

NEL Prescribing and Medicines Newsletter

September 2024

Updates for Community Pharmacy across North East London

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Update to provision of adrenaline autoinjectors (AAI's)

Communication was sent to GP prescribing leads in all practices across Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge on 14th August 2024 to provide an important update on the guidance on the provision of AAIs in primary care. Guidance previously issued to practices in Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge has been retracted.

The current advice for all clinicians in NEL is as follows:

- 1. Long standing regulatory and clinical advice:** recommends that patients should have immediate access to two AAI(s) due to the possibility of severe allergic reactions requiring more than one dose of adrenaline before emergency services arrives, or in cases of device failure or misplacement of the first injection.
- 2. Availability of AAIs for children:** Children clinically eligible for AAIs must have access to at least two AAIs – in and out of school settings. Schools should always have access to at least two AAI(s) to administer to children in case of anaphylaxis. It is not uncommon for primary schools to request that a pupil's AAIs be left on school premises. However, pupils must still have access to AAIs when travelling to and from school as well as at home or other out of school settings.
- 3. Quantities of AAIs to be prescribed by primary care clinicians:** Parents may therefore ask for up to four AAI(s) (two for the school setting and two for out of school settings that remain with the child/young person). Clinicians can consider reducing this to two AAIs for older children where the prescriber is confident that an older child has become capable of self-administration. Any recommendations to reduce quantities of AAIs supplied must be discussed with the patient or their guardian / carer.

Prescribers across NEL are asked to take the following actions:

Please review your current practice policies relating to patients at risk of anaphylaxis and prescribing of AAI(s) and ensure it is in line with the above recommendations.

Ensure that all clinicians (including locum and support staff) are aware of this update. Any previous CCG guidance that contradicts the above advice must be removed from practice's pathways, recommendations and other systems/processes in your practice.

Please feel free to contact the Pharmacy and Medicines Optimisation team by emailing nelondonicb.prescribingqueries@nhs.net with any questions you may have on AAI(s).

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) medication shortages

The NEL ADHD Medication Shortages memo has been updated and is available on the NHS North East London Primary Care Portal. The memo includes updated information for patients and families. Please click [here](#) for further information.

PrescQIPP Update

Upcoming PrescQIPP clinical masterclass webinars:

Clinicians may find the following monthly upcoming webinar (1-2pm) useful.

Date	Webinar
8 th October 2024	Managing heart failure in people with frailty – a balancing act

View previous webinars at <https://www.prescqipp.info/our-resources/clinical-masterclasses/>

Practice Plus webinar recordings:

Pharmacists may find the following past webinar recording useful.

Date	Webinar
11 th September 2024	Supporting the Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP) agenda for the 2025/26 trainee pharmacists

View previous webinars at <https://www.prescqipp.info/learning/practice-plus/>

Upcoming Prescribing mastery webinars

PrescQIPP have introduced a new series of webinars to support pharmacist prescribers in general practice. These webinar sessions offer action learning opportunities where attendees can bring cases along to share.

Clinicians may find the following webinars (1-2pm) useful.

Date	Webinar
17 th October 2024	Hypertension session 2: Reflecting on mastering hypertension prescribing – what went well, what was difficult, what could you do differently?
24 th October 2024	Cholesterol management session 1: Mastering cholesterol in a patient centred way.

Virtual Professional Groups

Clinicians may find the following monthly webinars (1-2pm) useful.

Date	Webinar
10 th October 2024	Medication safety
15 th October 2024	Care homes
22 nd October 2024	Antimicrobial stewardship

23rd October 2024

[Nutrition](#)

PrescQIPP Talking Meds podcast

PrescQIPP has launched their new podcast, Talking Meds on 20th September 2024. This will be the first of many bi-monthly podcast episodes hosted by Jonathan Underhill (former Medicines Clinical Adviser at NICE).

Future podcast episodes will include:

- Penicillin allergy de-labelling with Phil Howard OBE
- New NICE Menopause guideline with NICE committee member Hayley Berry
- Topics such as the NICE/SIGN Asthma guideline, depression deprescribing and insomnia
- There will also be a series on 'Sensible prescribing in Older people with Jonathan and Lucy', with consultant geriatrician and author Lucy Pollock

You can subscribe to the Talking Meds podcast via the following platforms:

- [Apple podcasts](#)
- [Spotify](#)

Not registered with PrescQIPP yet? You can register free of charge to access PrescQIPP resources by [clicking here](#). Please select "ICS North East London" as the organisation.

Contact Details and Additional Resources

CONTACT DETAILS

NEL ICB Pharmacy and Medicines Optimisation Team (PMOT)

For prescribing and medicines enquiries:
nelondonicb.prescribingqueries@nhs.net

For all enquires, reporting concerns or incidents relating to Controlled Drugs

england.londonaccountableoffice@nhs.net

Report CD incidents using the national reporting tool
www.cdreporting.co.uk

RESOURCES

For Pharmacy & Medicines Optimisation Team Resources

<https://primarycare.northeastlondon.icb.nhs.uk/home/meds/>

For Medicine Supply Shortages

[Click here](#) for **SPS Medicines Supply Tool** which offers up-to-date information on Medicines Shortages, provided by DHSC and NHSE/I.

[Register](#) with SPS free-of-charge to access.

For PGD Updates

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) – [click here](#)
SPS – [click here](#)
NHS England (NHSE) – [click here](#)

For your information:

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