

A REMINDER OF WHAT'S AVAILABLE OVER THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PERIOD

Finding information

- The **Dorset Formulary** is available at: www.dorsetformulary.nhs.uk. Look on the formulary first if you have a query about a medicine's traffic light status, or you are looking for shared care guidance.
- If you work in primary care (including community pharmacy), **specialist medicines advice** can be obtained from SPS via **0300 7708564** or email asksp.nhs@sps.direct. (Staff in Dorset NHS Trusts should seek advice from their pharmacy teams).
- **Drug shortage information** – refer to SPS [medicines supply tool](#) (login required), [PrescQIPP out of stock bulletins and intelligence page](#) (login required), [serious shortage protocols](#), and [GSK supply status information](#).
- **Pharmacy opening hours** are available via [Find a pharmacy - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#), click on the required pharmacy for information about opening hours over Christmas and New Year. This link will also enable you to see the directory of NHS services provided by individual pharmacies.
- If you are unable to find the answer you need elsewhere you can email the queries inbox for the medicines team at medicine.question@dorsetccg.nhs.uk but please note that responses may be slightly slower than normal over the festive period.

Local services

- Information on providers offering **emergency hormonal contraception** and other Public Health services (such as smoking cessation and needle exchange) can be found on the [Dorset Council website](#).
- For palliative care medicines, if in-hours first approach the patient's usual pharmacy as they should be able to supply items needed. Some pharmacies in Dorset also offer an **enhanced service for palliative care**, providing improved access to palliative care drugs by ensuring that there is on-demand supply of these drugs available from a network of community pharmacies spread geographically across Dorset. The list of pharmacies, medicines stocked and service details are available on the [Dorset formulary](#) in the useful links section. When issuing a prescription for multiple palliative care medicines, to prevent any potential delays, ensure that each medicine is issued on a separate prescription, so that if there are challenges obtaining any of the medicines via the usual/chosen pharmacy the script can be returned to the spine and those medicines can be obtained from a different pharmacy.
- The **Community Pharmacy Consultation (CPCS) Service** is available for practices who have initiated GP referral or where the integration of pharmacy into urgent care is available.
- The **locally commissioned Pharmacy Urgent Repeat Medication Service (PURMS) service** allows the emergency supply of a patient's medicine at NHS expense to reduce the number of patients contacting urgent and emergency care providers. This service is only available in the out-of-hours period (6.00pm to 8.00am weekdays plus weekends and Bank Holidays) and permits supply of up to 7 days treatment only, not 30 days as per emergency supply provisions. Exceptions apply. Refer to the [PSNC website](#) for details.
- **Flu out of season (FluOOS) protocol** - we are currently 'in season' for influenza, therefore any treatment for local outbreaks can be prescribed on FP10, in line with NICE [TA158](#) and [TA168](#). Should we subsequently be notified we are 'out of season' then prescribing should be undertaken via the FluOOS protocol, as per the [Dorset formulary](#).

Other important information/links

- **Reporting incidents:** errors or near misses should be reported via the [online reporting tool](#).

☆ MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR! ☆