



ALL-PARTY PHARMACY GROUP

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Chair: Rt Hon Kevin Barron MP
Vice Chair: Baroness Cumberlege DL CBE
Secretary: Stephen Lloyd MP

Invitation to All-Party Group meeting

Improving outcomes for patients with long term conditions: what can pharmacy offer?

Managing long-term conditions accounts for a significant proportion of NHS spending. In this era of financial constraint, it is all the more important that people suffering long-term conditions get the care and support needed to prevent unnecessary hospital admissions or other forms of expensive secondary and acute care.

Over recent years there has been increased recognition of the role that pharmacy can play in supporting such patients. Indeed the Department of Health recently announced that £55m a year for the next two years would be made available to deliver the New Medicine Service through pharmacies. This is designed to help improve medicines adherence among people with long-term conditions who have been prescribed a new medicine. The Department has also agreed to introduce a targeted Medicine Use Review service, which will focus on long-term conditions like asthma.

While these initiatives are welcome news, what else can be done to utilise pharmacies' capability in managing long-term conditions in order to deliver improved patient outcomes and better use of NHS resources? Does the current listening exercise provide an opportunity to go further faster?

This meeting will focus specifically on asthma: what are the key challenges facing healthcare providers in supporting asthma patients; whether there has been progress over recent years in the development of asthma services and how management of asthma sufferers should be organised in future. Are there examples of successful pharmacy programmes for asthma patients from which we can learn? Can these examples provide inspiration and good practice guidance for commissioners and pharmacists in other parts of the country?

More information on speakers will follow shortly.

Date: 4pm, Tuesday 17th May 2011

Venue: Committee Room 5, Palace of Westminster, London, SW1
(Public entrance on Cromwell Green, please allow time for security checks)

To confirm your place at this meeting please email appg@luther.co.uk or call Toby Pellew or Natalie Bateman on 0207 618 9100