



To: All Community Pharmacies

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29th July 2019

Dear Colleague,

COMMUNITY PHARMACY ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK 2019/2020

As you are aware implementation of the Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF) began in July 2016 and consists of two components:

- (i) an annual declaration by each community pharmacy contractor, and
- (ii) a programme of visits, undertaken by HSCB staff, to each pharmacy over a three year period.

I am writing to provide an update in relation to CPAF and seek your completion of the individual assurance declaration form for your pharmacy for the 2019/2020 year.

Current Position

As of July 2019, 341 visits have taken place across Northern Ireland with 263 pharmacies having completed the process and received their letter of compliance with the framework. This is evidence that the process continues to be effective in providing the necessary assurance in relation to the quality and safety of community pharmacy services and the wider patient safety agenda.

As the process has now been established for three years, HSCB will be working with CPNI over the coming months to review the Assurance Framework process and the associated documentation.

CPAF Funding

In recognition of your co-operation with the CPAF process for 2018/19 a payment of £1200 will be paid to your pharmacy as part of your July payment (June prescriptions). The HSCB will continue to seek funding to facilitate a similar payment for this year.

Community Pharmacy Assurance Declaration 2019/20

The personalised declaration for your pharmacy will be issued by your local office by 12th August 2019. This should be completed and returned to your local HSCB office by **Monday 30th September 2019**.

CPAF Action Plan

If your pharmacy has an action plan in place following a recent CPAF visit I would encourage you to complete the agreed actions as soon as possible in order that the letter of compliance with the framework can be issued. If you have any queries in relation to this please contact your local Pharmacy Adviser.

The CPAF guidance document provides further information on the framework, details of how the process is managed and the relevant documentation. It is available on the pharmaceutical section of the BSO website at <http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/2693.htm>

If you have any queries in relation to the framework, or completion of the declaration form, please contact your Pharmacy Adviser, via your local office, in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,



Joe Brogan
Assistant Director Integrated Care
Head of Pharmacy and Medicines Management

CC. Gerard Greene, CPNI

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