

# PRESS RELEASE



**For Immediate Release**

**03 March 2008**

## **PSNC Publishes EPS Release 2 Guidance**

PSNC has published detailed guidance on the new functionality that will be available through Release 2 of the Electronic Prescription Service including electronic claims for reimbursement and patient nomination of pharmacies.

Pharmacy system suppliers have a degree of flexibility in how their systems will assist the dispensing process in future. It is therefore essential for pharmacy contractors to take time now to learn about Release 2 and make suggestions for the further development of software to ensure that pharmacy systems continue to support the efficient delivery of the NHS community pharmacy service.

PSNC is still in discussion with the Department of Health on a number of policy issues linked to Release 2. In some cases, proposed solutions will be tested during initial implementation, for example the way in which supplementary clinical information from the prescriber will be passed to patients in future.

It is a priority to ensure that the system supports pharmacies and meets the needs of pharmacy staff, as once the EPS system is fully operational it will substantially change dispensing processes within pharmacies. PSNC is working to ensure that all costs and other resource implications are identified and assessed.

**-- ENDS --**

### **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.
2. Up to date information and guidance on the roll-out of the service can be found on the PSNC Website ([www.psn.org.uk/eps](http://www.psn.org.uk/eps)) or by contacting the PSNC Information Team for support (01296 432823).

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