



Welcome!

Here (at last) is the first edition of our newsletter.

No doubt your letterbox will have been full to bursting lately with all the letters from the PCT! We have listened to your feedback about being kept informed on pharmacy performance, and we now regularly send out updates and feedback on LES performance and Public Health Campaigns.

In the interest of saving a few trees, we will endeavour to include much of this feedback in this quarterly newsletter in future.

I also cover all this and more at the Community Pharmacy Forums, so do please come along to the next ones in September. Details are on the calendar on the back cover.

If there are any other topics you'd like us to cover in the newsletter, please let me know. Contact details for the entire pharmacy team are overleaf.

Solveig Sansom
Primary Care Manager (Pharmacy)

Forced Closure

Sometimes you may have to close your pharmacy for a short period of time for unavoidable reasons, i.e. staff sickness. If this is the case, please remember to notify both the PCT and the local GP surgeries immediately, and to put a notice on the door signposting patients to the nearest alternative pharmacy.

If the closure happens out of hours, then please do still notify the PCT, but also notify Devon Doctors on Call so they may inform their patients accordingly.

To notify the PCT tel: 01392 267606
To notify Devon Doctors on Call
tel: 01392 823 636

Multi-Disciplinary Audit

The subject for the next Multi-disciplinary audit will be "as directed", planned for September / October. It will also be repeated in early 2010.

Swine Flu

All community pharmacies should be receiving regular Swine Flu updates from the PCT, either by fax or email.

Distribution Centres

Devon PCT has identified 11 distribution centres to act as first-line collection points for anti-viral medication. A patient diagnosed as suffering from H1N1v influenza will be given a reference number, and will need to nominate a "flu friend" to collect the medication from the distribution centre.

Community pharmacies are not being used as distribution centres for Devon PCT.

Dispensing anti-virals as prophylaxis

Prophylaxis should not ordinarily be given to the contact of a case of H1N1v infection. However, GPs can use clinical judgement where risk is identified to particularly vulnerable individuals. In this instance, the patient will be issued with an FP10 prescription for anti-viral medication, which should be dispensed by a nominated community pharmacy.

Devon PCT has identified those pharmacies closest to the distribution centres to hold a small stock of AV medication ***for prophylaxis only.***

Details of distribution centres and pharmacies dispensing anti-virals as prophylaxis are listed on the regular PCT flu updates.

If you have not received any PCT flu updates, please contact Ben Johnson on 01392 267 605.

Public Health Campaigns

We are coming to the end of the **Skin Cancer Awareness Campaign** which ran throughout July. Please take a few minutes to return the evaluation form to our colleagues in Public Health. Evaluation is really only useful when we have a high enough number of responses. If you need another evaluation form, please contact Denise Veen on 01884 836000.

The next Public Health Campaign will be Stroke Awareness, and will run throughout September.

Stop Smoking LES

*Did you know that the payment under the Stop Smoking LES is for providing patients with **behavioural support** to stop smoking, and is not related to any stop smoking medication the patient chooses to use (if any)?*

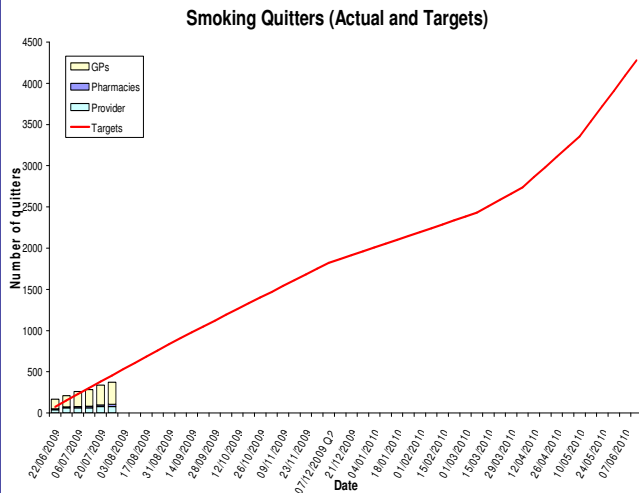
If your patient wishes to use Varenicline (Champix®) or Bupropion (Zyban®), then simply fill out a prescription request letter and ask the patient to take it to their GP for clinical assessment. This is the same system the PCT specialist advisers use, and it does not mean the GP will receive the LES payment. However, the GP may decide that the product chosen is not suitable, in which case you will need to discuss alternatives with the patient.

Smoking Payments

You should by now have received the new claim forms, showing VAT-inclusive prices for NRT products. Please destroy the old forms, and replace with the new ones – it will ensure your payments are processed as quickly as possible.

Current Smoking Performance

As of mid-July, 371 smokers have been successfully supported to quit either by their GP, the specialist service or by a pharmacy adviser. That means we are a fraction below our target as shown on the graph below:



For any stop smoking LES enquiries, including training dates, please call Lucy Morris on 01392 267714.

For help and advice on supporting patients to quit, please call the Devon Stop Smoking Support Line on 0845 111 11 42

Minor Injuries

Please note that not all GP surgeries offer a Minor Injuries Service, and that in some cases patients will need to be signposted to the local Minor Injuries Unit.

The following GP practices **do** offer a Minor Injuries Service:

Area	Practice
Mid	Blackdown, Witheridge
S Hams	Yealm, Ivybridge, Wembury, Highlands
North	Hartland, East Street, South Molton, Holsworthy, Bradworthy Shebbear, Wallingbrook, Black Torrington, Castle Gardens, Torrington

A list of all Minor Injury Units can be found on the PCT website: www.devonpct.nhs.uk

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PHARMACY FORUMS (7PM – 9.30PM)

• NORTH DEVON

TUESDAY 8TH SEPT THE CEDARS HOTEL, BARNSTAPLE

• SOUTH DEVON

WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPT GLAZEBROOK HOUSE HOTEL, SOUTH BRENT

• EXETER

WEDNESDAY 23RD SEPT THE DEVON HOTEL, EXETER

The forums will include a PCT update, details for the alcohol awareness campaign, and Child Protection training.

PCT PHARMACY CONTACTS

Smoking, MURs, Waste & general enquiries:

Lucy Morris

Email: lucymorris@nhs.net Tel: 01392 267114

Out of Hours, 100 hours & Closures:

Dasa Miklosovicova

Email: dmiklosovicova@nhs.net Tel: 01392 267606

EHC & general enquiries:

Kevin Bishop

Email: kjbishop@nhs.net Tel: 01392 267712

Deputy Primary Care Manager, Chlamydia LES & general enquiries:

Caroline Curtis

Email: caroline.curtis@nhs.net Tel: 01392 267731

Primary Care Manager:

Solveig Sansom

Email: solveig.sansom@nhs.net Tel: 01392 267115

Postal enquiries:

**Devon PCT, The Annexe, County Hall
Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QL**