

Covid-19 Newsletter

Issue. 52

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Welcome to the latest edition of the Covid-19 newsletter. We will be issuing this newsletter to general practice on a regular basis to give you the latest updates and guidance. This is in place of the Weekly Inbox, publication of which has been suspended.

Previous issues – with attachments and [other useful links and resources](#) can be found [here](#). Clicking this link will not just give you access to archived newsletters but enable to access all the past resources and separate attachments plus a wealth of other resources that may not be in the newsletters. So please give it a go!

<p>Medicines Management Survey Reminder - IMPORTANT RESPONSE NEEDED</p>	<p>Work is currently being undertaken to identify the work and support that is already being provided to care homes by healthcare professionals within the system and the CCG. Please could you complete the following survey to assist with this work by Friday 3 July. This information will help to inform the development of future support to both care homes and the pharmacy staff working with them. Thank you.</p> <p>https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ZPPHG7X</p>
<p>Infection prevention and control</p>	<p>Please see <i>attached</i> biogs for Heather Dakin and Jane Beckford, our newly appointed infection prevention and control advisers.</p> <p>Meet our Infection Prevention and Control Advisers</p>
<p>SystemOne practices</p>	<p>SystemOne practices will now start to receive electronic notifications of urgent supplies of medicines, provided by community pharmacies as part of the Community Pharmacy Consultation Service (CPCS) as a workflow task. This means you can add the urgent supply information directly to a patient's record without having to transcribe this information manually. You will still receive the full details in a PDF document and can add any additional information to the patient record manually as appropriate. The patient's Summary Care Record (SCR) will also be updated automatically. This will save time for GP practices and pharmacies, help to improve data quality, and reduce the likelihood of transcribing errors. Because the urgent supply details can be added to the record as soon as the notification is received, information will be more up to date. In the unlikely event that the electronic message cannot be sent, pharmacies may revert to their existing processes, so please continue to check for notifications received via NHSmail, fax or post. The content of the electronic notification is based on the pharmacy information flows data standard developed in partnership with the Professional Record Standards Body (PRSB). The PRSB worked with clinicians from across primary care to develop and endorse the standard which covers vaccinations, the emergency supply of medicines and other community pharmacy services. At the moment, only pharmacies using the Sonar Informatics system are able to send notifications in this way. See system guidance from TPP, which has been provided alongside a training video. Information is also available on the NHS Digital website.</p>
<p>RCGP Greener Practice webinars</p>	<p>Please see below information regarding two free webinars coming up in July. The 2020/21 GP Contract includes a target for PCNs to reduce metered dose inhaler prescribing and so the first webinar in particular may be helpful to PCN pharmacists or other clinicians involved in this.</p> <p>1. Reducing the Environmental Impact of Inhaler Prescribing with Dr James Smith</p> <p>Friday 10 July 1:00 – 2:00PM</p> <p>https://rcgportal.force.com/s/lt-event?id=a1U1i000001nuT7EAI&site=a0d0Y00000AeOP6QAN</p> <p>Inhalers for asthma and COPD have a disproportionate climate impact due to the propellant gases found in metered dose inhalers. In this webinar James will examine current inhaler prescribing patterns and why changing these in the UK is so important in our efforts to address climate change.</p> <p>He will discuss what actions GPs can undertake to address this at the individual, practice and CCG level. He will also reflect on the media response to the paper he published with colleagues on this subject in 2019 and consider how this might inform our future actions.</p>

	<p>2. Understanding the carbon footprint of primary care & taking action to reduce it with Dr Matthew Sawyer</p> <p>Friday 17 July 1:00 - 2:00PM</p> <p>https://rcgportal.force.com/s/lt-event?id=a1U1i000001nxG5EAI&site=a0d0Y00000AeOP6QAN</p> <p>The NHS is one of the largest public sector emitters of greenhouse gases in the world as healthcare interventions are surprisingly carbon intensive. The emissions from the NHS are not much lower than those for aviation or agriculture. We have an ethical and economic obligations to decrease our impact on the environment when improving health outcomes for our patients. In the UK, we have target of net-zero greenhouse gases emissions by 2050.</p> <p>Matt will use this webinar to examine the carbon hotspots in primary care and how we can improve patient care, reducing our damaging footprint while saving money. He will show some of the practical solutions which are already available - we just need to act and implement them in our daily practice.</p>
<p>Embrace Artificial Intelligence (AI)</p>	<p>The Eastern Academic Science Health Network (EASHN) has been working with a local innovator to launch a beta version of <i>Medwise.ai</i>, a new AI-powered online tool borne out of the need for clinicians working outside of their speciality area to quickly access the very latest information about treating COVID-19 and share best practices to support patient care quickly. Medwise.ai is a clinically curated AI-powered platform that provides free and fast access to official guidelines and best practice and has been awarded a UK Government grant to further develop its platform during the COVID-19 crisis. Eastern AHSN has supported the innovation in developing the open access tool as a way of supporting clinicians with coronavirus.</p> <p>Read the full story and access Medwise.ai here.</p>
<p>Physiotherapy survey</p>	<p>NHSE/I and the NHS Commissioning Support Unit have been working with the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy and partners to support the national mobilisation of MSK First Contact Physiotherapists (FCPs). They are looking for your help to understand the ways in which physiotherapists are currently working in general practice in England, in particular the range of working patterns, how many physios in general practice are FCPs, what bands they are, and who physiotherapists are most commonly employed by when working in general practice. This information will help them to understand how mobilisation is progressing and what trends are emerging as delivery models are being implemented. Please could you take 10 minutes to complete this survey to let them know more about the work you are doing. All responses will be anonymous.</p>
<p>CCG stakeholder update</p>	<p>Please click here to view the latest stakeholders video update from Dr Ed Garratt, Chief Executive of the NHS Ipswich & East Suffolk, NHS West Suffolk and NHS North East Essex CCGs and Executive Lead for the Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care System.</p>

If have any questions or important information to share in the next edition, please contact [Caroline Procter](#).

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Visit the [CCG Covid-19 webpage](#) where you can find many [other useful links and resources](#)