



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

To:

Pharmacy Contractors

Date: 26 October 2011

Dear Pharmacy Contractor,

COMMUNITY PHARMACY CONTRACTUAL FRAMEWORK (CPCF) CHANGES

I am now able to inform you of a package of changes to the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework agreed between Welsh Government and Community Pharmacy Wales for 2011/12.

In summary, the package comprises the introduction of the "Discharge Medicines Review" service from November 2011, changes to the Medicines Use Review (MUR) service from December 2011 and strengthened clinical governance arrangements. Further details are available from Community Pharmacy Wales (www.cpwales.org.uk) and are provided at <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=498&pid=7551>.

Welsh Government and Community Pharmacy Wales (CPW) have also agreed a number of changes to the drug reimbursement arrangements to be implemented over the next six months; these include the introduction of the "Specials" tariff from November 2011.

Changes to the Medicines Use Review Service

It is important to demonstrate the benefits of the MUR service and provide assurance to NHS Wales that the service is a high quality, value for money service of benefit to patients. These changes are designed to ensure that this is the case.

From December 1, 2011 pharmacy contractors providing MUR services will need to ensure that 50% of all MURs undertaken in each pharmacy should be with patients within one of the four national target groups.

The national target groups in Wales are:

- Patients taking antihypertensive medication,
- Patients taking medicines for respiratory disease
- Patients taking high risk medicines



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- Patients prescribed a medicine no longer required

As regards the financial year ending 31 March 2012, the pharmacy will need to ensure that at least 50% of MUR service consultations carried out on or after 1 December 2011 are with patients in one or more of the target groups.

Further changes are made regarding patient consent and the minimum requirements for patient to be eligible for the MUR service are detailed at <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=498&pid=7551>.

The Discharge Medicines Review Service

There is evidence that discrepancies arise between the medicines an individual is prescribed on discharge from hospital and the medication they are subsequently prescribed in primary care. Typically this occurs because of problems with the flow of timely and detailed medicines information.

The Discharge Medicines Review (DMR) service will comprise a two part intervention by a patient's community pharmacist. The first part will require community pharmacists to check that the medicines prescribed in one care setting (e.g. in hospital) match those prescribed by the GP when the patient returns to their home. The second part will provide the opportunity for the patient and pharmacist to discuss a patient's use of their medicines. The review will also help patients understand their therapy and will identify any problems they are experiencing along with possible solutions.

The active engagement of community pharmacists in this process should ensure patients receive the medicines intended and improve both patient safety and health outcomes.

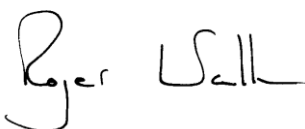
Continued investment by Welsh Government in this new service after April 2013 will be subject to completion of an evaluation and demonstration of significant patient benefit.

Clinical Governance

From January 1, 2012 changes will be made to terms of service for pharmacy contractors specifically relating to strengthened clinical governance arrangements. Pharmacy contractors will have until April 1, 2012 to ensure compliance with the revised terms of service. Further guidance on these changes will be available late in 2011.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter please direct them to andrew.evans@wales.gsi.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely



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