

This Pharmacy and Medicines Optimisation programme newsletter is produced as part of the support offer to NHS Provider organisations on the implementation of the range of recommendations and objectives from the Carter Reports, The NHS Long Term Plan and the interim NHS People Plan. Our new look newsletter is structured around the key themes of our programme.

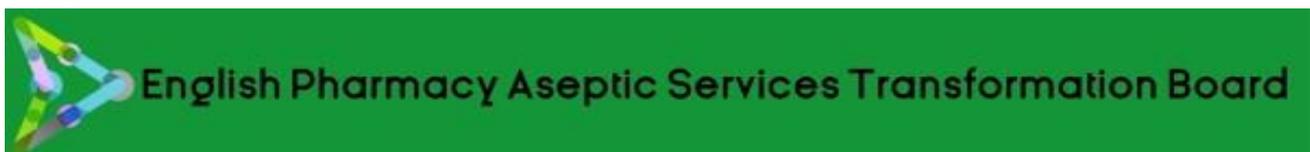
Thank you message



I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to everyone who has helped me on my fellowship journey over the last two and a half years. I would especially like to thank the team here in the improvement directorate who are truly inspirational and have given me full autonomy to develop myself. The opportunity has been thoroughly educational, and I would highly recommend that Trusts encourage their staff to apply for the CPhO Fellowship Scheme.

Khola Khan will be leaving the pharmacy and medicines optimisation team at the end of February 2020. She will be returning to the Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS Foundation Trust to pursue a role in Quality Improvement and Innovation. The main projects she has contributed to include the English pharmacy aseptic services review and the development of the medicine's optimisation cross-cutting theme for the Getting It Right First Time Programme.

Infrastructure



Call for evidence update – Thank you from Lord Carter of Coles

All organisations that submitted to the call for evidence will receive a thank you note from Lord Carter of Coles for their contribution to the review.

'Just Get It Done' - Standardisation Project

One of the most prominent themes that came from the call for evidence submissions was the need for standardised product descriptions for aseptic products. The EPASTB has therefore endorsed a 'just get it done' workstream focussing on a few products to create a blueprint by which others may also be standardised. To complete this important piece, Katherine Jacob from Great Western Hospital in Swindon will be looking to review the national data and meet with many of you to understand the issues around this.

MO CRG workstream - PN point prevalence survey – Please participate!

On behalf of the MO CRG, a short life working group has been established to review the provision of Adult PN within Acute settings across England.

In order to scope out current practice, we are asking all Acute Trusts to undertake a point prevalence survey on **Wednesday 11th March** regarding their adult PN patients. This will gather information on indications, treatment length, calorie and nitrogen content, compounded or multi-chamber bag (MCB) as well as information on vitamins and electrolytes.

Following this data collection we then hope to produce guidance on "what good looks like" incorporating the potential for dose banding of electrolytes in Adult PN, advice on additions of electrolytes at ward level, potentially develop a standardised National prescription and provide advice on the use of compounded vs MCB.

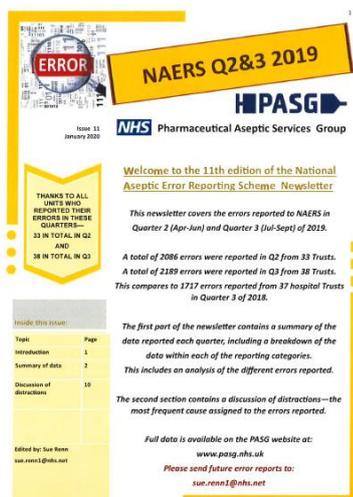
If you would like to be involved in the working group please contact pharmacy.informatics@mft.nhs.uk

To action: The [data collection template](#) is available on Kahootz to download and disseminate amongst your teams. All final submissions of the data should be directly emailed to the address above.

Cost optimisation and Analysis Tool

One of the outputs from phase II of the review was a tool designed to help aseptic units understand their operational costs. This tool is designed to help identify impacts on these costs if the unit was subject to change (for example outsourcing, introduction of compounding automation and changing the skill mix). This is still in the development phase and is being piloted across a couple of regions to ensure its validity prior to a more widespread roll out. Feedback from the pilots will be made available later in the year.

