



## CPW Fact Sheet May 09

### 1. Annual Appointments for Chair and Vice-chair of CPW

**Chair appointed - Ian Cowan**

**Vice-chair appointed – Phil Parry**

At the Community Pharmacy Wales Board meeting in Cardiff on 19th May 2009, independent West Wales pharmacist Phil Parry stood down as Chair after 12 years. Phil Parry said "The last 12 years have been eventful ones both in the development of community pharmacy and of Welsh politics. We have achieved a huge amount for the profession in partnership with the devolved Welsh Government. As we build on this success and begin to see the fruits of our recent efforts, I am taking the opportunity to hand over the baton." At the subsequent officer appointment, Phil nominated Ian Cowan, from Rowland's Pharmacies in North Wales as Chair with unanimous support. No election was required. Phil was nominated as the new Vice Chair of CPW, also with unanimous support. In accepting the post of Chair Ian Cowan said "This is an exciting time for community pharmacy in Wales as we move into the new era of a restructured NHS and I look forward to the challenges ahead."

### 2. IM&T and submission sorting of 2D Bar-coded Prescriptions

It is apparent from the large numbers of queries received by CPW that recent guidance has caused concern and confusion amongst contractors.

- 2.1** The Welsh Assembly Government IM&T programme have confirmed that contractors are to process barcoded prescriptions manually (i.e. there is not yet a requirement to scan), as for non-barcoded scripts. Manual alterations by the GP and endorsements to bar-coded prescriptions is still permissible, until otherwise informed.

FAQs can be found on the direct link:

<http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=771&pid=26560> or from the root website: <http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/wmss>

### 2.2 **Prescription submissions of 2D bar-coded prescriptions to HSW**

The recent sorting guidance is **NOT** mandatory but best practice. Reassurance has been given from HSW that all prescriptions submitted will be priced in the normal manner. The aim of the guidance was to streamline processes both for HSW and for contractors. If this is not happening then it will be revisited.

### 2.3 Contractor Event

Due to the high volume of queries resulting from the recent guidance released from WAG IM&T and HSW CPW wish to offer contractors the opportunity to attend and evening to address their issues around this subject. CPW will host and facilitate the event and it will be attended by HSW and WAG IM&T, where you will be able to address your questions.

CPW invites expressions of interest in advance in order to arrange appropriate venues. It is intended to hold the evenings in July for Mid & West and South East Wales and September for North Wales. If you wish to attend please register your interest by emailing: [events@cpwales.org.uk](mailto:events@cpwales.org.uk) or by faxing 029 20 442071

CPW is also compiling further example questions for the event. If you have any questions you would like addressed at the event please email them to [2drx@cpwales.org.uk](mailto:2drx@cpwales.org.uk).

### 3. Swine flu updates

- Contractors should be receiving regular updates from both WAG and their LHBs, if this is not the case then please contact your LHB.

- Daily updates and newsfeeds are available from:

HOWIS swine flu update for Wales on the WAG website on a daily basis;  
<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/health/protection/communicabledisease/swine/?lang=en>  
and the National Public Health Service website <http://www.nphs.wales.nhs.uk/>.

### 4. Business continuity plan

CPW would like to remind contractors to ensure they have adequate service continuity plans in place that give specific consideration to the possible effects of a flu pandemic. Guidance advises contractors that they should try to maintain business as usual with the emphasis on ensuring patient safety and the supply of medicines for those with long term conditions.

Contractors may already be aware of the guidance that was prepared by the RPSGB, PSNC and CPW to aid pharmacies in preparing for emergencies. It outlines what a continuity plan is and how to go about creating one. There is also a service impact checklist that provides useful pointers that should be considered when creating a continuity plan.

The guidance is available at <http://www.rpsgb.org.uk/pdfs/servcontplanguid.pdf> NPA members can also find advice on contingency plans through NPA that gives specific consideration to the effects on business of a flu pandemic.