



LPC NEWS

MUR Service is Changing

PSNC Publish new details

The PSNC has published details of a new approach to data collection for the MUR service.

These changes aim to improve the data available on the outputs of MURs and remove some aspects of the current record keeping and communications processes which are no longer viewed as fit for purpose.

The changes, which deliberately mirror the approach taken in the New Medicine Service, include:

- the introduction of a mandatory dataset for MURs;
- minor amendment of the data which must be reported to PCTs on a quarterly basis, where requested;
- the removal of the need to use the current MUR form as the formal record of the service, thus allowing pharmacists to use an approach that fits with their clinical practice (not currently required by our PCSA);
- the removal of the need to communicate to GP practices when MURs with no issues of significance for the practice have been undertaken; and
- the introduction of a succinct MUR Feedback form to be used when it is necessary to communicate an issue to the GP practice.

The above changes all apply from 1st July, bar point 4, which requires an amendment to the Directions, which may or may not be possible for DH to achieve by 1st July.

PMR suppliers were given advance notice of these changes in order to allow them to start to amend their MUR modules.

A document summarising the changes is available to download from www.psn.org.uk/mur

The PSNC are keen to remind all contractors of the need to focus on providing MURs to patients within the national target groups – not doing this now may store up problems for them later in the year.

DH, NHS Employers and PSNC are keen to hear feedback from contractors and pharmacists on how the national target groups for MURs are working and whether the 50% minimum target level is achievable; please email the LPC any feedback and we will feed back to PSNC. You can contact us through our respective websites. www.gandstlpc.net and www.sunderlandlpc.net

Attention Gateshead Pharmacists.

Queen Elizabeth Hospital MURs

As you may be aware we are all being encouraged to undertake targeted MURs as well as NMS. The Queen Elizabeth Hospital has identified a small group of patients who would benefit from both targeted discharge MURs and NMS upon release.

In order to refer these patients to the appropriate pharmacies we are asking all interested Pharmacists to logon to the Gateshead and South Tyneside LPC website at www.gandstlpc.net/qe where you will be able to complete a short form outlining your relevant details and services. These details will then be forwarded to the QE Hospital Pharmacy to facilitate the referral.

GP Closures - Dates

Some dates for the diary. Gateshead GP's will "close" for training on the following days. We publish these dates to help you plan rotas / days off etc.

12/06/2012	05/09/2012	06/11/2012	27/02/2013
11/07/2012	11/10/2012	22/01/2013	14/03/2013

Enhanced Service Leads

With all the changes at the PCT there have been a lot of changes in the leads for different services so for your convenience we have listed the latest information below.

Pharmacy related LES	Reform programme	Strategic Lead	Contact details
Minor ailments	Urgent care	Louise Burn	Louise.burn@sotw.nhs.uk Tel:0191 5297383
NRT Dispensing	Staying Healthy	David Chappel	david.chappel@sotw.nhs.uk Tel: 0191 497 1534
	Gateshead		
	South Tyneside	Mark Overton	Mark.overton@sotw.nhs.uk Tel: 0191 497 1534
	Sunderland	Gillian Gibson	gillian.gibson@sotw.nhs.uk Tel: 0191 529 7198
Medical Admin review charts (MAR Charts)	Urgent care	Louise Burn	Louise.burn@sotw.nhs.uk Tel:0191 5297383
Head Lice	Urgent care	Louise Burn	Louise.burn@sotw.nhs.uk Tel:0191 5297383
Nursing homes	Urgent care	Louise Burn	Louise.burn@sotw.nhs.uk Tel:0191 5297383

General and claim related enquiries
 Angela.southern
 Email: **angela.southern@sotw.nhs.uk**
 Tel: 0191 529 7098

NMS Declarations

We understand there are still some pharmacies who not sent their declarations to the PCT yet. We encourage you to send the declaration as soon as possible to .

Lindsay Bell
 North East Primary Care Services Agency
 Rapier House
 Colima Avenue
 Sunderland Enterprise Park
 Sunderland
 SR5 3XB

Tel No 0191- 502 6549
 Email: **lindsay.bell@nepcsa.nhs.uk**

For further information and downloadable resources e.g. self assessment forms and declaration forms

Deja Vu

New forms of Communications



For those of you reading this newsletter and thinking "I have already seen this information" you probably have. The comms team have been working hard to update the way the LPC communicate with contractors. Our website is becoming the hub for new information and news. Email (and soon twitter and facebook feeds) will be sent out to alert people to new information and allow you to interact more with the LPC. There is still a place for our popular paper based LPC News however as with all paper publications there will always be a lag time in getting it delivered to everyone. Please add the LPC website to your "favourites" and check in with us on a regular basis to keep yourself updated with all the exciting local and national developments. As we develop our communications systems we will inform you on how to connect and interact with us. In the mean time you can join our email distribution list by contacting Sami on **sami.hanna@gandstlpc.net** If you can't wait we are currently trialling a twitter feed @gstlpc follow us and let us know your thoughts.

Sunderland University (Pharmacy Courses)

Do you fancy being a student again? The University of Sunderland is currently offering Clinical Diplomas and Independent prescribing courses to community Pharmacists. The deadline for applications for the MSC/ Diploma and the IP course is the 31st July. The diploma will have 4 study days per year (which will run on a Wednesday or a Saturday if time off during the week is a problem). There will be also be 1 hour exam that is held outside of the study days. The application form to apply to either course can also be downloaded from www.gandstlpc.net or www.sunderlandlpc.net

For any further info contact Jess Clemerson (lead for Independent Prescribing) or Tania Jones (MSc/Clin Dip) through the University of Sunderland. 0191-515200 Application forms should be sent to Vicky Clelland, Programme Administrator via email: victoria.clelland@sunderland.ac.uk or via post to

Methadone

From the 1st July, the way that the number of items is calculated for Methadone on instalment prescriptions will be changing.

If you have several patients on 1-3 times weekly collection in daily dose containers, be prepared for a reduction.

At the moment, if the prescriber has written on the prescription "please dispense in daily dose containers" and if you complete all the endorsements for this correctly, you would receive 14 item fees on a two week prescription whether the patient collects once a week or every day.

From 1st July 2012 there will be a change in fees. The individual fees will be reduced and EVERY prescription for liquid methadone will have an additional payment of £4.03 to cover the workload in dispensing and supplying, either in daily bottles or as a single quantity with a measure as deemed appropriate on a patient-by-patient basis.

An item fee will only be payable for each "patient encounter." This is intended to be a fairer distribution of payments – currently the remuneration is the same for a patient collecting seven bottles once a week as it is for collecting one bottle daily for seven days. Prescribers should be requested not to routinely include the wording "dispense in daily dose containers" on the prescription, this decision should be made on a patient-by-patient basis depending on their circumstances.

If you are moving from supply in daily bottles to bulk supply of methadone for a patient, you will need to provide a suitable measure. 60ml measures for patients are available from each of the major wholesalers:

A direct link to the calculator on our website to see how your business will fare under the new system
<http://www.gandstlpc.net/methadone-calculator>.

Jointly Published by Gateshead & South Tyneside LPC and Sunderland LPC

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email or you would like to comment or contribute Information please contact our Editor :- Sami Hanna **sami.hanna@gandstlpc.net**, To get in touch with Sunderland LPC - contact the Secretary Kathryn Featherstone - **secretary@sunderlandlpc.net**

To get in touch with Gateshead & South Tyneside LPC contact the Secretary Louise Lydon - **louise.lydon@gandstlpc.net**