

Supporting Locum Pharmacists to Deliver the New Medicine Service - Twelve Actions to Help YOU!!

Locum pharmacists are an important part of the workforce - it is essential that they are able to play their role in making the New Medicine Service a success for patients and pharmacy.

These changes will provide patients with a further level of support to those that are currently commissioned and will support the NHS in its endeavour to ensure optimum value from the £12bn investment in medicines. This is a highly significant opportunity, based on evidence, to develop the role of the community pharmacist and to demonstrate the value of the profession and its unique ability to address the issue of non-adherence. These developments have the ability to strengthen the links between hospital and community pharmacy to improve patient care in relation to medicines optimisation.

Everyone must play their part to support implementation and ensure success: primary care trusts, community pharmacists and their teams, GPs, patients, secondary care, the Department of Health and pharmacy organisations.

There is plenty of support available for locum pharmacists from the pharmacy organisations.

Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee www.psn.org.uk/nms

- Download copies of all the 'official' briefings and documents on the service
- Access the additional information about the service
- Contact Local Pharmaceutical Committees (LPCs) as many are running local events on the service

Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) www.rpharms.com

- Look out for RPS co-ordinating a significant amount of national publicity, including a media launch in early October
- Attend one of the many Local Practice Forums (LPFs) local events
- See the professional guidance and support tools - look for the series of articles supporting the contract changes at PJ Online and access the video about NMS

Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) www.cppe.ac.uk

- Undertake the open learning programme, which has been sent to all pharmacists in England. Extra copies can be ordered from the website if you didn't receive yours
- Access the e-learning programme with videos about how to deliver the service via www.cppe.ac.uk/nms
- Look at the CPPE workshop materials which are being used by LPFs, LPCs and local groups

National Pharmacy Association (NPA) www.npa.co.uk/nms

- Look for the NMS support pack, including short guidance on the conditions and advice on communication with patients and GPs, which is being posted to all NPA member pharmacies
- Locums who are not members of the NPA may access its entire portfolio of NMS resources, including a comprehensive standard operating procedure
- Play your part in Ask Your Pharmacist Week (7-13 November) as this is an opportunity for pharmacists to promote a range of pharmacy services, including NMS. Contact s.white@npa.co.uk for more information.

