

## **PSNC RESPONDS TO RCGP'S CALL FOR MINOR AILMENTS TO BE TREATED OUTSIDE OF GP SURGERIES**

Responding to the RCGP's call for more minor ailments to be treated outside of GP surgeries, allowing for an increase in standard appointment times, PSNC Chief Executive Sue Sharpe said:

"As highly qualified health professionals working at the heart of the communities they serve, pharmacists are ideally placed to provide comprehensive Minor Ailments Services. The recent CBI report "Doing More With Less" claimed that £4.8bn could be saved nationally by moving the 57 million minor ailments-related consultations GPs deal with every year into community pharmacies. For commissioners, empowering pharmacy to provide Minor-Ailments Services should be a no-brainer.

"However, patchy local commissioning means that pharmacists in many areas are held back from providing this invaluable service. Community Pharmacy is ready and willing to play a wider role in treating minor ailments. It is vital that it is empowered to do so. It is also crucial that GPs and pharmacists work together to ensure patients receive high quality treatment at the appropriate point of the primary care network."

**~Ends~**

### **Notes to Editor**

1. PSNC (The Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee) is the body that represents community pharmacies in England and Wales on NHS matters.

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