

Welsh Assembly Government – Consultations and Papers

Title of Consultation	Designed for People with Chronic Conditions – Service Development and Commissioning Directive CHRONIC RESPIRATORY CONDITIONS
Date	Published October 2007
Website address	http://wales.gov.uk/dhss/publications/health/healthstrategies/chronicrespiratory/respiratorye.pdf?lang=en
Overview	This is the latest document on chronic conditions management in Wales and focuses on the management of chronic respiratory conditions. With the WAG looking to deliver improved services to patients living with chronic conditions and to deliver these services in community settings there will be growing opportunities for pharmacy services to become integrated in patient pathways. Chronic respiratory conditions cover asthma, COPD, respiratory infections, cystic fibrosis, diffuse parenchymal lung disease, chronic respiratory failure and obstructive sleep apnoea.
Implications for community pharmacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provision of services by multidisciplinary and multi-agency teams will become a key feature of managing these conditions. • Level 1 services to patients are based around health improvement, primary prevention and self care areas where pharmacy can make a significant contribution. • By March 2008 Local Respiratory Action Plans will be developed.
Opportunities for community pharmacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need to ensure early and accurate assessment, diagnosis and appropriate treatment of chronic respiratory conditions. • There is a need to encourage people to stop smoking especially those at risk or who have established chronic respiratory conditions. This will be achieved through the expansion and strengthening of smoking cessation support. • There is an identified need to deliver health education, health promotion and self management programmes. • There is a need to further increase the uptake of influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations. This will provide opportunities for community pharmacy vaccination services to become established. • Obesity coupled with sedentary lifestyles has a marked impact on respiratory function. This may prove another peg to hang a community pharmacy obesity management service on. • The Directive recognises pharmacy as one of the first points of contact and recognises that they can play a role in initial assessment. There may be an opportunity to introduce spirometry testing in community pharmacy as part of population screening.
CPW: action taken	CPW responded to the initial consultation document and has attended the chronic conditions pharmacy working group. Regional executives and regional committees have been made aware of the publication of this document and will be alert to opportunities at a local level. CPW are exploring the opportunity for community pharmacy to take on a role in annual assessment of COPD patients.