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**C&M British Heart Foundation (BHF) Blood Pressure (BP) Innovation Award**

Dear Colleagues,

May I firstly congratulate you on being chosen as one of the 120 HLPs to be part of this exciting project to deliver BP screening until end of March 2019. We have worked closely with your LPCs and public health colleagues, to ensure that our HLPs could become key partners in the local blood pressure screening programme.

The LPN has engaged with the C&M Blood Pressure Board to ensure that HLPs are embedded in the 5-year C&M BP strategy *“Saving Lives: Reducing the Pressure”*. It sets out the case and direction of travel for Cheshire and Merseyside to take a system wide approach for the prevention, detection and treatment of high blood pressure[[1]](#footnote-1). It is estimated that there are almost 275,000 people with high blood pressure that are unknown to primary care. Tackling hypertension is a priority for the Prevention elements within the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP), which has specifically been developed to improve health and care in the C&M area.The local blood pressure screening programme aims to screen a minimum of 3,000 recorded BP screening measurements across 120 HLPs recruited in C&M by end of March 2019.

Your successful participation in the screening programme will provide evidence of the role HLPs can play on improving the health outcome of the local population.

**Project aim:**

* To screen a minimum of 3,000 recorded BP screening measurements across 120 HLPs recruited in C&M by end of March 2019.
* To evaluate the contribution HLPs have made to the screening programme.

**Project key points:**

* The project will run until the end of March 2019.
* Members of the public who are eligible for the pilot;
  + People aged 18 and above who are not already being treated for raised BP.
  + People directed / referred by another project partner; Fire & Rescue service (FRS), Warrington BP kiosks, and Halton health trainers.
* People identified as having either high blood pressure or very high blood pressure and or as having irregular heartbeat will be advised by pharmacy staff according to the newly developed Cheshire and Merseyside Guidelines for Blood Pressure Testing in the community.

**Project equipment, training and promotional material:**

* Each HLP must send at least one member of the staff to the training
* However, HLPs will be able to send up to 3 staff to be trained by accredited trainers, until April 2018, this is limited to 2 places, to ensure at least 1 person per HLP attends the training and collects the equipment.
* The HLP staff attending the training will receive an approved BP machine that is also capable of detecting irregular heartbeat.
* The training will involve correct use of equipment, the C&M BP pathway, criterion for referral if irregular heartbeat is detected, demonstration of the recording module on PharmOutcomes (PO).
* All promotional, and informational material will be provided to the HLPs.
* Pharmacies should have sufficient indemnity insurance to provide this service.

**Project funding:**

* The HLPs will receive a payment of £75.00 at the end of project subject to;
  + Completing a minimum of 1 BP screening per month.
  + Completing a minimum total of 25 BP screening during the project lifetime.
  + All completed BP screenings being recorded and submitted on the PO module.
  + Each HLP having signed the EOI, and accepting this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will qualify to receive the payment in April 2019.

**Training locations and how to book your training places:**

* Please see the attached list for full details. (appendix 1)
* Please visit the Eventbrite website and book your places
* You will need your pharmacy’s ODS code (Pharmacy contract code)

Finally, thank you for agreeing to participate and we wish you every success in this project. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail as provided.

Yours sincerely,

Hassan Argomandkhah FRPharmS IPresc

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Appendix 1: Cheshire and Merseyside Blood Pressure Testing training events

1. <http://www.champspublichealth.com/http%3A//www.champspublichealth.com/sites/default/files/FINAL%2520BP%2520Strategy%252017.5.16_0.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)