

**Letter to all community pharmacies in Torbay**

**26<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Dear Colleague

**Respiratory MURs**

You may be aware that the Torbay Practice Based Commissioning Board has been working in partnership with the Torbay Care Trust and Devon LPC to review ways in which community pharmacy can support patients with long term conditions.

As Torbay has a higher than average rate of admissions to hospital relating to asthma and COPD, it has been agreed to focus on one of the key non compliant patient groups whose asthma is less well controlled or could become uncontrolled and to demonstrate the benefits through an evaluation process.

Initially, the focus will be on asthma patients who do not attend their GP practice based asthma clinics. Practices will be asked to refer patients who may need extra support with controlling their asthma medication or their inhaler technique to the patient's regular pharmacy for a Medicines Use Review.

Support from the pharmaceutical industry has been gained to provide training and resources to the community pharmacies participating in this initiative. Pharmacists will be able to claim the standard MUR fee in the usual way.

**Resources provided to support delivery of the service:**

- In-Check device and mouthpieces
- Placebo devices
- AIMs machines for a targeted number of pharmacies located in areas of identified need.
- Pharmacy team information leaflets
- Asthma control test to score control of condition
- Patient information leaflets

**Training**

A training event has been arranged for the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2010 and will be held at the Devonshire Suite in the Grand Hotel in Torquay; starting with a buffet at 7.00 pm, the workshop will start at 7.30 pm. The speakers will be Lee Dobson, Respiratory Consultant at the South Devon Healthcare Trust and Jon Bell, Independent consultant and expert speaker on inhaler devices. The initiative is being supported through educational grants from GSK, Teva UK, Astra Zeneca and Clement Clarke.

A second workshop focusing on COPD will be held later in the year (date to be confirmed) supported through an educational grant from Pfizer.



The session will include:

- Updates on the condition, treatment options and local and national management guidelines
- A Session on how to get the best from inhalers
- Audit and evaluation process

This is an excellent opportunity for community pharmacists to start working in partnership with their local GP practices and to become integrated to the local patient care pathway for this group of patients. For those of you who have read the new NHS White Paper, it also reinforces the role of community pharmacy in ensuring patients get the best from their medicines.

The initiative is open to all community pharmacies in Torbay Care Trust who are already providing MURs.

We would appreciate it if you could return the attached form to the Devon LPC Secretariat to indicate your interest in taking part in this initiative and whether you will be attending the workshop on the 9<sup>th</sup> September. If you do wish to participate, it is important that at least one pharmacist from your pharmacy attends, and if possible a senior member of your team, to ensure that the information may be cascaded down to the team to raise awareness of the initiative.

An extra copy of this letter is enclosed for your regular locums. Could you please ensure they are aware of this training?

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact either Karen O'Brien on 07595 466653 or Sue Taylor on 01392 834022.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Sue Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed within a hand-drawn oval border.

Sue Taylor (Mrs)  
Chief Officer



**Torbay Practice Based Commissioning Board Initiative for Respiratory Medicines Use Reviews**  
**Working in partnership with the Torbay Care Trust and Devon Local Pharmaceutical Committee**

**Expressions of Interest in participating in the Respiratory MUR Programme:**

**I am / am not interested in taking part.**

*(delete as applicable)*

**Name of Pharmacy:**

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**Telephone Number:.....**

**E:mail Address:**

**I will be attending the workshop on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

**Yes / No (delete as applicable)**

**Please faxback to Sue Taylor, Chief Officer, Devon LPC, Deer Park Business Centre, Haldon Hill,  
Exeter; Fax Number: 01392 833336 or email to [sue@devonlpc.org](mailto:sue@devonlpc.org).**

**Please return by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2010**