



LPC Newsletter

Issue Number 137 - 1st September 2011

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Dear All...

Following my absence from regular LPC duties for what seems like an eternity (actually just over two weeks) due firstly to minor surgery and then holiday it has become apparent that there is much to tell you about that won't wait until after your LPC meets again on the 14th September. So this will be a short but important update on what's happening in the world of Community Pharmacy locally and nationally - look out for a further update later this month! *Peter*

Don't forget - more news, events and links are always available on the LPC website:

www.southstaffslpc.co.uk

Healthy Living Pharmacies

Following our request for expressions of interest from pharmacies to register to become Healthy Living Pharmacies (HLPs) we now have almost 50 of our pharmacies signed up, which is great - however to maximise the impact of this initiative we ideally would like another 15-20 pharmacies involved - if you attended the recent contractor meetings to find out more about HLPs and haven't yet sent in your Expression of Interest form then please do so **as soon as possible**, as training for staff to become Health Trainer Champions and Leadership skills for their pharmacists will be starting early in the autumn.

If you attended the July workshops then further copies of the EoI form can be obtained by emailing peter.southstaffslpc@gmail.com; if you weren't able to attend the workshops but would still like to take part then email Ruth at goldsteinruth@aol.com and she will contact you to give you more information...

CPPE guide on targeting MURs

Community pharmacy teams can prepare themselves for changes in the Medicines Use Review (MUR) service with a new guide from the Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE): *Targeting your MURs more effectively*.

From 1 October 2011, half of the MURs undertaken in pharmacies must be with patients from national target groups. CPPE's new downloadable guide helps learners to explore ways of targeting those patients who will benefit most from MURs, identify key medicines usage issues and improve the quality of the MURs they undertake. The guide also lists key national resources and refers to real life cases where MURs have been targeted effectively.

The LPC are holding a workshop on the New Medicine Service and National Target Groups for MURs later this month - please see further details on page 3. The CPPE distance learning programme to support pharmacist preparation for the New Medicine Service is being mailed out to pharmacists and pre-registration students and should arrive by 7th September; registered technicians can download a copy of the programme from CPPE website. PSNC has also just published a PowerPoint presentation on the NMS - this can be downloaded from the PSNC website at <http://www.psnc.org.uk/pages/nms.html> in its original format or PDF version.



ARE YOU AHEAD OF THE GAME? If you are, you already know that the best way to hear about all updates from PSNC is to sign up for PSNC email alerts; just visit their website page... http://www.psn.org.uk/email_signup.php Just complete the details and you'll then start receiving the alerts in your inbox...alternatively, if you use Twitter, you can follow PSNC (@PSNCNews) and South Staffs LPC (@southstaffslpc).

Supplies of Evotrox Suspension

There are currently issues with the supply of Evotrox suspension.

Kappin Ltd confirms that Evotrox 100mcg/5ml Oral Solution has been discontinued. Evotrox 25mcg/5ml Oral Solution and Evotrox 50mcg/5ml Oral Solution will continue to be available however, there have been recent supply problems with both strengths.

Levothyroxine sodium oral solution sugar free is listed in Part VIII of the Drug Tariff with reimbursement based on Evotrox. The 100mcg strength has been discontinued and will be removed from Part VIII in due course.

If you have been unable to obtain the licensed product and wish to supply a special, to ensure correct reimbursement the prescription needs to be amended by the prescriber to specify the name of the specials manufacturer. The prescription should be fully endorsed and placed in the appropriate red separator for submission to NHS Prescription Services.

For the latest update on the supply situation contact Kappin medical information on 0208 961 8511.

Nystan Oral Suspension Supply

Bristol-Myers Squibb have advised there is an anticipated shortage of Nystan Oral Suspension 100,000 units/ml (Nystatin) with supply being constrained from July 2011 until December 2011. During this period supply may be intermittent. Generic equivalents are available.

Bristol-Myers Squibb issued the following statement:

"Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals UK is working to ensure the disruption to supply is kept to a minimum. The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency and Department of Health have been informed of this issue which relates to the supply of the pipettes used to administer Nystan.

For medical-related enquiries, please contact our Medical Information Department on 0800 7311 736.

