

To: All Community Pharmacies

**Directorate of Integrated Care
Western Office**

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11th May 2020

Dear Colleague

COVID 19: ACCESS TO CHILDCARE FOR COMMUNITY PHARMACY STAFF

The DH have clarified that community pharmacists and their staff are included in the current definition of 'key worker' for the purpose of access to childcare and have been prioritised to access childcare as required.

Childcare options for key workers:

- Family Support NI have a website with information for key workers where you can search for available options in your area:
<https://www.familysupportni.gov.uk/Support/91/covid19-childcare-options-and-associated-guidance>

<https://www.familysupportni.gov.uk/Content/uploads/userUploads/Information%20for%20Key%20Worker%20Staff%20Looking%20for%20Childcare.pdf>.
- If you are unable to find suitable childcare through the Family Support NI website, keyworkers can call Parentline on 0808 8020 400 who will put you in touch with their Trust Early Years Team. The Early Years Teams know where the provision is and are able to match key workers with providers.

I trust this will help to maintain vital staffing levels within community pharmacies.

Yours sincerely,



Joe Brogan
Assistant Director of Integrated Care
Head of Pharmacy and Medicines Management

CC. Gerard Greene, CPNI