

PRESS RELEASE

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PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE

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PRACTICE BASED COMMISSIONING GUIDE FOR LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEES

PSNC has today published 'Practice Based Commissioning – A practical guide for LPCs'. This briefing document aims to provide LPCs with the knowledge to enable them to effectively engage with Practice Based Commissioning (PBC). As well as providing background information on the place of PBC in current health policy, it provides practical suggestions for action.

The document covers several major areas including:

1. A description of commissioning and practice based commissioning, including the commissioning cycle;
2. Key issues in the implementation of PBC and the impact of recent PCT re-organisation on commissioning;
3. Opportunities for community pharmacy considered within the three areas of preventing hospital admissions, effective prescribing and redesign of care pathways;
4. The role of the LPC in engaging with practice based commissioners; and
5. Advice on the development of robust business cases to PBC commissioners.

Commenting on the launch of the guide, **Barbara Parsons, Head of Pharmacy Practice**, said,

"PBC is currently the number one priority for LPCs, but it is not easy to keep on top of the myriad of policy documents on the subject issued by the Department of Health. This document clarifies the current state of play and will help LPCs to formulate robust business cases that target local health needs."

A second publication is currently under development that will focus on the opportunities practice based commissioning provides for individual community pharmacy contractors.

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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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