

# LPC NEWS

## Methadone

### PSNC to review new payment structure

Following feedback from pharmacy contractors, PSNC agreed at its meeting last week that the PSNC Drug Tariff simplification working group will review whether the new item level fee for dispensing oral liquid methadone fully reflects the costs involved in dispensing, including costs associated with supply in daily dose bottles. The working group will consider representations and analysis from contractors and LPCs and will report back to the committee in October. The working group comprises contractors representing a national multiple, a regional multiple and an independent contractor. The working group will also consider all communications received by PSNC to date. Contractors are asked to complete one of the tables (found on our websites [www.gandstlpc.net](http://www.gandstlpc.net) or [www.sunderlandlpc.net](http://www.sunderlandlpc.net)) and submit to [info@psnc.org.uk](mailto:info@psnc.org.uk) with the subject heading "Methadone Data" by the end of August 2012.



## Lilly UK

Sunderland LPC Chairman, Umesh Patel, has met with Eli Lilly to discuss the restricted quotas on Cialis and the problems getting supplies from the wholesalers. During their visit he actually had to phone Lilly Head Office for a prescription that came in, showing how time consuming, difficult and inconvenient the whole process is. Umesh has been given contact details for two people from Lilly who can be contacted by contractors experiencing difficulty getting Cialis; they will visit the pharmacy, look at the average usage per month and sort out the supply problems. Contacts- Andy Hall - 07515296754 Janine Maughan – 07887428957



## Adcal Chewable or Caplets?

South Tyneside NHS Trust and the CCG are switching from the Adcal D3 chewable to the new caplet formulation to try and improve concordance and reduce wastage of this medicine. Marie Thompkins (Medicines Management) is circulating the GPs with this same information. At present it is not clear if they are advocating a switch in primary care but they will only be holding the caplet formulation at the hospital and that will most likely filter down quite rapidly into primary care.



The equivalent dose is two caplets to one chewable. The following information can be printed off and given to patients with their new prescription to help aid communication

"South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust and South Tyneside CCG have made the decision to switch to a new form of Adcal D3 called caplets. Many people find the taste of the chewable tablets unpleasant and do not take their medicine as prescribed because of this. The caplets are smaller and are swallowed whole instead of being chewed. The dose has changed to make the caplets small enough to swallow and the equivalent dose is TWO caplets to ONE chewable tablet."

## Promoting Pharmacy Locally

Amanda Healey from the Public Health Dept of the PCT visited Gateshead & South Tyneside LPC's Chairman at his Pharmacy with Alan West (South Tyneside local councilor) and a number of her team. The pharmacy was able to discuss community pharmacy's role in a changing NHS and explain about the services we can all offer.

Alan had a health check, and was most impressed with the healthy living pharmacy initiative running in our area. He has agreed to meet up with the LPC at a later date to explore the expanding role of pharmacy and how we can support the health of our communities.

Alan sits on the health and wellbeing board in the area so it is fantastic that he has had such a good experience of community pharmacy.



## Health Promotion Campaigns

The table here provides details of the Health Promotion Campaigns for 2012/13. The Health Improvement Library has informed the LPC that Campaign packs will be sent out to pharmacies so that they arrive at the beginning of the relevant month.

TOPIC	PERIOD
Sexual Health	September
Alcohol	November
Healthy Eating	January
Smoking	March

## Updated MUR requirements

PSNC and NHS Employers have agreed changes to the MUR service data requirements which were implemented with effect from 1st July 2012. These changes include a new requirement to keep records of each MUR provided using a national dataset. This new requirement is accompanied by the removal of the existing requirement to complete the national NHS MUR form for each MUR provided. The changes also include use of an MUR Feedback Form when there is a need to communicate with the patient's GP practice following an MUR. The quarterly reporting requirements to PCTs are also updated. Comprehensive information including briefing documents and copies of the revised reporting forms can be accessed via the PSNC website: <http://www.psn.org.uk/mur>

## Pharmabase Update

Following feedback from users of PharmaBase, enhancements to the NMS module have been made to allow users the option of utilising a 'short' version of the demographic data, rather than the mandatory full dataset. The 'short' version can be used when part of the mandatory data, e.g. full address, are already stored in the patient's PMR. A brief guide to these changes is included in the third issue of PharmaBase Update which can be downloaded from the PSNC website at [http://www.psn.org.uk/data/files/PharmaBase/PharmaBase\\_Update/PharmaBase\\_Update\\_Issue\\_3\\_May\\_2012.pdf](http://www.psn.org.uk/data/files/PharmaBase/PharmaBase_Update/PharmaBase_Update_Issue_3_May_2012.pdf)

As you are aware NMS is currently time limited until 31 March 2013: effective evaluation of the service will be greatly enhanced by the collection of consistent data - the use of the NMS module on Pharmabase will enable this to happen.

