



Community Pharmacy IM & T Stakeholder Update



Welcome to the latest Stakeholder Update about Community Pharmacy IM & T developments being delivered by the **Primary Care IM & T Programme ("PCIP")**, a part of the Information Services Division (ISD) of the Welsh Assembly Government.

Updates on Projects

Infrastructure: Network Connectivity	1
Wales ETP: 2DRx Project	2
Electronic Transmission of Claims Project	2
NHS Wales eMail	2
CONTACT US	2

Special points of interest:

- More than 99% of Contractors have met the deadline for placing an order for approved connectivity
- 75% of Contractors have now been installed with their networks
- 37% of Contractors can now access the NHS Wales network



Projects and Workstreams—Latest Information

The Community Pharmacy IM & T programme ("CPIMT") is a subordinate programme of work that is headed by the PCIP and it has now completed the fourth Stage Plan for its projects and workstreams, focusing on continued progress with the Infrastructure Project of 'approved' connectivity for Welsh Community Pharmacies and also making excellent progress with plans for the Welsh ETP solution, known as the **2DRx Project**.

A brief summary of progress with the programme's key projects and milestones is as follows:

1. Infrastructure Project—Connectivity

PCIP has been working closely with 3rd Party 'Corporate' network providers as well as Pharmacy system suppliers, to deliver 'approved' connectivity to all Community Pharmacy Contractors in Wales, in the following stages:

Stage 1—Placing an Order

In line with published guidance, the majority of Welsh Contractors have now placed an order for an 'approved' network connection with either their Pharmacy System Supplier (independents and small chains) or their Corporate network provider. For those who didn't meet the deadline, an exceptions handling mechanism was put into place by the PCIP and this has led to near-complete success for the placement of orders. The remaining Contractors are expected to place an order by January 2008.

This represents an overall total of 99.7% of orders placed, as at the end of November 2007.

Stage 2—Installations

Approved networks can be *enabled* to allow Contractors to access NHS Wales intranet resources on the **Health of Wales Information Service** (Stage 3). Installations of approved networks for both the 'corporate' and 'independent' categories of Community Pharmacy has now been underway since the beginning of 2007 and the PCIP is very satisfied with progress made so far:

⇒ For independents and small chains (using Aggregator suppliers), 83% have been installed

⇒ For corporates (using their own approved networks), 64% have been installed.

This represents an overall total of more than 75% of approved installations by the end of November 2007.

Stage 3—Access to NHS Wales Resources

⇒ For independents and small chains using Aggregators, 20% are now able to connect securely to HOWIS, using a standard 'web browser'

⇒ For Corporates, a total of 64% can connect to HOWIS.

This represents a total figure of almost 37% of all Contractors by the end of November.

“...The control trial was expertly managed by the Primary Care Programme with excellent support at all times...it showed that ‘2DRx’ is a suitable ETP solution for GP Practices as well as local Community Pharmacies ”

Andrea Small,
Practice Manager
(Meddygfa Emlyn Surgery)

It was unanimously agreed by Programme Board members to provide Contractors with an NHS Wales eMail service....The main reason was patient safety



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

2. Welsh ETP—2DRx Project

Following the completion of a ‘control trial’ in July this year, using the ‘2D Barcoded Prescriptions’ ETP model, there followed a period of discussion about the solution whilst an

Evaluation Exercise was being completed, using feedback and observations from the participating trial sites. An Evaluation Report was completed in August 2007 and this was presented to the national CPIMT Board of representative stakeholders for a decision on whether 2D Barcoded Prescriptions was appropriate for implementation across Wales. The CPIMT Board agreed with the Report’s Conclusions and Recommendations

and gave authorisation to proceed with plans for 2DRx nationally, commencing from October.

Since this time, the PCIP has been involved in further discussions with the Northern Ireland ‘EPES’ Project Team (who are also introducing 2D Barcoded Prescriptions) and with Pharmacy Suppliers that provide Welsh Contractors with PMR systems. A Development document has now been provided to GP and Pharmacy System Suppliers to specify the changes necessary for automatically populating pharmacy systems with the contents of a Welsh GP Prescription Form. When implemented, this will lead to a reduction in keying time by a Pharmacist or Technician and will remove, wherever possible, errors in transcription between the GP Practice Prescriber and the Community Pharmacy Dispenser.

The PCIP anticipates that GP and Pharmacy System Suppliers will commence plans for development work during spring 2008 and that early testing will start soon afterwards. A further update will be released in May 2008 to advise on progress.

3. Electronic Transmission of Claims Project

One of the next Projects of the CPIMT Programme which will be worked on over the following 12 months, is to liaise with Pharmacy Suppliers to develop systems that can automatically transmit a Contractor’s Prescription reimbursement claim to the Welsh prescription payment division (known as **Prescribing Service Unit**), using the secure NHS Wales network presently being installed into Pharmacy stores in Wales.

The PCIP will therefore work closely with the Pharmacy Suppliers as well as the PSU about how this can be achieved and the requirements of the Contractor will also be captured during the initial ‘Scoping’ phase, in consultation with Community Pharmacy Wales (CPW).

4. NHS Wales eMail Service

At the latest CPIMT Programme Board meeting, it was unanimously agreed that Welsh Contractors should have access to an NHS Wales eMail service at each store, which would allow them to receive safely and instantly important notifications such as Medical Device Alerts and Drug Recalls, issued by the Business Service Centre, LHBs, or Welsh Assembly Government. The main reason for this decision was patient safety.

The PCIP has since met with the managers of the all-Wales NHS Wales eMail Service and are working on plans to introduce this requirement from spring 2008.

The eMail Project is expected to start with an initial pilot using a limited number of Pharmacy sites able to connect to NHS Wales, followed by a User Evaluation and national roll-out. In the first instance, the PCIP will provide a single branch mailbox account per Pharmacy store, which will accommodate the principal reason for its introduction. Future plans will investigate an eMail account for each store’s Lead Pharmacist for NHS business use only.

Contact Information

Information about the **Community Pharmacy IM & T** programme of work can be requested from the Programme Manager, Gary Jones. **eMail:** Gary.Jones@PMUW.Wales.NHS.UK

For further information on any aspect of the **Primary Care IM & T Programme**, please contact Martin Dickinson, Programme Director. **eMail:** Martin.Dickinson@PMUW.Wales.NHS.UK