



## Welcome to the Greener PCPA Spring newsletter!

### [Join our Greener PCPA Telegram Group](#)

We are delighted that we now have almost 100 members on our Greener PCPA Telegram group - the place to be if you want to share tips and chat about sustainable healthcare in general practice. [Join us!](#)

## How to continue to support your practice/PCN/ICS in changing to lower carbon footprint inhalers into 2023/24

Spring is here, which means everyone has been working really hard on end of year targets. Unexpectedly the IIF respiratory indicators are not continuing into 2023/24. However **Open Prescribing** will continue to report on the inhaler **Greener Measures categories** and there is a **new Respiratory - carbon impact dashboard**. So, there is still a strong strategic focus on reducing the carbon footprint of respiratory care and it would be a missed opportunity NOT to make further progress on reducing this carbon hot spot.

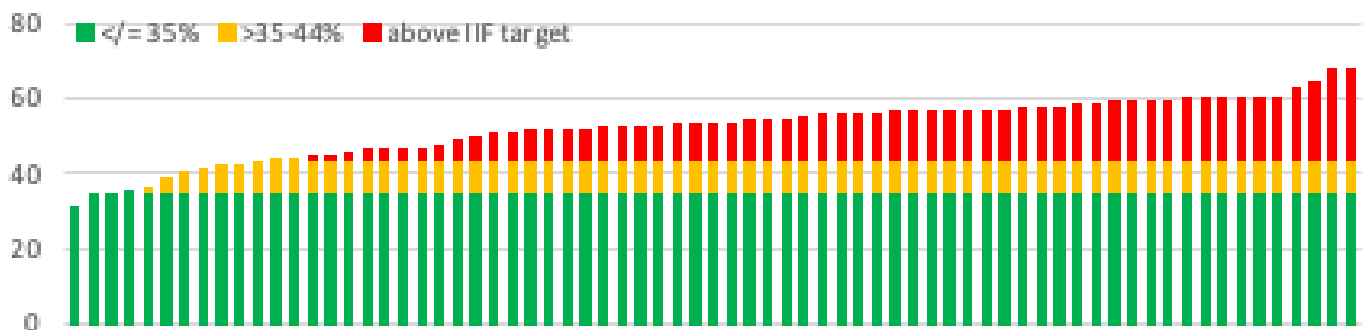
Progress in England:

- ES02: lowering CF of salbutamol inhalers (target 18-22kg CO<sub>2</sub>e): 20.05kg to January 2023
- ES01: reducing proportion of MDIs, excluding salbutamol (target downwards 44-35%): 54.6% to January 2023.

Many practices & PCNs have really struggled to make progress. Gloucester has been assisted by:

- A formulary with traffic lights - red higher CF, green lower CF
- Collaborative teaching & training events delivered across the PCNs by respiratory consultants, respiratory ANP & MO team
- Greener Practice group raised awareness by delivering sustainability sessions at practice & PCN level
- The production of a quarterly newsletter which includes a bar chart for ES01 using open prescribing data to show the position of each practice to foster healthy competition & good practice sharing.

ES01 MDI inhalers as percentage of total inhalers prescribed (excluding salbutamol)



How has your practice/PCN/ICS fared?

## Did you know that

- Symbicort and Flutiform MDIs have the highest carbon footprints, with around 37kg CO<sub>2</sub>e per inhaler! (compared with around 1kg CO<sub>2</sub>e for a dry powder alternative).
- Symbicort 200/6 DPI is now licensed as a reliever treatment for asthma, to be taken as needed in response to symptoms, for asthma patients over 12 years old.

## How to support your practice/PCN/ICS to reduce energy consumption

Reduce your practice's carbon footprint, save money and score on the [Green Impact for Health Toolkit!](#) This is not extra work! It just requires a little tweak to the daily routine. Switch off devices when not in use, only print when you really need to and ensure a comprehensive shut down process at the end of the day. You can read about what other practices have done in this [BJGP article](#) and get lots more ideas from the wonderful [@greenlifegp](#) [here](#) & a Green Action Plan for primary care from [See Sustainability](#).

## Climate action at work

On 1st March 2023, the UK Health Alliance on Climate Change published ten commitments to mitigate and adapt to climate change. The list can be used as guiding principles by any health organisations to show leadership and drive the changes needed.

The 10 points are:

- Declare
- Plan
- Campaign
- Embed
- Specialise
- Educate
- Divest
- Improve
- Travel smart
- Plant based

You can read more [here](#).



## Networking NHS Future Platform

Have you joined the **Greener NHS knowledge** hub on the Future NHS platform? You can also search for local Greener NHS groups and join their workspace to keep up to date with what is happening locally to you

## Reading

If you read one article this week..... we recommend Interventions to reduce the environmental impact of medicines: a UK perspective which you can access here:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2667278221000766>

This short article provides a great overview of simple actions which primary care clinicians can undertake as part of their routine clinical work towards a more sustainable approach to healthcare.

Cussans A, Harvey G, Kemple T, Tomson M. Interventions to Reduce the Environmental Impact of Medicines: A UK perspective☆. The Journal of Climate Change and Health. 2021 Oct 1;4:100079.



Coming soon!

## Greener PCPA at CPC

Don't miss our Greener PCPA Leads sessions at CPC

**GET FREE TICKET HERE**

Enter discount code: **PCPA**

Friday 12th May 15:15-15:45

Addressing health inequalities through greener practice in primary care



Speakers



Wendy Tyler-Batt, Clinical Pharmacist - Gloucestershire ICS

Saturday 13th May 11:30 - 12:00

Applying the principles of sustainable healthcare to pharmacy practice



Speakers



Nuala Hampson, Lead Facilitator - Centre for Sustainable Healthcare and member of Pharmacy Declares

## PCPA Webinars

Thursday 18th May 8-9pm:

**Changing prescribing behaviour - using Open Prescribing to encourage greener prescribing**

Speakers:

- Nuala Hampson, Greener PCPA Lead, Lead Facilitator CSH
- Brian MacKenna, Director of NHS Service Analytics, Bennett Institute for Applied Data Science, Pharmacist Adviser, NHS England

## Take Action!

### Planetary Health Hub - 21 - 24 April 2023

#### Location: Outside Parliament

Join health professionals in asking our government to speed up the phase out of oil and gas, and to ensure clean air for all. Together we can help safeguard the health and wellbeing of all people alive today and for generations to come.

## Share!

Let us know what greener prescribing work you have been doing in your practice. If you've been involved in any initiatives to reduce your practice's energy consumption, paper use, increase in active travel or any clinical sustainable initiatives, we'd love to hear about it.

Let's get talking, doing and sharing all things sustainable

Thanks, the Greener PCPA Team



Nuala Hampson



Wendy Tyler-Batt