

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.

In this issue

LFD Service and Carehome patients	1
Pharmacy First Update	2
National Smoking Service – referral of inpatients to Community	2
BP service training event in Leicester	3
NHS 111 Health professional number change	4
Community Pharmacy Clinical Services Evaluation	4
Government confirms plans to make ‘hub and spoke’ dispensing models more available ..	5
Methylphenidate MR Products	5
Questions and feedback about this newsletter	5

LFD Service and Care home patients

The LFD service, (supply of lateral flow devices by Community Pharmacy) now includes care home patients who are:

- over the age of 70 years,
- or who have a BMI of 35kg/m²
- or who have diabetes
- or heart failure.
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Care homes can no longer access these tests through a portal so will be coming to Community Pharmacies registered to provide this service.

When checking eligibility please be aware that letters are no longer provided to eligible patients. The specification advises checking eligibility may include:

“Having a discussion with the patient or their representative about the patient’s medical history, confirming they have a qualifying condition; the pharmacist or pharmacy technician may wish to review the National Care Records Service (NCRS) and then use their clinical judgement”.

For care home patients over the age of 70 years their residency and age will show eligibility.

Community Pharmacy England have a factsheet to help identify all eligible individuals which is here [We’re all community pharmacy \(cpe.org.uk\)](https://www.cpe.org.uk).

Eligible people do not need to wait for symptoms and can request LFDs in advance. Care home staff are being encouraged to obtain LFDs for eligible residents in advance in case of outbreaks and to allow residents to obtain treatment in a timely manner if there is a positive test.

Pharmacy First Update –

Pharmacy First consists of three parts:

- NHS 111 Emergency supply
- 7 Clinical pathways
- Referral for minor illness from GP surgeries/NHS 111/UEC

The sales of Over the Counter medicine and advice for walk in patients outside of those 7 clinical pathways is unchanged by Pharmacy First.

Thank you for working so hard on the amazing Pharmacy First service across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB.

National Smoking Service – referral of inpatients to Community

Work is ongoing with Nottingham University Hospitals Trust to start referrals to Community Pharmacy for smoking cessation. To be able to progress this work the list of registered Community Pharmacies needs to be only Community Pharmacies that can offer the service. We are aware that there have not been any local referrals so confidence to deliver the service may be reduced.

If you are registered for this service and wish to receive referrals, please read the specification, and check you are able to meet all the requirements of the specification.

The specification for the service can be found on the NHS England website [here](#) and there is additional information on the CPE page here [Smoking Cessation Service \(SCS\) - Community Pharmacy England \(cpe.org.uk\)](#)

If you are unable to provide the service and this is unlikely to change soon, please de-register so that the list is only Community Pharmacies offering the service. You will not be asked to return any set up fees. The instructions for de-registering are below:

1. Login into MYS Portal [MYS – Pharmacy | NHSBSA](#)
2. Click onto Smoking Cessation Claims
3. Scroll to bottom – click de-registration and complete process.

BP service training event in Leicester

It was lovely to see some Community Pharmacists from Nottingham and Nottinghamshire at this event which ran at Leicester on Tuesday 14th May.

The event included top tips for running the service and taking blood pressure.

Top tips included:

- Working with the GPs – blood pressure reading can help with their Quality and Outcomes Framework.
- Involve the whole team.
- Look for opportunities.
- Use healthy living promotion areas to promote the service.
- Set up an appointment diary.
- Good record keeping.
- Clear locally agreed escalation process.