For supply related enquiries, please contact our Customer Services on 01244 586250.

We regret any inconvenience caused by this unexpected shortage in supply."

NHS Choices Self-editable Profiles and Patient Feedback

Every pharmacy delivering NHS care in England has a profile presence (mini-website) on the NHS Choices website (www.nhs.uk). The information on these profiles has, until now, been provided by the PCT or through information services within the NHS. Pharmacy contractors can now register to take ownership of their pharmacy profiles and edit information such as opening hours, services offered and car parking arrangements.

Since the NHS Choices website launch in 2007, patients have been able to post online feedback about their hospital experience. The patient feedback functionality was extended to GP practices in 2009 and to dental practices at the end of 2010. In September, this will also be extended to pharmacies and optician practices. Your LPC is working with the PCT to help contractors registering to edit their NHS Choices profiles and respond patient feedback; the deadline for registration in this initial phase is **9th September 2011** - if you haven't yet done so, a contact email address to be registered for this service should be sent to Karen Souster at the South Staffordshire Health Informatics Service: karen.souster@southstaffshis.nhs.uk. Please note that for most, if not all, CCA and AIMp companies this function will be undertaken by your head office team, and for employees of these companies we recommend speaking to your line manager before contacting Karen to register.

A full briefing on self-editable profiles and patient feedback about pharmacies can be found in the NHS Choices section of the PSNC website - click on <http://tinyurl.com/3kn9hbx>. Information has also been provided in the August edition of *Community Pharmacy News*. Further information about local registration after the 9th September deadline will appear both in the next edition of the LPC Newsletter and on the LPC website www.southstaffslpc.co.uk. If in the meantime you want any further guidance email Peter Prokopa peter.southstaffslpc@gmail.com or call him on 07870 214487.

Service Development Report - Dr Ruth Goldstein

Autumn Training - dates for your diary!

Dear all, there is so much happening at the moment - as Peter mentioned on the front page we have still to plan dates for training sessions for those members of support staff who will be training to become Health Trainer Champions, and for the associated Leadership Skills training for their pharmacists - look out for more details in the next Newsletter and on the LPC website for these. What we have got planned are the following sessions...as usual booking will be through the "Doodle" on-line system, but if you can't access this then you can:

- email your booking to peter.southstaffslpc@gmail.com or
- call Peter on 01785 715460 or
- text the name and venue of the workshop plus your name and pharmacy to 07870 214487

New Medicines Service and National Target Groups for MURs

This workshop will support pharmacists and support staff to prepare for these new NHS services which start on 1st October, and will complement the CPPE distance learning pack being sent to pharmacists early in September. We will focus on

- The structured interviewing techniques for NMS
- Practicalities of engaging with GP practices for both NMS and targetted MURs
- Brief overview of the PharmaBase recording module
- Clinical updates associated with the National Target Groups for MURs

The appropriate dates are below; as there is a lot to get through these workshops will start at 7.15pm prompt with food available from 6.45pm. We expect they will finish at around 9.45pm.

- Tuesday 20th September - PCT Office, Edwin House, Centrum 100, Burton
- Thursday 22nd September - Wiggin Centre, Robert Peel Hospital, Tamworth
- Wednesday 28th September - West Locality - **venue to be confirmed**

Doodle link - <http://www.doodle.com/9hz8dz5tg3cs9cgg>

Support for Substance Misuse Clients

This workshop is being run by Addaction and will provide pharmacists and particularly support staff with further information and guidance on helping these clients with not only direct support in relation to their substance misuse problems but also consequential healthcare issues.

