

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.

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

Pharmacy First Update

Several of our Community Pharmacy Teams have been busy promoting Pharmacy First to the public in local newspapers. Please see some examples below:

- Worksop Guardian included Emma Marsden from Well. For this article please follow this link [Column: Think Pharmacy First as service celebrates its anniversary](#)



- Hucknall Dispatch included Sam Tring from Harts Pharmacy. For this article please follow this link; [Column: Think Pharmacy First as flourishing service marks its anniversary](#)



- Mansfield Chad included Imran Khan from Orchard Pharmacy but the article is not available on the newspaper website at this time.
- East Advertiser included Thamid Khan from Brinsley Pharmacy but we have been unable to locate an online link to this article at this time.

Thank you so much to all these pharmacists and their teams. If you would like to get involved for communications for Community Pharmacy services, please get in touch with Rebecca. Dickenson7@nhs.net

Hypertensive Case Finding

Community Pharmacy teams have been busy checking people's blood pressure which is great news to help reduce undiagnosed blood pressure, a significant risk factor for cardiovascular problems.

There have however been concerns received from GP practices that not all Community Pharmacy Teams are offering Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitoring (ABPM). Not offering this service increases the workload at the GP practice as the practice will have to check whether the blood pressure being raised was more than a one off, whereas the ABPM give that information.

Please be aware that as part of the specification, all Community Pharmacies offering this service must have an ABPM device. The information from the specification is below. The specification can be viewed via this link [Advanced service specification: NHS community pharmacy hypertension case-finding advanced service \(NHS community pharmacy blood pressure check service\)](#)

“The pharmacy contractor must ensure they have both a blood pressure monitor and an ABPM device. The clinic blood pressure monitor and ABPM devices used must be listed on one of the following lists:

- <https://bihsoc.org/bp-monitors/for-home-use/>
- <https://bihsoc.org/bp-monitors/for-specialist-use/>”

World Kidney Day



World Kidney Day is on 13th March 2025. Chronic Kidney Disease is very common and is estimated that by 2040 will be the 5th leading cause of years of life lost. Early detection of renal problems can help reduce severity and improve quality of life.

If you wish to get involved in promoting this important day, there are downloadable resources available following this link [2025 campaign - World Kidney Day 2025](#)

Community Directory

Currently in Nottinghamshire there is a Community Directory of services known as Nottshelpyourself, (the link is here, [Nottshelpyourself](#)) and in city ASkLion, (the link is here, [ASKLiON|Ask Lion - Nottingham City Directory](#)). These directories can be a helpful resource to signpost your patients too for help, for example mental health support.

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire are developing a Community Directory which will combine these two sites. If you want to be involved in this project please fill out this Microsoft form [Nottingham/shire New Community Directory - Stay in the Loop](#)

Bassetlaw also have a Community Directory which can be accessed here; [Directory | Bassetlaw CVS](#).

Area Prescribing Committee (APC) Website

The Nottingham and Nottinghamshire APC Website and formulary can help with some of the patient queries you may receive.

Recently there have been some queries about freestyle libre sensors which are defective or fallen off. The formulary website which can be viewed here; [Nottinghamshire Area Prescribing Committee Formulary](#), has the following information;

“If any of the sensors are defective or fall off, the patient will need to contact the manufacturer to obtain a replacement. Patients should contact the Abbott Customer Careline, on 0800 170 1177, on the day or as close to the day that the FreeStyle Libre® falls off or is found to be defective”.

In Bassetlaw the formulary is different, but the APC website is still a useful source of information. For the Bassetlaw formulary please follow this link [Medicines and Products Directory Home](#).

The latest APC newsletter can be viewed here: [Area Prescribing Committee Bulletin February 2025](#) and keeping with the Freestyle libre theme has some information about the discontinuation of FreeStyle Libre ® 2 sensors as below

“Abbott Laboratories Ltd has taken the decision to phase out the FreeStyle Libre® 2 Sensors at the end of August 2025. This discontinuation does not impact FreeStyle Libre® 2 Plus or FreeStyle Libre® 3 sensors. Abbott Laboratories has advised patients using the FreeStyle Libre® 2 Sensors to have their prescriptions amended to the FreeStyle Libre® 2 Plus Sensors as soon as possible.

FreeStyle Libre® 2 Plus sensors are not interchangeable with FreeStyle Libre 3 Sensors which are only approved locally for use as part of a Hybrid Closed Loop System”.