



COMMUNITY PHARMACY WALES *Newsletter*



Issue 13 Winter 2006

*Wishing you a
Merry Christmas*



from all at CPW

POINTS OF INTEREST

Elections

Pfizer

MURs

IM&T

O2

Private CD
Prescriptions

KW dinner

CPW dinner





COMMUNITY PHARMACY WALES

CEO INTRODUCTION

Key points:

Welcome to this winter edition of the CPW Newsletter. As I sit in my windswept hotel room in North Wales looking out at the lashing rain and strong gales yet glancing at the TV to watch England being defeated in the second test in brilliant sunshine in Adelaide I turn my wandering mind back to both the critical issues in Community Pharmacy in Wales over the last few months and to the future.

We are now over 18 months into the contract and I naively thought the pace of change and development would start to slow down after the hectic first year of delivery – how wrong could I be. We have recently achieved agreement on the last 2 outstanding Indicative Rates for the National Enhanced Services (supervised administration; Needle and syringe exchange). This was the culmination of 14 months of hard work to achieve the outcome – longer that both sides would have wished for but achieved the critical outcome both sides wanted. We now have 5 National Enhanced Services in Wales and we are already being approached by LPC colleagues in England who wish to use the Welsh models in order to deliver locally enhanced services across the border. Staying with the contract we worked hard with the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) and achieved a parallel agreement but had to engage in extended negotiation with the WAG to see the contracted increased in MUR numbers delivered to Contractors in Wales. We have seen an increase in uptake of MURs this year but I look to you all to see this increase being maintained and built on in the future.

Turning to the IM&T programme, again we have been involved in extended work to drive the programme forward with the Project Team in WAG. The December Drug Tariff has been updated to reflect the current situation in Wales and all contractors are urged to read the Drug Tariff section IV closely in order to ensure that they take the correct action by 31 March 2007. Again contractors are invited to monitor CPW web page for updated details and guidance.

The CPW committee have now agreed the revised Constitution and this will be used for the CPW elections in 2007 when the current committees' term of office expires on 31 March 2007. The 3 Regional Committees will be elected in January and February with the CPW Board being elected in March / April. The revised Constitution is available on the CPW web page and contractors who are eligible to stand as Independent Members are urged to consider standing for the appropriate Regional Committee and CPW Board. Nomination letters will be distributed to eligible contractors in January 2007 for the Regional elections.

We remain concerned about the Pfizer distribution proposals and I am aware that contractors have now been provided with the discounts that Pfizer are offering. We are working closely with PSNC assessing the impact on the pharmacy business model to ensure that the agreed retained profit in the contract settlement is maintained. We have written to the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) to raise our concerns about the Pfizer proposals, the precedent they are setting and viability of the future supply chain. We are awaiting their response. Senior representatives from Pfizer and Unichem have been invited to the January

CPW meeting when they will respond to contractor queries. Please let CPW Central committee members aware of your concerns so these can be raised at the meeting.

On the consultation side we have continued to be heavily engaged with the NHS Wales regional plans for the delivery of the Designed for Life outcomes as well as the Chronic Conditions Management work undertaken by the WAG. I am sure that these agenda's will concentrate our minds over the next 12 months as the WAG pushes forward with the 'Designed to Deliver' outcomes.

We held a very successful third Annual Dinner where the Minister for Health and Social Services was our Guest of Honour and 110 guests and committee members enjoyed a superb evening of networking and celebration with representatives from all our strategic partners in Wales and the other home countries.

Finally may I take this opportunity to wish you all my very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year and may you all have a successful, satisfying and dynamic 2007.

OXYGEN

Decommising of Oxygen headsets.

During October 2006 Pharmacy Contractors in Wales received hard copies of the claim form both from CPW and The Business Service Centre. We take this opportunity to remind all contractors formerly provided an Oxygen Delivery Service that they need to complete the forms and return them to their LHB. The forms **MUST BE** submitted to the LHB by 31st December 2006.

Copies of the form are available on CPW Website or from CPW office. NB there is no confirmed financial figure for each headset; you are not required to add any financial figure this will be announced in the New Year.

LHB Board Pharmacist Day

In collaboration with NPA/RPSGB and CCA, CPW hosted the first LHB Board Pharmacist Day. This was an excellent opportunity for all to explore collaborative working and taking forward pharmacy. The event is to be held annually.

Patients 'Away from home' Oxygen Service Guidance

WAG home oxygen service guidance has been sent to patients. The guidance explains details for the provision of service while patients are away from home. A copy of the guidance is available on the new pages of CPW website.

If you have any queries regarding oxygen issues, please contact your Regional Executive.

ESPS

The proposed uplift to the ESPS payments submitted by CPW to the Welsh Assembly Government have been agreed in principle and that the changes will be published in the January 2007 Drug Tariff.