These workshops will start at 7.30pm with food available from 7.00pm on the following dates:

- Thursday 6th October - Wiggin Centre, Robert Peel Hospital, Tamworth
- Tuesday 11th October - PCT Office, Edwin House, Centrum 100, Burton
- Wednesday 12th October - West Locality - **venue to be confirmed**

Doodle link - <http://doodle.com/dvdrke59p5i28tfe>

Medicines, Alcohol and Road Safety

There has been some publicity recently in the news about driving whilst taking prescribed or OTC medicines, and Staffordshire County Council are keen to highlight this issue to the public through pharmacies. This workshop will help pharmacists and support staff to deliver appropriate messages to patients and the Council will be providing free posters & leaflets. In addition, there will also be a discussion on alcohol and driving. **This workshop supports work ongoing to implement Healthy Living Pharmacies - if you have registered to move your pharmacy towards being an HLP then it will be particularly useful.**

- Wednesday 9th November - West Locality - **venue to be confirmed**
- Thursday 10th November - Wiggin Centre, Robert Peel Hospital, Tamworth
- Tuesday 22nd November - PCT Office, Edwin House, Centrum 100, Burton

Doodle link - <http://www.doodle.com/ne8dsimurkf6frf5>

Please - if you reserve a place at one of these sessions and find you are not able to attend let us know either by phone, text or email so that catering can be adjusted or a place offered to another person if necessary.

Remember...as we are moving towards a new world of commissioning and delivering service we are keen to run pharmacy training evenings that are relevant to what you need. Please let me know what topics you would find useful from September on for us to focus on. Please send all ideas to me, Ruth Goldstein, ideally by email on goldsteinruth@aol.com or call 07976216326 - these are contact details for any Service query too.

Ruth

South Staff; PCT News...

Christmas and New Year Opening...

This is just a reminder that if you plan to amend your opening hours over the Christmas and New Year holidays in 2011 then it is vitally important that you contact your PCT Primary Care Administrator as soon as possible to either apply to amend Core hours or advise them of amendments to Supplementary hours - this MUST be done with a minimum 90 days' notice which for Christmas will be 23rd September 2011 or 30th September for New Year. A full chart detailing contractual opening requirements was printed in the June edition of the LPC Newsletter. If you need any further guidance, see <http://tinyurl.com/37a2rnd> or email Peter Prokopa peter.southstaffslpc@gmail.com

EPS Release 2 Update...

EPS Release 2 Deployment in GPs

It is great to hear that many pharmacies have or are about to upgrade their PMR systems to EPS R2; unfortunately GP systems are not progressing so quickly. The PCT has asked us to remind you that they will announce when GP systems upgrade to Release 2, so please wait for this information to be provided and do not contact individual practices direct to ask! Pharmacy EPS Packs

You will be able access the files which constitute the Pharmacy Packs on the LPC website from next week; apologies for the delay in this however all pharmacies should now have received their hard-copies. Please note that as work is continuing on these documents they will not be updated by hardcopy, only electronically via the website.

EPS R2 Smartcard Application Evenings

Dawn Greensmith, PCT IT Lead has organised two further EPS R2 Smartcard application evenings for new applicants at the PCT offices within Springfields Health & Wellbeing Centre, Lovatt Court, Rugeley WS12 2FH between 6-8pm on 22nd September and 20th October 2011. Please call Dawn on 01889 571394 if you wish to attend on one of these dates. The relevant forms are available on the LPC website <http://southstaffslpc.co.uk/EPS-Release-2/View-category> EPS R2 Queries?

If you have any specific queries on EPS R2 deployment or smartcard issues please email EPSteam@southstaffspct.nhs.uk For general support on EPS R2 you can also email peter.southstaffslpc@gmail.com

LPC Contacts

Please note that the LPC Office moved on 31st May - any correspondence should now be addressed to:

South Staffordshire LPC, Meeson House, 76 Pinfold Lane, Penkridge, Stafford ST19 5AP

The telephone and fax number is 01785 715460; Peter's email address and mobile number are unchanged.

Members and Officers details are below. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you need help - for non-urgent queries, please use email whenever possible. Thanks!

		Representing	Telephone	e-mail
Chairman	Steve Bullock	IND	01543 432456	spgn.bullock@btinternet.com
Vice Chairman	Martin Wilson	CCA	07834 090648	mwilsonpharmacist@yahoo.co.uk
Chief Operations Officer	Peter Prokopa		07870 214487	peter.southstaffslpc@gmail.com
Service Development Officer	Ruth Goldstein		07976 216326	goldsteinruth@aol.com
Treasurer	Phil Galt	CCA	01782 638009	pgalt@cornwells.co.uk
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