



**Community  
Pharmacy  
Leicestershire  
& Rutland**

**REGIONAL & LOCAL NEWS**

**Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT)  
go live with the smoking cessation  
(advanced) service from 1st May 2024**



**From the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2024 Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) will go live with the smoking cessation (advanced) service.**

This means if your pharmacy is registered to provide the service you may receive patient referrals from LPT.

As UHL already do, LPT will provide the estimated discharge data (EDD) within the notes.

LPT will also call the pharmacy once the referral has been made to ensure you pick the referral up.

If you need to access resources or learn about the service click [HERE](#)

## URGENT: Early Spring Bank Holiday Rota

**IMPORTANT:** Access the early May Bank Holiday rota immediately via the provided link.

This rota is subject to potential revisions as the date nears, and any updates will be promptly communicated through the same link.

[Bank Holiday Opening Hours – Community Pharmacy Leicestershire and Rutland](#)

*New!*

## Oriel submission

We have been notified by the National Health Service England (NHSE) regarding the community pharmacy positions entered by contractors on Oriel. It seems that some contractors are currently listed as single sector on Oriel, without indicating how they will deliver the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP).

This raises concerns, as some of these contractors may not have plans in place to meet the criteria.

Unless the contractors affected can resolve this issue, it would be better to remove their posts before Oriel opens to students.

Call to action

### May 2024 DEADLINE TRACKER

Please see the link for this months deadline tracker [HERE and previous trackers.](#)

#### [Monthly Deadline Tracker](#)

To help keep pharmacy teams on track with monthly tasks, quality payments and to meet local and national deadlines. View the latest monthly Community Pharmacy Deadline Tracker here.

[Read More](#)

## Look alike sound alike (LASA) medication errors RESOURCES

Look alike sound alike (LASA) medication errors are situations where two or more medications have names that look or sound very similar; these similarities in names can lead to confusion among healthcare professionals, carers and patients potentially resulting in medication errors.

LASA errors can occur at any stage in prescribing, dispensing and administering medicines. [For example](#), medications with names like clobazam and clonazepam are examples of LASA pairs due to their similar appearances of pronunciations and the wrong medication may be inadvertently selected.

These were highlighted in the [December 2014](#) and [January 2018](#) Drug Safety Updates.

The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) Area Prescribing Committee (APC) would encourage all healthcare professionals working across LLR to make use of these [LASA resources](#) now collated on the [APC website](#) produced by the Community Pharmacy Patient Safety Group (PSG) to reduce the risk of medication errors.

The PSG also produced a short [training video](#) suitable for all those who work with medicines. For those needing more in depth learning the Centre for Postgraduate Pharmacy Education have also produced an [e-learning](#) package. are situations where two or more medications have names that look or sound very similar; these similarities in names can lead to confusion among healthcare professionals, carers and patients potentially resulting in medication errors.

## PHARMACY FIRST - SUPPORT VISITS NOW AVAILABLE

Gareth, Service Development Facilitator, for Community Pharmacy Leicestershire and Rutland is now available every Friday, to support LLR contractors and pharmacies in implementing and embedding the service.

Every Friday Gareth is available to visit your pharmacy and support you with Pharmacy First, whether its answering questions, supporting you and your teams in ensuring you have access to materials and any other issues that may arise.

If you would like Gareth to arrange a visit to your pharmacy please email Gareth directly ; [service.support@leics-lpc.co.uk](mailto:service.support@leics-lpc.co.uk) or click [HERE](#)

To access regional resources and support click [HERE](#)



## COMMUNITY PHARMACY OPEN HOUSE SURGERY

*TELL US WHATS IMPORTANT TO YOU*

**3RD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH  
8PM**



Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 324 095 245 307

Passcode: QatQFJ

OPEN TO ALL  
PHARMACISTS

&

PHARMACY TEAM MEMBERS

## Community Pharmacy Open House Surgery.

Every third Wednesday of every month, Rajshri, Chief Officer at Community Pharmacy Leicestershire, and Rutland invites all LLR Contractors, Pharmacists and Pharmacy Team members to join her and her team to a drop in open house meeting.

To access previous meetings please [click here](#)

This is an opportunity to raise matters that are important to you and discuss regional and national issues directly with her and her administrative team.

