

PRESS RELEASE



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PSNC TO CHANGE THE COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

01 December 2009 – PSNC will be amending the composition of the Committee, to reflect changes in NHS organisation and pharmacy ownership. The new composition will apply from April 2010, following the regional representative elections.

PSNC has agreed that the composition of the Committee should achieve a balance between the multiple and independent pharmacy sectors and will agree in January how those places will be allocated.

It has already been agreed that multiple pharmacies will definitely have a total of 15 pharmacists on the Committee and that the NPA will nominate a further two independent pharmacy contractors. Community Pharmacy Wales will also appoint one pharmacist to PSNC.

Sue Sharpe, Chief Executive of PSNC said:

“Led by its Chairman, Umesh Patel, PSNC’s Review and Audit Panel explored a large range of options for the future composition of the Committee. As the negotiating body recognised by the government, PSNC must ensure that it adequately reflects the pharmacy contractors which it represents, and, following consideration of the Panel’s deliberations, the Committee agreed that this would best be achieved by providing equal numbers of places for independent and multiple representatives.

“This new structure enables PSNC to balance the interests of both sectors and recognises the workload of regional representatives, who play a vital role in ensuring that the issues affecting LPCs and contractors in their regions are brought to the Committee.”

~Ends~

*For further information please contact the PSNC press office
on 0207 618 9187 or at psnc@luther.co.uk.*

Notes to Editor

1. The regions which elect independent pharmacy contractors have been altered and will reduce from 14 to 13. The new regions reflect a commitment given at the LPC conference in 2007 to seek a closer alignment with SHA boundaries, and also address the wishes of London contractors to have more specific representation on the Committee.
2. A list of the new regions in England is attached.
3. ‘Multiple pharmacies’ are defined as per the Department of Health’s definition, which is a multiple as a group of 6 or more pharmacies. Multiple pharmacies have grown their share of the market in recent years, and now own more than 60% of pharmacies in England.