

Pharmacy Quality Scheme – Important dates for the diary

This PSNC Briefing provides a list of the important dates for the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2021/22.

Date	Why is this date important?
1st September 2021	PQS 2021/22 officially starts.
	Start date for having conversations with patients, their carers or representatives, for whom you have dispensed an inhaler, about the environmental benefits of them returning all unwanted and used inhaler devices to a community pharmacy for safer and environmentally friendly disposal. DO NOT MISS THIS START DATE: CONTRACTORS NEED TO START WORKING ON THIS QUALITY CRITERION ON THIS DATE TO ENSURE THEY ARE ELIGIBLE TO MEET THIS QUALITY CRITERION.
	Catch up New Medicine Service (NMS) can start to be offered to patients.
	Flu Vaccination Service starts so contractors can start providing flu vaccinations to meet the target of providing 30 or more vaccinations.
	1st October 2021
4th October 2021	Aspiration payment window opens at 9am.
29th October 2021	Aspiration payment closes at 11.59pm.
1st December 2021	Aspiration payment is paid to contractors.
31st December 2021	Deadline for communications between the contractor and Pharmacy PCN Leads around increasing the uptake of flu vaccination to patients aged 65 and over for the 2021/22 influenza season.
28th January 2022	Deadline to start anticoagulant audit (four weeks till last day of declaration period).
31st January 2022	Declaration window opens at 9am.
	Contractors do not need to continue to have conversations with patients, their carers or representatives, for whom they have dispensed an inhaler, about the environmental benefits of them returning all unwanted and used inhaler devices to a community pharmacy for safer and environmentally friendly disposal to meet this quality criterion.
	Deadline to have provided 30 or more flu vaccinations.
	Deadline to start antibiotic audit (eight weeks till last day of declaration period).
5th January 2022	Deadline to have claimed payment for the provision of at least 20 NMS (including catch-up NMS) since 1st April 2021.
25th February 2022	Declaration window closes at 11.59pm.
1st April 2022	Contractors paid PQS payment (aspiration payment will be initially reconciled with the payment for the PQS 2021/22).
1st June 2022	Reconciliation of payments for the PCN domain when final data on the increase to the uptake of flu vaccination to patients aged 65 and over will be available.
TBC	When referrals can start to be made to the NHS Digital Weight Management Programme.