



CPW South East REGIONAL NEWS UPDATE

October 2009

"Community Pharmacy Wales; the face and voice of community pharmacies in Wales"

All Change for Community Pharmacy

In recent months we have seen significant changes to key appointments within the world of community pharmacy.

Within CPW itself we have a new Chief Executive Officer in post, Russell Goodway, who says - "The prospect of leading the team to develop Community Pharmacy in Wales is both exciting and challenging. Initially I plan to concentrate my time meeting with members across Wales and finding out first hand their needs and priorities. I am looking forward to working closely with the Board and Regional Committees in agreeing and shaping the plans for CPW's future".

Russell joins CPW during a period of considerable change within the NHS. The restructuring of the NHS in Wales offers huge potential opportunity for the community pharmacy sector in Wales. The CPW South East Regional Committee is committed to taking a central role in influencing and shaping the change agenda on behalf of its members.

Meetings have taken place with some of the newly appointed health board personnel to ensure community pharmacy is engaged at the outset as a key player.

In addition to the above changes Paul Gimson, CPW's former Chief Executive Officer has become the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Director for Wales. We wish Paul every success in his new post.

**Your CPW SE
Members:**

Chairman:

Raj Aggarwal OBE

Vice-Chairman:

John McGrath

Lyn Aubrey

Huw Bradley

Richard Connick

Steve Davies

Marc Donovan

Allan Gilbert

Mark Griffiths

Paul Harris

Paul Mayberry

Chris Perrington

Dave Thomas

Community Pharmacy Ministerial Task and Finish Group

At the invitation of the Minister of Health and Social Services, a Task and Finish group has been set up to examine key community pharmacy areas with the following terms of reference:

"To review the provision of Pharmacy Services in Wales and bring final recommendations aimed at improving efficiency, effectiveness and value for money of Pharmacy Services in Wales while maintaining a focus on improving Patient outcomes"

The Group currently consists of: Chris Martin, Raj Aggarwal, Paul Gimson, Ian Cowan, Berwyn Owen, Mel Evans (Ministerial Representative on the National Advisory Board) and Stefan Fec (Secretariat).

The group has produced an interim report (available from CPW office) which has been considered and accepted by the National Advisory Board. Paul Williams, Chief Executive, NHS Wales also wrote to all the former Local Health Boards and Trusts endorsing this report and asking them to support the work of this group. The Minister has

commended this report and asked the group to continue as a strategic delivery group for implementation.

Key recommendations in the report include:

- Creating Directed Enhanced Services for ALL WALES in Smoking Cessation, Sexual Health, Supervision of Methadone and Subutex, Syringe and Needle Exchange;
- Standardising Service Specification and Service Level Agreements, Claim Forms, Training and Accreditation;
- Implementing measures to reduce pharmaceutical waste by increasing Repeat Dispensing uptake and a move towards 28 day prescribing;
- Creating and managing an All Wales Database of Pharmacies and Pharmacist Accreditation.

CRB Checks

CRB Checks – Some LHBs have been considering asking contractors to pay for CRB checks associated with enhanced services.

CPW SE committee does not support contractors paying for such CRB checks under any circumstance. The cost of the CRB check was not costed into the fees negotiated as part of any of the enhanced services, and it is CPW's view that the LHBs should bear the cost if they require a CRB check.

Enhanced Services

Smoking Cessation - Services are currently being commissioned in parts of the Aneurin Bevan and Cwm Taff Health Boards. The rate for the service is still the subject of negotiation, however, in order not to delay the service's implementation it was agreed to accept an interim fee. We hope an agreement will be reached on a revised fee via the Ministerial Task and Finish Group which as part of its remit is looking at Directed Enhanced services for Smoking Cessation.

Not Dispensed/Not Required Scheme

You will be aware that a statement was recently issued by CPW voicing concern about the Not Dispensed/ Not Required Schemes, a number of which operate in the south east Wales area.

CPW SE is committed to reducing pharmaceutical waste and believes that one way forward is to increase the uptake of Repeat Dispensing which should reduce waste and enhance patient care, convenience and choice.

H1N1 Flu Vaccination

It is anticipated that the swine flu vaccination will be available shortly for all front line Health and Social Care staff who are in regular clinical contact with patients and directly involved in patient care.

Nationally it has been indicated that community pharmacists and their staff are within the category of frontline health care staff as they are at increased risk of infection and of transmitting that infection to susceptible patients. Protecting pharmacy staff will help keep the normal supply chain of medicine operating and enable flu sufferers to purchase any self care remedies they require.

2dRx Bar Codes

Following the July 2009 Roadshows, CPW has been working with Health Solutions Wales (HSW) and WAG Information Management & Technology (IM&T) around the feedback received. A contractor sample workshop was run during October which involved a trial of suggestions. Resulting guidance will hopefully be distributed during January 2010.

Until new guidance is issued contractors should continue to sort and submit their prescriptions as previously.

Responsible Pharmacist - Implications regarding Terms of Service Issues.

PSNC Advises:

The Responsible Pharmacist Regulations which were implemented on 1 October 2009 were achieved through the amendment of medicines legislation. However, no changes have been made to NHS Pharmaceutical Services Regulations, including the terms of service for community pharmacy contractors.

PSNC has asked the Department of Health for its stance on the extent to which an NHS pharmacy can operate, during the absence of a pharmacist (for example, during the permitted absence of the Responsible Pharmacist). It has confirmed that the current Terms of Service were formulated (through negotiation with PSNC) on the basis that a pharmacist would be present at all times that the pharmacy is open for the provision of pharmaceutical services. This was the position during negotiations, as the Medicines Act 1968, required a pharmacist to be in personal control - and this had been interpreted as meaning on the pharmacy premises. The Department of Health has not had discussions with PSNC about whether the Terms of Service should be amended in the light of the coming into force of the Responsible Pharmacist Regulations, and therefore NHS pharmacies should continue to have a pharmacist on the premises at all times that NHS pharmaceutical services are being provided. This is the case during both the core and declared supplementary hours.

Department of Health and PSNC have issued this statement - "Introduction of the responsible pharmacist requirements have been achieved through the amendment of medicines legislation. No changes have been made to NHS Pharmaceutical Services Regulations, including the terms of service for community pharmacy contractors. The Department of Health and the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee will undertake a review of the community pharmacy contractual framework and NHS Pharmaceutical Services Regulations in light of the responsible pharmacist changes to medicines legislation."

For further information and updates contact PSNC (Tel: 01296 432 823) or view the Responsible Pharmacist section of the PSNC website www.psnc.org.uk This section provides links to useful resources and includes frequently asked questions.

Contractor Communications

We are pleased to state that we are now in receipt of most contractors' email addresses and that the majority of you will have received this communication by email. Please inform margaret.mckee@cpwales.org.uk if there is a change to your email address or any other of your contact details.

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