



Devon Cluster News – December 2011

Cluster Arrangements

You may be aware that NHS Devon, Torbay Care Trust and NHS Plymouth have recently come together under new 'cluster' arrangements to take forward the Government's NHS reforms.

Ann James has been appointed Chief Executive of the cluster executive team. Dr David Radford has been appointed to chair the combined commissioning board for the NHS in Devon, Plymouth and Torbay. Graham Lockerbie has also been appointed as the Medical Director for the cluster. The team will be also be made up of a Director of Nursing; a Director of Finance and a Director of Commissioning Development.

The purpose of the clustering arrangement are to support the transition and at the same time identify and realise opportunities for more cohesive and efficient ways of working across boundaries. It is also aimed at providing stability during this turbulent time in the NHS.

The primary care pharmacy teams in Devon, Torbay & Plymouth are now working more closely together in line with the cluster recommendations with the aim of becoming a pharmacy team working across the whole of Devon. This process is ongoing and we are currently identifying areas of joint working and how we can best utilise the resources available to us, whilst ensuring we don't lose the local focus we currently have. For the time being your local PCT contacts for NHS Devon, NHS Plymouth and Torbay Care Trusts respectively remain unchanged. The pharmacy team will issue an updated list contact details, outlining who is responsible for the different areas of work when the process we are undertaking has been completed.

Christmas and New Year Opening Hours

Hard copies of the final Christmas and New Year rotas have been sent to everyone across Devon; please ensure this information is displayed in your windows to let patients know who is open. You have also been sent a poster, to display in your pharmacy, to remind patients to order their repeat medicines in good time before the Christmas period.

If you have not received a copy of your local out of hours rota or the repeat medicines poster please contact;

NHS Devon - Helen Baker helenbaker1@nhs.net 01392 267715

Torbay Care Trust – Tricia Cotton tricia.cotton@nhs.net 01803 210542

NHS Plymouth – Stacey Burch stacey.burch@nhs.net 01752 434940

New Medicines Service(NMS) / Targeted MURs

So far 85% of pharmacies across the whole of in Devon are accredited to provide NMS, if you have yet to complete your NMS Contractor Declaration Form and wish to take part in the service, please ensure you return the form to your usual PCT office as soon as possible. As you will be aware each participating pharmacy will need to complete a quarterly monitoring excel report for the NMS and Targeted MURs; The reporting template which was developed by NHS Employers and the PSNC should be sent to PCTs within 10 working days from the last day of June, September, December and March.

A letter will be sent to all pharmacy contractors in the next few days outlining the process for submitting the information to the PCT. It is worth noting that the pharmacies using the Pharmabase system will be able to produce an excel spreadsheet populated with the required information; all other pharmacies will need to use the template excel spreadsheet which we will provide.

Chlamydia Screening Training

There will be a Chlamydia Screening LES training session at the LPC Offices at Deer Park on the **14th December 2011 at 7pm**. If you are providing this service and have not had any local training this year please call Lucy on 01392 267714 or email lucymorris@nhs.net to confirm your attendance.