

To: All Community Pharmacists

Tel : 028 9536 3926
Fax : 028 9536 3126

Web Site : www.hscboard.hscni.net

14th December 2020

Dear Colleague

COMMUNITY PHARMACY SERVICES TO CARE HOMES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The purpose of this letter is to provide an update in relation to the following additional pharmacy services that are in place to support Care Homes at this time:

- The existing Advice to Nursing and Residential Care Homes Service.
- The new Care Home Pandemic Support Service.

Advice to Nursing and Residential Care Homes Service

Many community pharmacies are currently contracted with HSCB to provide the 'Advice to Nursing and Residential Care Homes' service to individual Care Homes. Although some aspects of the service may still be possible, on-site visits to Care homes cannot take place at this present time. Payments for the service will, therefore, continue and pharmacies should continue to submit claims as usual.

It is recognised that the service no longer meets the medicine management needs of Care homes and HSCB, CPNI and DoH will work to establish a revised service in 2021.

Care Home Pandemic Support Service

The aim of this service is to ensure that nursing and residential care homes receive an enhanced level of pharmaceutical advice and support during the pandemic period from the community pharmacist, particularly at times when on-site visits are not possible. This support will help nursing and residential care homes ensure the safe handling and correct administration of drugs/medicines supplied to their residents during the COVID19 pandemic.

The additional service will operate from December 2020 to March 2021.

Funding

The service fee is dependent on the number of beds in the registered care home as detailed in the table below. Payment will be paid on a monthly basis on receipt of the returned contract to your local office.

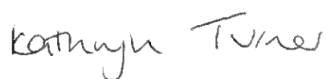
Number of beds in registered care home	Monthly payment
< 30	£100
30 - 60	£150
> 60	£200

Action for Pharmacists

- For those wishing to participate in this service, please return by email your completed contract to your local office as soon as possible.
- Please note all Nursing and Residential Care Homes which will be supported by the community pharmacy should be listed on the contract.
- Read the enclosed service specification carefully and ensure that all relevant staff are trained and competent to deliver this service. Service documentation is also available on the BSO website at <http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/2271.htm>

A HSCB communication to Care Homes will advise them of this service. If you have any query about this service, please contact your local HSCB office.

Yours sincerely



Kathryn Turner
Pharmacy Lead
HSCB

Encs.

Contact Details for Local Integrated Care Offices:				
Belfast	South Eastern	Southern	Northern	Western
12-22 Linenhall Street Belfast BT2 8BS	12-22 Linenhall Street Belfast BT2 8BS	Tower Hill Armagh. BT61 9DR	County Hall 182 Galgorm Road Ballymena BT42 1QB	Gransha Park House 15 Gransha Park Clooney Road Londonderry BT47 6FN
Tel: 028 9536 3926	Tel: 028 9536 3926	Tel: 028 9536 2104	Tel: 028 9536 2812	Tel: 028 9536 1082
pharmacyservicesbelfast@hscni.net	pharmacyservicesse@hscni.net	pharmacyservicessouth@hscni.net	pharmacyservicesnorth@hscni.net	pharmacyserviceswest@hscni.net