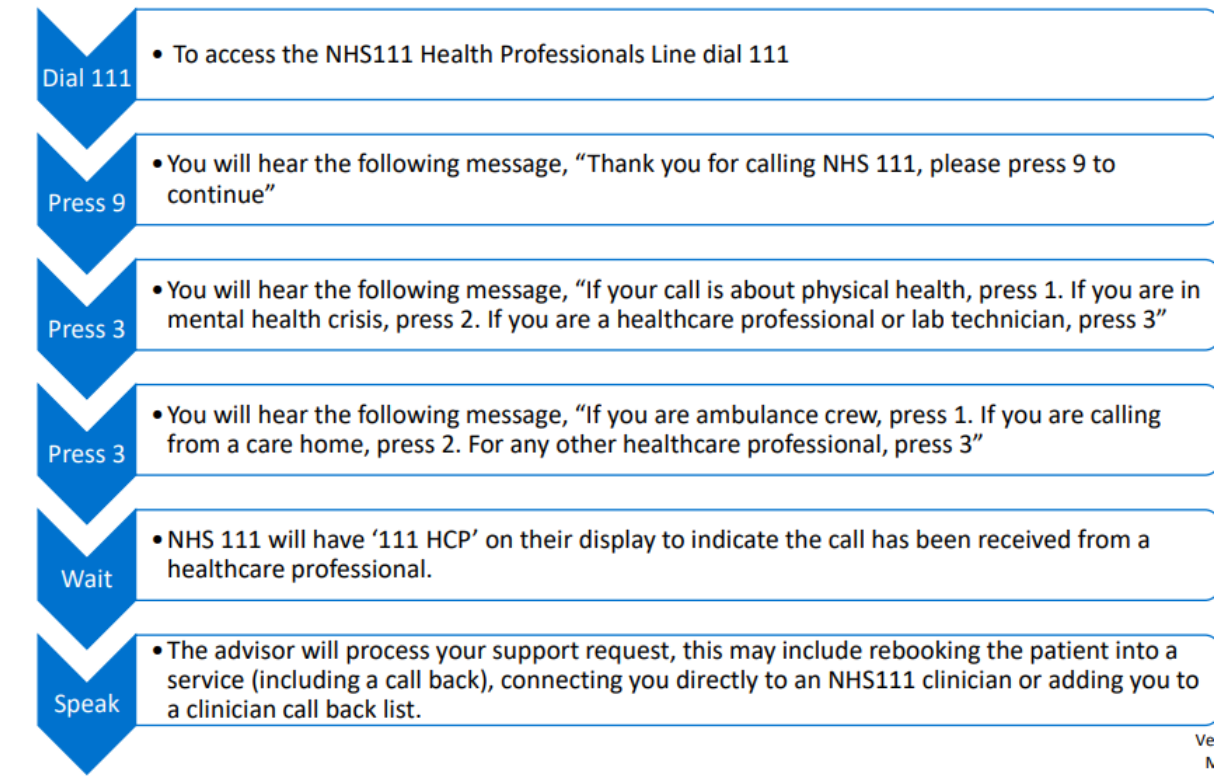
Community Pharmacy England have also published some hypertension resources which you can look at on their webpage here [Hypertension Case-Finding Service reminder \(#2\): How can I promote the service? - Community Pharmacy England \(cpe.org.uk\)](#).

We were reminded of the importance of using the correct size cuff and correct cuff positioning. In one case the cuff position affected blood pressure by 20mmHg! Advice on cuff position included:

- Follow the devices' instructions to fit the cuff correctly.
- The cuff should be wrapped around the bare arm with the lower edge 2-3cm above the elbow crease and mid-point of the inflatable bladder over the brachial artery.
- The brachial artery starts in your upper arm, just below your shoulder, and runs down through the crease in front of your elbow.

NHS 111 Health professional number change

The NHS 111 healthcare professional number has been changed to option 3. The flowchart below gives some more information as to where to use this function when ringing NHS 111.



If you experience any problems using the *3 function please make Rebecca Dickenson; (email Rebecca.Dickenson7@nhs.net), aware so that this can be escalated with the NHS 111 team.

Community Pharmacy Clinical Services Evaluation

The information below is from the NHS England Primary Care bulletin.

NHS England has commissioned RAND Europe to deliver an independent evaluation of clinical services commissioned under the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (2019-24).

During this month (May), RAND is contacting a sample of contractors, pharmacists, their teams and other stakeholders across England to seek participation in interviews, site visits, and support to recruit patients for focus groups.

Your experiences and feedback will inform the evaluation outcomes and help shape NHS England commissioning of community pharmacy clinical services for the future,

hence NHS England are encouraging you to take part in this important evaluation so that a wide range of views and feedback can be captured.

Government confirms plans to make 'hub and spoke' dispensing models more available

The information below is from the NHS England Primary Care bulletin.

The Government has confirmed plans, pending parliamentary approval, to make 'hub and spoke' dispensing models available to all local pharmacies. The change aims to make local pharmacies more efficient and free up time for more complex elements of dispensing and clinical care. The move is part of government's plans to make patient access to medicines and treatment more efficient across the NHS. You can read more about this on the gov.uk website here; [Government to make medicines dispensing more efficient - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-make-medicines-dispensing-more-efficient)

Methylphenidate MR Products

Please use caution when dispensing methylphenidate Modified release products. There have been a couple of methylphenidate dispensing errors reported where Medikinet XL® capsules have been dispensed instead of Meflynate XL® capsules. Meflynate XL® is a relatively new brand of methylphenidate.

For more information about the differences in methylphenidate modified release products please refer to MHRA 2022 drug safety update for methylphenidate which can be viewed on the gov.uk site here [Methylphenidate long-acting \(modified-release\) preparations: caution if switching between products due to differences in formulations - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/drug-safety-updates/methylphenidate-long-acting-modified-release-preparations-caution-if-switching-between-products-due-to-differences-in-formulations) and advice on the Specialist Pharmacy Services website here [Considerations when prescribing modified-release methylphenidate – SPS - Specialist Pharmacy Service – The first stop for professional medicines advice](https://www.sps.nhs.uk/advice/considerations-when-prescribing-modified-release-methylphenidate)

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.