotic hubs have been stood up. Further [details are on our website](#).
- UKHSA is setting up a helpline number, which is expected to go live today.
- All questions and concerns from general practice have been sent to UKHSA for clarification.

We will continue to share with you updates as and when we receive them. You should have all received the [UKHSA cluster notification](#) yesterday and [meningococcal disease guidance is available online](#).

Yours sincerely,

Dr Kate Langford
Chief Medical Officer
NHS Kent and Medway

Community Pharmacy Kent, through the ICB, has requested patient facing resources to ensure consistent messaging across all pharmacies.

Please click the [link](#) for previous update from Community Pharmacy Kent.

Community Pharmacy Kent

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