

## Community Pharmacy Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB News

A newsletter for Community Pharmacy Teams in Nottingham,  
Nottinghamshire and Bassetlaw

### Purpose of this newsletter

The purpose of this newsletter is to share news from across the health system with Community Pharmacy Teams. Please share this newsletter with everyone in your pharmacy team including any locum staff.

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### Questions and feedback about this newsletter

If you have any questions, please email the ICB Community Pharmacy Clinical lead; Rebecca Dickenson using the email address [Rebecca.Dickenson7@nhs.net](mailto:Rebecca.Dickenson7@nhs.net).

Please send feedback as it helps to tailor this newsletter for you and your team.

## Less than a month to complete the Data Security & Protection Toolkit 2025

With less than a month left to complete the Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPTK), pharmacy owners are encouraged to make use of guidance materials.

All the questions marked **mandatory in the Toolkit** must be completed as part of a pharmacy's NHS Terms of Service to meet the minimum information governance (IG) requirements. More information can be found with this link [Check out all the guidance](#)

## DMS: Shortened claim journey on MYS from July 2025

A new streamlined process for making claims for the Discharge Medicines Service (DMS) will come into effect from 6th July 2025. More information can be found on the following link; [DMS: Shortened claim journey on MYS from July 2025 - Community Pharmacy England](#)

## LFD service: Changes to patient cohort eligibility

Following an update to the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guidance on antiviral treatment for COVID-19, which removes some of the cohorts of patients eligible for these treatments, changes have been made to the Lateral Flow Device (LFD) service. More information can be found on the following link; [LFD service: Changes to patient cohort eligibility - Community Pharmacy England](#). The updated NICE guidance can be viewed here [5 Supporting information on risk factors for progression to severe COVID-19 | Nirmatrelvir plus ritonavir, sotrovimab and tocilizumab for treating COVID-19 | Guidance | NICE](#)

## AI ambient voice technology: Implementation considerations and guidance update

The interest in AI ambient scribe technology continues to grow in general practice and community pharmacy. The tools have significant benefits but introduce new potential risks. Recently, NHSE released some high-level guidance for health and care organisations wishing to adopt this technology in clinical practice.

More information can be found on this link: [Using AI safely and responsibly in primary care](#)

## What is Alcohol Identification Brief Advice (IBA)?

Alcohol IBA can help us to recognise those people who are at risk early on, and hopefully prevent people going on to develop serious problems through alcohol use. Training sessions can be found and booked directly through the ABL training website or through the Eventbrite links below:

[Training - Your Health Nottinghamshire](#)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/your-health-notts-29949232315>

## Immunisation, COVID & Flu vaccination training

A limited number of online training sessions during the summer are on offer to community pharmacy funded by the ICB.

Immunisations Update for Adults & Children - Registered Healthcare Professionals –  
*30<sup>th</sup> June* link to book; [CLICK TO BOOK](#)

Immunisations Update for Adults & Children - Registered Healthcare Professionals –  
*6<sup>th</sup> August* link to book; [CLICK TO BOOK](#)

Immunisations Update for Adults & Children - Registered Healthcare Professionals –  
*27<sup>th</sup> August* link to book; [CLICK TO BOOK](#)

The update for Registered Healthcare Professionals is a full day between 09:00 – 16:30

## Diabetes Training

There are some half day training workshops open to healthcare professionals in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB. To be able to register please email [nnicb-nn.diabeteseducation@nhs.net](mailto:nnicb-nn.diabeteseducation@nhs.net) with your name, job role, organisation, contact details and any specific dietary requirements.

Dates and times are below:

### Diabetes and Insulin Therapy

- Tuesday 24th June 2025 - 09.30-16.30pm at Civic Centre, Mansfield

### Diabetes and Obesity:

- Thursday 3rd July 2025 - 12.30-16.30pm at Double Tree by Hilton, Nuthall Road
- Tuesday 8th July 2025 - 12.30-16.30pm at Trent Conference Centre, Lenton Lane
- Thursday 24th July 2025 - 12.30-16.30pm at Civic Centre, Mansfield

## Independent Prescribing courses 2025-26 – NHS England funded training

Applications for NHS England funded [independent prescribing courses](#) are open.

Pharmacists from across sectors, including community pharmacy and locums, are encouraged to take up the opportunity. Courses are available up to March 2026, with several universities offering multiple dates for cohort intakes. Start dates will depend on the university provider. For more information please use this link; [Approved suppliers list - National Provision | NHS England | Workforce, training and education](#)

## Dispensing and Supply Updates

### Valproate safety update

Safety and educational materials have been updated in line with the current regulatory position on Valproate and to reflect feedback from stakeholders. They also include updates to product information on the risk of low birth weight in children exposed to valproate during pregnancy. More information can be found here; [Valproate \(Belvo, Convulex, Depakote, Dyzantil, Epilim, Epilim Chrono or Chronosphere, Episenta, Epival, and Syonell▼\): updated safety and educational materials to support patient discussion on reproductive risks - GOV.UK](#)

### Pfizer brands now available as generics

Pharmacy teams should be aware that Pfizer Limited has recently ceased supplying a number of its well-established brands and released generic equivalent versions instead. For more information follow this link; [Pfizer brands now available as generics - Community Pharmacy England](#)

### Latest guidance on Pancreatic Enzyme Replacement Therapies (PERT) due to shortages of Creon and Nutrizym medication.

Because of ongoing supply issues, there is an extension of the Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs 060 and 061) currently in place for Creon 10000 and 25000 capsules, which were due to end, Friday 23 May 2025. The new end dates for these SSPs is now **Friday 21 November 2025**.

The SSP is available to view on the NHS Business Service Authority (BSA)'s on the dedicated SSP web page here [Serious shortage protocols \(SSPs\) | NHSBSA](#)

To support prescribers and Community Pharmacists with this shortage new local guidance has been issued on the prescribing Pancreatic Enzyme Replacement Therapy (PERT). The shortage is ongoing and likely to last until 2027. The guidance has been issued to ensure continuity of care for patients who rely on PERT and the appropriate steps for prescribers and Community Pharmacists to take when prescribing the licensed products are not available.

This guidance can be found on the Nottinghamshire Joint formulary here [Introduction to Pancreatic Enzyme Replacement Therapy \(PERT\) Guidance for Primary Care Healthcare Professionals](#)