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National Audit Office

CPW has been visited by NAO to discuss the new home oxygen contract implementation in Wales. The discussion will contribute to their report which will be presented to WAG's Audit Committee and published in the public domain.

CPW Committee Elections

The New Year brings election time for CPW. Independent Contractors will be invited to nominate to sit on CPW Regional Committees to cover a four year period commencing 1st April 2007. Following formation of the 3 Regional Committees the Central CPW Board will be formed. 11th January 2007 is 'Day 1' in the election process, nomination forms will be sent to all independent contractors. Nominations for the Regional Committee places MUST BE returned to CPW by noon 24th January.

The Pharmacy Contract continues to evolve and offers opportunities for the profession to become more involved in the primary care healthcare team. Community Pharmacy Wales is the Body established and recognised in statute to work with other Organisations to facilitate such outcomes. If you are interested in furthering community pharmacy, please consider standing for election for one of the places and work proactively and constructively within the committee structure.

Constitution

The current Central Committee with agreement from regional Committees have now finalised a revised constitution for CPW. The Elections and new committee's formation will now be undertaken in accordance with the revised Constitution and these elections will commence in January 2007. The CPW Constitution is available on the CPW web news page and Resource Page at www.cpwales.org.uk

National Enhanced Services

In November agreement was reached between CPW and LHBs in Wales on fees for the remaining 2 National Enhanced Services, Supervised Administration and Syringe and Needle Exchange. The Rates for the five National Enhanced Services are available from CPW and on the CPW webpage. The CPW Negotiating Team will take forward negotiation for annual inflationary uplifts in the indicative rates for these national services with the LHBs.

If you have any queries regarding NATIONAL or LOCAL Enhanced Services in your Region, please contact your Regional Executive.

CPW is also investigating opportunities for developing Patient Group Directives (PGDs) as a means to enabling the delivery of some further national or local enhanced services in Wales.

Medicines Use Review (MURs)

Increase in number limit on MURs for financial year 2006/7

The Directions of state for Advanced Pharmaceutical Services in Wales have now been amended.

The 400 limit is applicable to pharmacies that made arrangements* to provide Advanced services before 1 October 2006 are able to conduct and be paid for a maximum of 400 reviews in the financial year 06/07, earning a maximum of £10,000. The limit for pharmacies that enter arrangements on or after 1 October 2006 is 200 for the financial year 06/07.

[* i.e. have a consultation area which meets the requirements listed in the Directions; have submitted a premises self certification form PS-AS-1 Premises and a AS1- pharmacist listing form along with the HEI certificate for each pharmacist who will be providing the service to the LHB].

The fee for Medicines Use Reviews and Prescription Interventions undertaken from 1 October 2006 increased from £23 to £25.

Accreditation Workshops and Post accreditation MUR training

CPW continues to work with various Partners to offer workshops and post accreditation Seminars appropriate to contractors requests. The workshops are 1 day accreditation courses. Post accreditation workshops/seminars, will offer practical help on the issues you highlight as barriers and implementation issues. The workshops and seminars are held subject to minimum numbers attending, but they can be arranged Centrally or in Regions. If you are interested please contact Catherine.

E-mail Catherine.stanley@cpwales.org.uk
telephone 029 2044 2072

Contractor evenings

CPW will be 'out in the Regions' in 2007. If you have a specific issues that you would like to be considered as format/content for the evenings please let us know. You can request via your Regional Exec or Catherine (e-mail Catherine.stanley@cpwales.org.uk tel 029 2044 2072).

IM&T In Wales

The delivery of the IM & T component of the Pharmacy contract will be a pragmatic, phased approach ensuring alignment to the overall strategic direction for Wales and is described below:

- Phase 1 – 'IT Infrastructure', (hardware, software and secure network connectivity)
- Phase 2
 - Release 1 – 2D Barcoded Prescription forms
 - Release 2 – Transmission of Pharmacy claims
 - Community pharmacy connectivity to the NHS Wales network including access to web-based applications such as web Email and HOWIS (Health of Wales Information Services) has started being rolled out in Wales.

Part VIA of the December Drug Tariff contains detailed information about the funding arrangements.

All existing pharmacy contractors were paid two allowances of £1,300 (i.e. a total of £2,600, with one payment of £1,300 in December 2005 and one in February 2006). These allowances were linked to Phase 1 of the pharmacy IM&T programme. If a pharmacy has failed to place an order for an 'approved' connectivity package by 31st March 2007, the LHB will seek to reclaim these allowances.

