

# Community Pharmacy Consultations UPDATE

More than **58 million** informal **healthcare consultations** are provided by pharmacists and their teams every year\*

Every year **44 million** patients self-refer to a pharmacist and their team for healthcare advice with **5 million** unable to access other healthcare\*

Pharmacies have **remained open** during the pandemic with **1 in 4 consultations** involving advice relating to **COVID-19\***

Informal consultations provided by pharmacists and their teams **save more than 24 million** GP appointments every year\*

**61% of pharmacies** reported being under **intense pressure** due to growing demand unmatched by funding\*



**Pharmacists are highly qualified experts in medicines. We offer appointment-free healthcare advice with no waiting lists, right in the heart of your community.**

\* PSNC Pharmacy Advice Audit 2021: In early 2021 5,830 pharmacies in England recorded the informal patient consultations they gave over a 24-hour period. These consultations have no specific funding associated with them. **Comparison with data from the PSNC Pharmacy Advice Audit 2020 suggests a consistent or growing reliance on advice and care from community pharmacies.** The consultations are a critical part of pharmaceutical care, helping patients and reducing pressure on other healthcare providers. PSNC is in discussions with HM Government and the NHS seeking fair funding for NHS community pharmacies so they can continue to offer this and other critical care. MPs can help by calling for an uplift in community pharmacy funding. Please write a letter to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care or submit written or oral questions.

For more information or assistance preparing letters or questions please contact: [commsteam@psnc.org.uk](mailto:commsteam@psnc.org.uk)