## Community pharmacy tackling health inequalities and promoting vaccine uptake amongst BAME communities – Pharmacy Vaccine rollout

- 1. Chair Andrew Lane, Chair, NPA
  - a. Kemi Badenoch MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Equalities) in the Government Equalities Office
  - b. Jo Churchill, Public Health Minister DHSC
  - c. To Join at 16:15 Nadhim Zahawi Vaccine Minister (BEIS/DHSC)

Call details	Irrelevant & Sensitive	
15:55- 15:58	NPA join call Ministers KB and JC and officials join call	
16.00- 16.07	Welcome     Welcome attendees and Ministers - delighted to welcome everyone and we expect Nadhim Zahawi to join later in the call.     We are going to explore three areas this call, firstly highlight the way that community pharmacy has an important role in tackling health inequalities, and then how we can build on this role to use community pharmacy to promote uptake of the Covid vaccine. Later in the call we will then consider community pharmacy's wider role In the Covid vaccination programme and consider how community pharmacy could make     I would like to provide a brief introduction to community pharmacy.     Network of 14,000 pharmacies across UK (11,400 in England)     Community pharmacies offer eExtended opening hours – they available in the evenings and at weekends     A qualified and highly skilled pharmacist present in every pharmacy – four year university degree plus one year professional training so five years to qualify     A diverse profession – 48% of pharmacists are from a BAME background. As business owners, employers of local people, and providers of healthcare to people of all ethnicities, community pharmacists have an important role in addressing equalities.     Significant funding threat – EY research in 2020 showed that due to cuts around a third currently running a deficit and this will increase to three-quarters in 2024 which is unsustainable     Community pharmacy has played a significant in supporting the country's response and maintaining access to NHS services through the pandemic. Pharmacies have stayed open throughout the pandemic, maintaining the supply of medicines, playing a bigger role as a first port of call for patients worried about their health with other face to face services more difficult to access and being a trusted source of information and advice on Covid. We have also been working with the Home Office supporting their Covid pandemic domestic abuse campaign through community pharmacies.	AL

	Introducing the participants     Andrew Lane (AL)      NR      Nick Kaye (NK)     Team from the NPA: Gareth Jones,     NR     NR     who have expertise in public health and policy on health inequalities      Ask people to say in the chat function (privately to Monomita Raksit if preferable) if they'd rather not feature in a screen grab	
16.07- 16.12	Introductory comments from Minister Kemi Badenoch	КВ
16:12 - 16 15	Introductory comments from Minister Jo Churchill	JC
<mark>16:15</mark>	Minister Zahawi (Vaccine Minister joins call) Welcome from AL	
16.15- 16.30	Community pharmacy and the opportunities to tackle health inequalities Andrew to introduce  Inverse care law which states that the provision of health services is inversely proportional to the health needs, meaning that deprived areas have less provision  Community pharmacy bucks this law – in fact community pharmacy distribution is heavily skewed towards areas of deprivation  Invite  NR  to come in and provides  Examples will be provided from participants of the ways that they help provide/have seen services in deprived areas in ways which contribute towards tackling health inequalities	AL to chair discussio n
16.30- 16.45	Countering 'anti vax' fears and providing vaccination education ahead of distribution of C19 vaccine  • Community pharmacists have a trusted relationship with patients in their area and are well placed to dispel myths that may be around in relation to the Covid vaccine  • We would be keen to support a campaign using our regular face to face contact with the public to drive up the vaccination rate  • NR can talk about how her pharmacy, where 90% of the patients are from a BAME background, already encourages patients to have the flu vaccine  • AW can talk about work he has done with the Muslim Council of Bristol to promote uptake of the flu vaccine  • NR may wish to comment too  • vynacrears, concerns and misinformation are pharmacists hearing in their local communities	AL to chair discussio n
16.45- 16:50	Remarks from Minister Zahawi	