Rajshri also provides an update of the workstreams her and team are focusing on across LLR ICB and ICS.

**We welcome all attendees including Pharmacists, Area Managers, Pharmacy Team members and Superintendents.**

**Next meeting on the 15th May 2024 at 8pm. We will be discussing vaccination programmes across LLR including covid.**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

## **Educational Seminar: Practical Hypertension Training for Pharmacy Professionals**

The British and Irish Hypertension Society is organizing an instructive, face-to-face hypertension training session tailored for pharmacy teams.

This pilot "Train the Trainer" style educational event will be conducted at **Novotel, Leicester, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> May.**

Participation is open to community pharmacy staff working in the Midlands region. It is anticipated that attendees will disseminate the acquired knowledge and skills to their respective teams and colleagues. The training will encompass practical techniques for blood pressure measurement using clinic, home, and ambulatory monitors, as well as interpretation and appropriate actions following BP measurement, complemented by scenario-based exercises.

The registration link is [here](#)



## Website updates

We have added new items to our website, including further information on Price concisions [Contractor guidance – Community Pharmacy Leicestershire and Rutland](#)

## NATIONAL NEWS

A gentle reminder that the NHS prescription charge will **[increase to £9.90 per prescription item](#)** from **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024** (note: some items may incur more than one charge).

For **[prescriptions dispensed in April 2024](#)**, the NHS prescription charge will remain at £9.65.

To access up to date posters for you to display in your pharmacy please find links below:

[Prescription Charge Card 2024/25 \(colour\)](#)

[Prescription Charge Card 2024/25 \(black and white\)](#)

[PPC Poster 2024/25 \(colour\)](#)

[PPC Poster 2024/25 \(black and white\)](#)

Prescription charge type	Previous charge (up to 30th April 2024)	New charge (1st May 2024 onwards)	Increase of
Single charge (per prescription item)	£9.65	£9.90	£0.25
HRT PPC (valid for 12 months)	£19.30	£19.80	£0.50
3-month PPC	£31.25	£32.05	£0.80
12-month PPC	£111.60	£114.50	£2.90

In April 2024 NHS England published an [update on the Delivery plan for recovering access to primary care and actions for 2024/25](#). The forthcoming publication of this update was referenced in NHS England's 2024/25 priorities and operational planning guidance. As with the planning guidance, this document is principally aimed at ICBs, but it has some content related to community pharmacy.

NHS England is asking ICBs to report progress against all the elements of the delivery plan in their October or November 2024 public boards, so you may want to keep an eye out for those reports at a local level.

The document is mainly focused on the general practice elements of the recovery plan, but it contains the following content relating to community pharmacy.

### **CPPE Update**

Please find attached the CPPE Spring Newsletter 2024 along with the July-September 2024 Events Flyer  
[CPPE Online Workshops – Community Pharmacy Leicestershire and Rutland](#)

CPPE are opening three more Pharmacy technician impact groups. This fully funded series of supported group learning sets are open to pharmacy technicians who want to develop their skills and confidence to enhance professional practice while working with other pharmacy technicians, supported by a CPPE facilitator.

Further information can be found on our website:  
[Pharmacy technician impact groups : CPPE](#)

### **Flu Vaccination Service 2024/25**



The Flu Vaccination Service specification for 2024/25 has been published by NHS England. To access the service specification please click on the link below:

[Flu vac: NHSE publishes 2024/25 service spec - Community Pharmacy England \(cpe.org.uk\)](https://www.cpe.org.uk)

[NHS England » Policy guidance: conditions for which over the counter items should not be routinely prescribed in primary care](#)

Recent guidance recommendations for items that are available over the counter (OTC) and should not be routinely prescribed in primary care because:

- there is limited evidence of clinical effectiveness for the item
- the item would be prescribed for a condition that is self-limiting and will clear up on its own without the need for treatment
- the item would be prescribed for a condition that is appropriate for self-care.



**Community Pharmacy  
Leicestershire & Rutland  
(CPL&R)**

**Unit B24, 111 Ross Walk,  
Leicester  
LE4 5HH**

**admin@leics-lpc.co.uk**

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