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This month we have articles on:   * [The Open Data Portal](#ODP) * [Known, ongoing or potential issues](#Issues) * [Did you know? Some useful tips](#DYK?) * [Training update](#Training) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **The Open Data Portal**  The [Open Data Portal](https://nhs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=73c3d4c9798efad92c827e730&id=4e4da24a09&e=482e7f5819) is the NHSBSA home of data we release for anyone to use without restriction. Built using open-source tools, it lets you filter and download datasets, view the metadata and data in a single place.  We currently have 10 published datasets with most containing our prescriptions and pharmacy data. For those of you who need to work with raw data and have a need to automate your access to data then the Open Data Portal is a vital resource.  Our Open Data Portal uses technology that allows users to browse and search for data through the website, or from machine-to-machine through application programming interfaces (API). You can learn more about our API and see example code in our [documentation area](https://nhs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=73c3d4c9798efad92c827e730&id=a9749504e3&e=482e7f5819).  The NHSBSA has committed to making our data open, where it is legal, appropriate, and safe to do so, which will empower others to use the data for new and exciting purposes. We have an [open data roadmap](https://nhs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=73c3d4c9798efad92c827e730&id=72febaf5c4&e=482e7f5819) of upcoming data releases that you can access to see what we are working on next.    If you have ideas for data that you would like the NHSBSA to consider releasing on the Open Data Portal, please contact us at [DataServicesSupport@nhsbsa.nhs.uk](mailto:DataServicesSupport@nhsbsa.nhs.uk) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Known, ongoing or potential issues**   We remain aware that our users are requiring ongoing guidance regarding the **annual BNF code changes** which have affected the Nutritional Borderline Substance (NBS) products. The Prescription Services team have put together [additional guidance](https://nhs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=73c3d4c9798efad92c827e730&id=f37f57befa&e=482e7f5819) to assist with the understanding of this process and what it means going forward.   **NHSBSA colleagues no longer have NHS.net email addresses** since the migration to an NHSBSA.nhs.uk domain. We’d kindly request that all emails are directed to [DataServicesSupport@nhsbsa.nhs.uk](mailto:dataservicessupport@nhsbsa.nhs.uk) so that your email can be processed accordingly, and ensure our responses monitored for colleague training and performance purposes.   You may have noticed a few changes as a result of Information Services/Data & Insight joining with Digital, Data & Technology. We’ve subsequently **rebranded to Data Services** and are busy updating our systems, webpages and various communication methods to reflect this.   The NHSBSA Data Services Support Team cannot assist with queries relating to ESR, new prescribers, ODS code changes and closures, prescriber PINs, and requests for copies of invoices or prescription images. Ensuring you [contact the correct Team](https://nhs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=73c3d4c9798efad92c827e730&id=1f1ec6b714&e=482e7f5819) with your query will enable the Data Services Support Team to deal with relevant cases more promptly.   The Data Services Team are exceptionally busy, in the previous 6 month period we have facilitated the completion of 82 FOIs, 70 Data Requests, 93 Counter Fraud Requests, 99 Patient NHS Number Requests and this is in addition to the BAU weekly and monthly tasks, questions, queries and other ad-hoc queries.   The Training Team have led 243 ePACT2 training webinars in addition to many ad-hoc Teams calls and informal bespoke training sessions.   We aim to respond within 5 working days in all instances – your patience is appreciated. Please do not send in further emails chasing a response if it is still within the 5 working day response period; emails are dealt with in order of receipt and therefore subsequent emails do not hasten responses in any way. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Did You Know? Some useful tips**   The username used to log into your account is your full email address which you registered with – in exceptional circumstances this may be different but, if this was the case, we would have clearly notified you of this when your account was created. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A screenshot of a login box  Description automatically generated with low confidence | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Users creating their own analyses in ePACT2 should use only the **Year Month** **Time Period Filter**, such as in the following example: | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Using this specific Year Month filter ensures that the system returns analyses quicker and more reliably than when using any other Time Period filter – this is due to the way the data is stored within our Data Warehouse.   To include a filter only, the following steps in the example below can be followed as required: | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A screenshot of a computer  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A screenshot of a computer  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The New Filter option will then be presented as usual: | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A screenshot of a computer  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **SICBL** stands for Sub-Integrated Care Board Location – these were previously referred to as Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) before the renaming in July 2022.   GP Practices needing to investigate **discrepancies found within the data in the Personally Administered Items report** on ePACT2 and that which features in their monthly payment statements must contact Primary Care Support England directly.  The NHSBSA receive and process these figures which are then sent on to PCSE who make the payments on behalf of NHSE. Add-ons are then included from NHSE in the item of service fees and other services/initiatives. PCSE are not contracted to return any data to NHS Business Services Authority as our data feeds into the overall payment process. Practices therefore should query differences between these figures and the actual payments with PCSE.   Users with Financial Level access will now see a **Practice** tab within the banner for organisations. This removes the need to click through using the Provider tab and ensures that Practice level data is clearly located within these reports: | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A blue and white sign with white text  Description automatically generated with low confidence | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Training update**   We currently have an ongoing task wherein we are **updating all available user guides**. As part of this task, the Training Team have recorded and published pre-recorded webinars for Sub-ICB Location (SICBL), Primary Care Network (PCN) and GP Practice users of ePACT2. These recordings can be found in the [User Guides](https://nhs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=73c3d4c9798efad92c827e730&id=375ad5ce16&e=482e7f5819) section of the NHSBSA ePACT2 Webpages.  These guides are available 24/7 and are an ideal way to fit in ePACT2 training in and around your busy schedules – play, pause, rewind and fast forward as required and replay again and again if needed.   **Always remember: The Training Team is YOUR Training Team and we are here to help.**   If you have attended a [training webinar](https://nhs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=73c3d4c9798efad92c827e730&id=744a1ae4fc&e=482e7f5819) and would like to [provide feedback](https://nhs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=73c3d4c9798efad92c827e730&id=0bb8305f06&e=482e7f5819), we would love to hear from you regarding your experience. We’d like to ensure that our webinars are as useful as possible and so any feedback, whether positive or negative, is always gratefully received and reflected upon accordingly.   As part of this, we’d also welcome any suggestions or comments regarding the content of our newsletters. Do you find them useful? Would you like us to include anything different? Please let us know and you will be helping to shape our future communications for the better. | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Follow us on Twitter for the latest news and information:  [@NHSBSA\_ePACT2](https://nhs.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=73c3d4c9798efad92c827e730&id=c81f247cf2&e=482e7f5819).  **Come and join the conversation.** | | | | | | |