

## ATTENTION: Coronavirus

# PHARMACY STAFF WITH COVID-LIKE SYMPTOMS

### PHARMACIST WITH SYMPTOMS *(no other pharmacist immediately available)*

- Close the pharmacy.
- The pharmacist should return home and self-isolate in line with government guidance. Arrange for the pharmacist to access COVID-19 testing as per LHB guidance.
- Action the relevant sections of the pharmacy's business continuity plan.
- Secure a replacement pharmacist for the remainder of the day if possible, and for the duration of the potential self-isolation period.
- Notify the LHB of the pharmacy closure. Inform nearby GP practices and pharmacies, local drug & alcohol teams and patients due to collect urgent dispensed prescriptions.
- Plan how patients can collect urgent dispensed prescriptions. This may require the transfer of prescriptions and/or dispensed medication to a nearby pharmacy. Where no other option is available, pharmacy staff may hand out previously dispensed prescriptions for a short period of time, in the absence of a pharmacist.
- Prominently display information for the public on how to access urgent medication and other pharmacy services. Include contact details for nearby pharmacies.
- Undertake a thorough clean of the pharmacy, focussing on surfaces and equipment that the pharmacist is likely to have been in contact with.
- Reopen the pharmacy as soon as a replacement pharmacist is available. If the pharmacy may not be able to open the next working day, this must be raised with the LHB as a matter of urgency.

## NON-PHARMACIST STAFF WITH SYMPTOMS

- In line with government advice, it is not necessary to close the pharmacy.
- The staff member should return home and self-isolate in line with government guidance. Arrange for them to access COVID-19 testing as per LHB guidance.

Staff testing can be arranged by calling:

- 01633 431732 (ext 51732) - 01633 431733 (ext 51733)
- 01633 431736 (ext 51736) - 01633 431738 (ext 51738)

- Action the relevant sections of the pharmacy's business continuity plan.
- Where necessary, secure additional support for the remainder of the day and for the duration of the potential self-isolation period.
- If specific roles such as care homes services are likely to be disrupted, inform service users of the potential delay and any action required.
- Undertake a thorough clean of the pharmacy, focussing on surfaces and equipment that the member of staff is likely to have been in contact with. This may require a temporary closure of the pharmacy.
- Other members of the team should follow appropriate infection prevention measures and can continue to work within the pharmacy. Staff that are not displaying COVID-like symptoms are not required to self-isolate.

### Resources:

Stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus (COVID-19) infection ([link](#))

GPhC Q&A: Coronavirus ([link](#))

Guidance for employers and businesses on coronavirus (COVID-19) ([link](#))