

**To: Community Pharmacies and
General Medical Practices**

**Directorate of Integrated Care
Western Office**

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Dear Colleague

Medicines Optimisation Quality Framework

The Medicines Optimisation Quality Framework^[1] launched by Minister in 2016, aims to support better health outcomes for our population by focusing attention on gaining the best possible outcome from medicines every time that they are prescribed, dispensed or administered.

The Framework sets out the expectations from providers of service in community, primary and secondary care. Furthermore, there are 10 Quality Standards – addressing the priority issues for medicines optimisation in Northern Ireland within the three overarching quality domains of safety, effectiveness and patient/ client focus. The Quality Standards describe the best practices that should be delivered in each setting, identify gaps in best practices and the actions needed to address them.

Workshops

- **6th February 2020, Seagoe Hotel, Craigavon;**
- **25th March 2020, Antrim Civic Centre**

The DoH has requested the HSC complete a baseline self-assessment against the quality standards, develop an action plan to address gaps and monitor improvement in compliance against the standards.

^[1] <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/consultations/dhssps/medicines-optimisation-quality-framework.pdf>

Rather than adopting a survey to all 850 community pharmacy and general practices, it is felt that a baseline assessment is undertaken through a workshop approach.

We have therefore agreed with pharmacy and GP representatives, two workshops, one in February and one in March.

These workshops will last all day and will be an opportunity for staff from community pharmacy and general practice perspectives to focus on review of the 10 standards. The number of attendees will be limited to 30 at each session and booking can be done using the following Eventbrite link:

6th February 2020, Seagoe Hotel, Craigavon

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/86791564907>

25th March 2020, Antrim Civic Centre

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/86355809551>

Reasonable locum expenses will be reimbursed on the receipt of an invoice from the practice.

We would be grateful for consideration to attend and places will be allocated on a strictly first come first served basis.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Joe Brogan
Asst Director Integrated Care
Head of Pharmacy and Medicines Management