When a LHB is in receipt of confirmation that an 'approved' connection has been installed, live and active, the contractor will begin to receive a £200/month ongoing allowance. System suppliers are responsible for triggering this payment by alerting the Business Services Centre that connectivity has been installed to a particular contractor. If a pharmacy contractor transfers or closes their Pharmacy business, they should immediately notify their Pharmacy System Supplier who will in turn liaise with the BSC to stop the recurring payment.

A further one-off allowance of £1,000, linked to the implementation of Phase 2, Releases 1 and 2 will be paid to Community Pharmacy Contractors during 2007/08.

More information including frequently asked questions are available on the CPW Website(link in news item: **Connectivity and Welsh IT Allowances**).



Pfizer

Following Pfizer's announcement CPW released statements. A copy of the CPW statement is on the CPW web page (news item). CPW have written to OFT and continue to monitor the Pfizer issue. A representative of Pfizer will be attending the CPW Central Meeting in January. CPW invites further view and input from contractors. Please submit any input to Catherine.

E-mail Catherine.stanley@cpwales.org.uk or submit via you Regional Executive. Input is required by 9th January 2007.

Monitored Dosage Systems(MDS) and 7 day scripts

The first meeting facilitated by WAG on the issue of MDS has recently taken place. CPW will update contractors on outcome as received.

7 Day Scripts (endorsement of)

- CPW have been receiving questions regarding the endorsement of 7 day scripts. CPW are aware that some LHBs have sent contractors letters regarding this issue.
- CPW would advise contractors to note the content of this letter from LHB.
- CPW would also take this opportunity to remind contractors that when endorsing these scripts for reimbursement contractors should endorse what they actually supply, even if the endorsement requires a manual adjustment.

Regional News

Mid & West Region

Contractors Informer IMHA (Iechyd Morgannwg Health Authority)

An error in 2001 left an over recovery from Contractors in IMHA. Letter from WAG/BSC will be distributed to those contractors in December. A form will also be issued for recovery and a declaration to state whether there has been a change of ownership or not since June 2001.

Working Together

The Committee has reviewed various issues over recent months and wish to draw to the attention of the Contractors the importance of them linking with the LHB Board Pharmacist and Link Pharmacist on the Regional Committee of CPW.

Progressing Local Enhanced Services

The process of progressing schemes under local enhanced services within the LHB should involve the Pharmacy Subgroup structure within the LHB to develop initiatives and payment structures at an early stage and communicated to the Regional Committee and then Contractors for review and development.

Contract Monitoring

The new Pharmacy Contract framework is bedding down and once again it is important for the monitoring process within each LHB for assessing the implementation at each Contractor to be pertinent to the Contract and not straying into extended areas. The Regional Committee would be pleased to be informed of any issues that you have any query with. Please contact Hugh Thomas, your regional Exec.

Kidney Wales Dinner (October 2006)

CPW was proud to be involved in an extremely successful charity day. Pharmacy in Wales showed its true community spirit by working together with family and friends to enter the single largest running team (over 210 runners) in the Cardiff Half Marathon and despite many achy muscles close to 400 pharmacy friends and family managed to make it up the many stairs in Cardiff City Hall to join together for a fundraising celebration dinner. The day raised more than £60,000 for the charity and was an excellent flagship for the team spirit of the profession. The dinner was also attended by Dr Brian Gibbons AM Minister for Health & Social Services, various AMs and lead members of the Home Country pharmacy organisations. Our Celtic colleagues that could not attend also continued to support and Bill Scott (CPO Scotland) gave his prize treasured sporran to the auction, it received a final bid of £1,000.

Here are some photos of the day.

“Thank you all for your support”



Some of the runners of the day at the starting line.



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Photos from the evening, Kidney Wales Dinner



CPW Annual Dinner (November 2006)

CPW wish to thank Sanofi-aventis, lead sponsor for this evening and supporting sponsors Servier, Organon, Rochae diagnostics and Pheonix healthcare.

The 3rd CPW Annual Dinner was held in November with 110 guests on the evening.

The guest of honour was Dr Brian Gibbons AM. Here are some photos from the album of the evening.



Guests in reception.



John D'Arcy (CEO NPA) with Ian Cowan CPW.



Lorraine Barrett AM, Phil Parry, Jenny Randerson AM and Peter Haydn Jones CEO CPW.



Phil Parry, Nigel Brooksby (Sanofi/Chair Directors ABPI) and Dr Brian Gibbons AM.





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More photos from the evening



Northern Ireland Guests, Michael Guerin and Terry Hannawin.



North Wales members with CPW Chair, Phil Parry.



Simon Hay (United Co-op) and Paul Nightingale (SPGC).



Dr Brian Gibbons AM.



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FEEDBACK

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INFORMATION

Wales' specific issues regularly updated on the CPW website. www.cpwales.org.uk
PSNC website: www.psn.org.uk

CPW Partners



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