The current range of PharmaBase modules includes EHC, Supervised consumption, Needle and Syringe Programme, NRT voucher service, Stop Smoking service and Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF) (Contract Workbook module).

The PSNC has been working with NHS Primary Care Commissioning (PCC) to update the CPAF so it reflects the changes to the Community Pharmacy Contract implemented in October 2011 and with which contractors need to be fully compliant since July 2012. At the moment the North East Primary Care Services Agency are not utilising Pharmabase for contract monitoring though this may change in the future. Most of the updated CPAF documents have now been published on the NHS PCC website. The updated documents have been used to re-vamp the CPAF module in PharmaBase since July, as that is that was the most appropriate point for PCTs to start this year's contract monitoring cycle, following the 1st July deadline for compliance with the clinical governance issues.

## LPC AGM

The 2012 AGM of Gateshead and South Tyneside LPC will be held at 6.30pm on 20th September. All contractors will be invited to send representatives to the meeting and it would be great to see as many people as possible attend. If you would like to join us please contact our secretary Louise Lydon. Her details are below or you can contact her via the Gateshead & South Tyneside LPC website. [www.gandstlpc.net](http://www.gandstlpc.net)



Following on from a successful trial event a few months ago, The University of Sunderland have developed a new Pre-registration Training Programme which is now accessible to pre-registration trainees. The programme aims to help trainees meet the learning objectives of the pre-registration year as well as preparing them for the GPhC registration assessment. As many Sunderland graduates remain in the region to complete their pre-registration year, this new programme allows the university to continue to support their students at post graduate level. It also offers a support mechanism that currently exists on a local level in our region at present and so offers a more accessible contact point for help and advice for both the trainee and also the pre-registration tutor alike.

The University feels that this is a perfect opportunity for them and the local stakeholders to engage and prepare for future changes to pharmacy education and pre-registration training in line with the Modernising Pharmacy Careers Agenda.

If you are interested in finding out more about please see the attached leaflet and link below.

[http://www.sunderland.ac.uk/faculties/apsc/course/1129/pre\\_registration\\_training\\_programme](http://www.sunderland.ac.uk/faculties/apsc/course/1129/pre_registration_training_programme)

## Clinical Governance

Pharmacy contractors are reminded that the clinical governance approved particulars came into effect on 1st July. The Clinical Governance section of the PSNC website ([www.psn.org.uk/cg](http://www.psn.org.uk/cg)) contains support materials, including a link to the joint guidance issued by NHS Employers and PSNC. As a reminder, the new and revised approved particulars are:

1. Pharmacy practice leaflet. Pharmacies are required to produce, in an approved manner, a practice leaflet containing certain information about the pharmacy.
2. Patient satisfaction survey. The existing approved particulars were amended to include specific requirements about how the pharmacy publishes the survey results and takes appropriate action following the results;
3. Incident reporting system. All patient safety incidents should be reported to the NPSA or its successor organisation. Pharmacies will be expected to have a patient safety incident log and near-miss log;
4. Information governance programme. Change from having a use of information programme which covers specific items, to complying with an approved information governance programme.
5. Premises standards - environment. The approved particulars outline the requirements for an appropriate environment within which to receive healthcare.

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](mailto:sami.hanna@gandstlpc.net), To get in touch with Sunderland LPC - contact the Secretary Kathryn Featherstone - [secretary@sunderlandlpc.net](mailto:secretary@sunderlandlpc.net)

To get in touch with Gateshead & South Tyneside LPC contact the Secretary Louise Lydon - [louise.lydon@gandstlpc.net](mailto:louise.lydon@gandstlpc.net)