

PRESS RELEASE

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PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE

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PSNC response to the General Practice Patient Surveys 2007

The Department of Health today issued the results of the General Practice Patient Surveys in 2007.

Commenting on the Government proposals for improving access to GP services, **Sue Sharpe**, *Chief Executive of PSNC* said, "England's 10,000 community pharmacies provide an alternative access point to GPs for many patients seeking urgent care. They are generally open outside normal working hours and at weekends and can provide advice on the management of a wide range of ailments and conditions without the need for an appointment. The NHS should ensure it effectively promotes the use of community pharmacies to the public, so that more use is made of this valuable resource, and GP appointments are used only where necessary."

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Notes for editors:

1. The Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee (PSNC) is the body that represents community pharmacy on NHS matters and seeks to secure the best possible NHS services provided by pharmacy contractors in England and Wales.

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