



**Community Pharmacy
Cheshire and Wirral**



Maximising the Quality Payment Scheme

Don't let your pharmacy experience an extra reduction in funding.

You may be aware that the Department of Health (DH) is introducing a Quality Payment Scheme as part of the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) in 2017/18.

This will involve payments being made to community pharmacy contractors meeting certain quality criteria. These payments will be taken from the £2.592 billion overall funding for 2017/18 and are **not additional funding payments**.

Therefore, it is really important that you understand the Quality payment criteria and achieve as many as possible - so that your pharmacy doesn't miss out.

For 2017/18, up to £75million will be available for contractors to claim. Payments can be claimed at two review points – 28 April 2017 and 24 November 2017.

How much are the Quality Payments worth?

A minimum of £6,400. There are eight criteria, each of which can earn a pharmacy 'points'. The maximum number of points a pharmacy can achieve is 100. Each point will entitle the pharmacy to a quality payment, initially at the rate of £64 per point, but this could increase to a maximum of £128 per point being paid depending on the total number of points achieved by all the pharmacies in England.

If there is a low uptake amongst contractors across England and the value per point is above £64, participating pharmacies could possibly achieve a higher payment.

What do I have to do in order to qualify for Quality Payments?

First - decide you want to take part. Then, in order to receive any quality points, a pharmacy first has to meet four gateway criteria. The four gateway criteria are:

1. Provision of at least one specified Advanced Service
2. NHS Choices entry up to date
3. Ability for staff to send and receive mail
4. Ongoing usage of EPS

Note: There is no payment for the Gateway criteria

What are the Eight Quality Criteria?

1. Production of a [patient safety report](#) (£1,280)
2. 80 per cent of pharmacy professionals have achieved [level 2 safeguarding training](#) (£640)
3. [Patient survey](#) results published on NHS Choices (£320)
4. [Healthy Living Pharmacy](#) level 1 (£1,280)
5. Accessing [Summary Care record](#) (£640)

**Community Pharmacy working together for patients across
Cheshire, Wirral and Warrington**

6. [NHS 111](#) Directory of Services entry up to date (£320)
7. [Asthma](#) patients dispensed more than 6 short-acting bronchodilator inhalers without any corticosteroid inhaler within 6 month period referred for an asthma review (£1,280)
8. 80 per cent of pharmacy staff are [Dementia Friends](#) (£640)

Click on each of the links above to find out more about each quality criteria.

The eight quality criteria have been weighted so that the number of points allocated to each one is based on the difficulty of achieving them and the benefit to patients. Some, like Dementia friend training will be quicker to achieve than others, such as HLP status. The LPC would suggest that you review all of the criteria and then create a [pharmacy plan](#), starting with some of the criteria that are easier to achieve.

It is important to note that there are 2 review periods with some criteria being claimed for twice and others only once.

The ones that can only be claimed for once are HLP status, Patient survey results on NHS Choices and the patient safety report. These can either be claimed for either in April or November.

The PSNC website it has excellent summaries of what you need to do to achieve the criteria and forms to help you record staff training and links to sources of training.

These include:

A [PSNC briefing on Quality payments](#)

A [PSNC briefing on referrals for asthma reviews](#)

A [pharmacy plan](#) to summarise the Quality Criteria and review progress.

A [Safeguarding record sheet](#) to record completion of safeguarding training.

A [Dementia friend record sheet](#) to record completion of Dementia friend training.

A PharmOutcomes template will be available to support contractors with recording their progress with Quality Payments and more information about this will be available in the near future.

The LPC will be keeping you updated over the coming months as further information and resources become available to support you with your Quality payment claims.

If you have any questions about the Quality Criteria please contact us via alison.cpcw@gmail.com or Tel: 07523056988

Kind Regards,

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