National Aseptic Error Reporting Scheme (NAERS)



The Pharmaceutical Aseptic Services Group (PASG)

<https://pasg.nhs.uk/national-aseptic-error-reporting-scheme>



Digital

Model Hospital Data Implementation – Patient level Costing Data

The 2018/19 costing and opportunities data annual update is now available on the Model Hospital. For this year's refresh, reference costs data has been replaced with National Cost Collection (Patient Level Costing, PLICS) data. This significant change in the data source provides Model Hospital users with a more accurate and granular analysis of acute hospital activity.

The metrics for Medicines and Pharmacy costs/WAU will continue to use current methodology that uses Define© data for medicines' costs and ESR data for pharmacy staffing costs. There will be no MFF (Market Forces Factor) or OAF (Operating expenditure adjustment factor) applied to Define© or pharmacy staffing data.

Colleagues who are interested in how PLICS has impacted operational productivity metrics in general, can explore the newly updated opportunities and identify where and how these can be used to deliver any potential productivity gains on Model Hospital.

Medicines Optimisation

Getting It Right First Time – Updates

- Ophthalmology report published on website
- Upcoming diabetes report with a dedicated section on medicines optimisation – *watch this space!*
- Dermatology national report started – opportunity to help shape some of the recommendations around pharmacy workforce input. For those interested please get in contact via nhsi.medsop_girft@nhs.net

Medicines and Medical Devices Bill 2019-20

The Queen's Speech, which set out the government's proposed plan for new legislation, included a new "Medicines and Medical Devices Bill". The purpose of the Bill is to ensure that the UK remains at the forefront of the global life sciences industry after Brexit, giving patients faster access to innovative medicines and supporting the growth of the UK's domestic life sciences sector. The full details of the bill can be found [here](#).

Covid-19 update - Medicines

DHSC have published the following information - <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-monitor-impact-of-coronavirus-on-uk-medicine-supply>

Key messages below:

- The Chinese government continues to impose further restrictions on movement within China in response to the coronavirus outbreak, including on flight and rail travel.
- To relieve potential pressures on global supply chains, suppliers have been asked to carry out a risk assessment on the impact of coronavirus on their business.
- As an extra precaution, companies have also been asked to retain existing stockpiles of medical supplies, compiled as a contingency measure ahead of our exit from the EU, where possible.
- There are no current medicine shortages in the UK linked to the situation in China but the UK government is taking precautionary measures to help continue the uninterrupted supply of medicines to patients in the UK.
- The government will work closely with industry and partners to continually monitor the impact of coronavirus on the UK supply chain and put in place measures to protect UK patients.



- There is no need for the public or NHS to stockpile. This could aggravate problems elsewhere in the supply chain if they emerge.

Workforce

Chief Pharmaceutical Officer's Fellowship Scheme 2020/2021 – Open to applications!

A unique opportunity to spend one year working in a leading, national healthcare-affiliated organisation with the most senior leaders in healthcare including Care Quality Commission, Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education, General Pharmaceutical Council, Health Education England, NICE, Royal Pharmaceutical Society etc. Aspiring future leaders who have had limited leadership opportunities and have not held a senior leadership role in pharmacy such as consultant, director, senior manager or equivalent are able to apply for the scheme. Further information and application portal are available [here](#).

Chief Pharmaceutical Officer's Conference 2020 – Secure your places now!

This year the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer's Conference will be on Wednesday 6th May 2020 (10am-4.30pm) at the Kia Oval (Kennington, London SE11 5SS). The theme of the conference is 'Pharmacy, Medicines and Patients – Now and in the Future'. The conference is open to all pharmacy professionals delivering an NHS service. To secure your places please book using [this link](#).

Clinical Pharmacists and the Network Contract DES

In January 2019, NHS England and the British Medical Association's General Practitioners Committee agreed a [five-year GP \(General Medical Services\) contract framework from 2019/20](#). This includes the criteria and eligibility for GP practices to sign up to the new Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service (DES) for 2019/20.

A [specification sets](#) out how GP practices signing up to the Network Contract will receive funding for additional clinical pharmacists and social prescribing link workers during 2019/20 and additional physician associates, first contact physiotherapists, community paramedics in future years.

The impact on the pharmacy workforce, of these agreements will need to be considered across a system. The 100% salary support for additional role reimbursement – may see additional demand for clinical pharmacists and the inclusion of pharmacy technicians in the additional roles that can be reimbursed in year 1 – potential to destabilise technician workforce across care providers. Further information can be seen [here](#).

