



COMMUNITY PHARMACY HEREFORDSHIRE AND WORCESTERSHIRE

GENERAL UPDATE 2nd July 2026

Information is subject to change and is as accurate as we can ascertain at date published.

If your pharmacy is part of a larger organisation (CCA, IPA), please consult with your HO in relevant matters.

LOCAL/LPC NEWS

A message from our new CEO

As many of you know, Fiona Lowe is retiring from her role as CEO for both Community Pharmacy Arden and Community Pharmacy Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

Conor Price is officially now our new CEO and Fiona is staying on for a while in a reduced capacity as Treasurer/Professional Advisor.

Please read Conor's welcome message to our Contractors: [A message from our new CEO](#)

We are pleased to welcome Conor as our new Chief Executive Officer. Conor brings fresh leadership and a forward-looking vision that will support the continued growth and development of our organisation.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Fiona for her dedication and the significant contributions she made during her tenure as CEO. Her leadership has helped shape the strong foundation we continue to build upon.

Reminder - Hypertension Case-Finding Service

Please could Community Pharmacies be reminded of the service specification for the Hypertension Case-Finding Service, including the eligibility criteria, referral pathways, and recording requirements. A reminder of the key elements of the service will help ensure consistent delivery, support compliance with the specification, and maximise opportunities to identify and manage patients with hypertension.

[Hypertension Case-Finding Service - Community Pharmacy England](#)

REGIONAL/ NATIONAL NEWS



MenB Vaccination: Service Specs Published

NHS England has released the full service specification for the new **Meningococcal B (MenB) Vaccination Service**, following the Department of Health and Social Care's announcement on 12 June. The programme will run as a **time-limited Advanced Service delivered exclusively by community pharmacies**, beginning **20 July 2026**.

Purpose and Target Group

The service aims to protect young people entering higher education settings in autumn 2026. Eligible groups include:

- **Year 13 students** (born 1 Sept 2007–31 Aug 2008)
- **Under-25s starting university or residential FE for the first time**
- **International students under 25 entering their first year**

Around **1 million people** are expected to be eligible.

A digital poster is available [here](#), and leaflets can be ordered [here](#).

Vaccination Requirements

Pharmacies will administer **two doses** of the MenB vaccine, with the second dose given **at least 28 days after the first** and ideally before September 2026. Vaccines will be **centrally supplied** by NHS England.

Funding

Pharmacies opting in will receive:

- **£10.06 per vaccine administered**
- **£300** after delivering the first vaccination
- **£400** if **100+ vaccinations** are completed by **31 March 2027** (*Up to £700 in total, funded from the NHS vaccination budget.*)

Registration

Pharmacy owners must complete an [electronic declaration](#) to participate.

- **Register by 6 July 2026** to appear on NBS from launch and receive timely stock
- **Final registration deadline: 11:59pm on 20 July 2026**
- **Registrations after this date will not be accepted**

Further Information

Pharmacy teams should review the full [service specification](#) and the accompanying [UKHSA/NHS England guidance](#) for detailed operational requirements.

More information from CPE [here](#).



DEADLINE APPROACHING - Pharmacy owners who plan to start offering appointments on NBS for the Meningococcal B (MenB) Vaccination Service from the service commencement date (20th July 2026) must register for the service by next **Monday (6th July 2026)**.

Invitation to register for the webinar on MenB vaccination for Community Pharmacies on Tuesday 7 July, 7-8.15pm

UKHSA and NHS England are hosting a webinar to support Community Pharmacies in delivering the new time-limited MenB vaccination programme, introduced following recent outbreaks. The session will cover eligibility, vaccine delivery, operational guidance, legal requirements, and available resources.

The webinar is aimed at Community Pharmacy teams, commissioners, and other healthcare professionals involved in the programme. It will be held via Microsoft Teams, recorded, and shared with all registered attendees. Those unable to attend live should still register to receive the recording.

Please register your interest in attending this webinar here https://qrco.de/MenB_Webinar

You will also have the opportunity to submit a question in advance for the live Q&A session.



ACTION for community pharmacy contractors- ensuring continuity of pharmacy first services during system outage

1. Confirm Access to Pharmacy.net

Please ensure that all relevant staff can successfully access their nhs.net accounts. We recommend checking login credentials and access permissions in advance to avoid issues when services are required. Ensure there is a process for locums to access this and that a regular check should be embedded into the daily workflow.



If any member of your team is unable to access nhs.net, please arrange for this to be resolved as soon as possible through your usual support channels.

The CPE page on nhs.net emails may be helpful [NHS.net Connect \(formerly NHSmail\) - Community Pharmacy England](#)

2. Processing Pharmacy First Referrals During System Outages

In the event of a Pharmacy.net or system outage, pharmacies should continue to provide Pharmacy First/Minor Illnesses consultations where appropriate and maintain a local record of all referrals and consultations undertaken during the outage period.

Please ensure that sufficient information is captured to allow the consultation to be entered retrospectively once systems are restored.

Ensure this is contained within your business continuity planning and that all relevant staff are aware of the necessary actions.

3. Retrospective Submission for Payment

Once access to Pharmacy.net has been restored, any Pharmacy First consultations completed during the outage should be entered retrospectively as soon as possible in accordance with local and national guidance. This should be within 24 hours of the system coming back on line

Accurate retrospective recording is essential to ensure that:

- Clinical records are complete.
- Activity is correctly reported.
- Eligible consultations are included for payment claims.
- Please retain any supporting documentation or records until the retrospective entries have been successfully submitted.

If you have any questions regarding Pharmacy.net access, Pharmacy First referrals, or retrospective payment claims, please contact the Office of West Midlands at nhsbsolicb.pharmacy-westmidlands2@nhs.net

Thank you for your cooperation and for your continued commitment to delivering Pharmacy First/Minor Illnesses services.



Important Dates for 2026

Don't forget to check the CPE website for upcoming important dates [here](#).

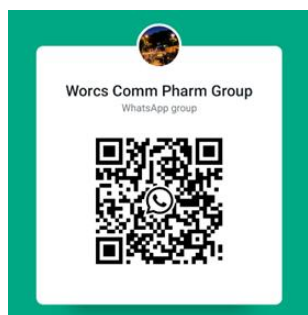
Advance payment timetable for 2026

CPE has published an Advanced Payment Timetable for 2026, which you can find [here](#).

Latest Supply Issues: Shortages and SSPs

You can find all the latest supply notifications and SSPs [here](#).

Finally.... WhatsApp Groups Reminder to share the WhatsApp groups with others who work in community pharmacy within Herefordshire and Worcestershire.



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USEFUL LINKS:

[CPA Website](#)

[CPHW Website](#)

[CPE Newsletters](#)

[CPE Payment Timetable and Deadline
Tracker](#)

[CPE CPCF Important Dates](#)

[Price Concessions](#)