

**All Pharmacies currently accredited for  
the Pharmacy First Service in Devon  
Sent by email:**

**NHS Devon ICB**  
County Hall (The Annexe)  
Topsham Road  
Exeter  
EX2 4QL

D-ICB.medicinesoptimisation@nhs.net

23 March 2023

Dear Colleague,

I am writing to you with regards to the Community Pharmacy Minor Ailment Service (referred to as “Pharmacy First”) in Devon, and to detail some important changes to the Service which will take effect from 01 April 2023:

- The current PGD for Nitrofurantoin M/R Capsules for the treatment of uncomplicated Urinary Tract Infections (UTIs) (PGD MAS 2 v3.1) will expire on the 31 March 2023 and will be replaced by an updated version (PGD MAS 2 v4.1), **effective from 01 April 2023.**
- The current Service Specification (v13) for the Pharmacy First Service will be replaced by an updated version (v14.1), **effective from 01 April 2023.**

**The key changes to the service are as follows:**

- Pharmacists wishing to provide the service from 01 April 2023 will be required to complete a Declaration of Competence for Minor Ailments Services through the Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE).
- The consultation fee for the service will increase from £10.00 to £14.00 per patient consultation where the patient has not been referred via a nationally / locally commissioned service<sup>1</sup>.
- Alternatively, where a patient has been referred via a nationally / locally commissioned service<sup>1</sup>, is assessed, and meets the inclusion criteria for treatment under the Pharmacy First Service, pharmacies will be able to claim a PGD / clinical protocol fee of £6.00.
- Where an antimicrobial PGD has been used, an additional follow-up element after the initial consultation / supply is required. This follow-up conversation with the patient will be remunerated at a fee of £5.00 in addition to the fees outlined above. **This change will only apply to the treatment of uncomplicated Urinary Tract Infections (PGD MAS 02 for Nitrofurantoin M/R Capsules).**

**Please note, excluding the changes to the funding mechanism, there are no changes to the other PGD and clinical protocol included in the service.**

Community Pharmacists wishing to deliver this updated Service, and in accordance with PGD legislation, will need to ensure they have undertaken the following actions:

- All pharmacists to read and ensure they have understood the new PGD and Service Specification
- All pharmacists to confirm they have all relevant competencies / knowledge and sign the new PGD to self-declare
- All pharmacists to complete a Declaration of Competence for Minor Ailments Services via CPPE.

Please note, all pharmacists (to include locums and relief pharmacists) are required to undertake the above actions to ensure continuity of service provision and reduce the need to signpost patients to GP practices or Out of Hours services unnecessarily.

The new PGD (PGD MAS 2 v4.1 Nitrofurantoin M/R Capsules), Service Specification (v14.1) and resources are now available on the NHS Devon Pharmacy First [webpage](#) and will be accessible on the PharmOutcomes platform from 01 April 2023.

The mechanism for claiming for the Pharmacy First Service will remain the same. Updates to PharmOutcomes, to include the addition of a follow-up template, will take place automatically on 01 April 2023.

The changes to the PGD have undergone a consultation process and all changes have been discussed with Devon LPC.

NHS Devon ICB issues a Variation Agreement (VA) every year to keep the contract up to date. The updated Pharmacy First Service Specification will be included in your Variation Agreement in April.

We will continue to review Pharmacy First services annually.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours Sincerely,



Charlie Thomas  
Senior Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist  
(NHS Devon ICB)

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<sup>1</sup> This refers to commissioned services where consultation with / assessment of the patient is included. At the time of writing, this only refers to the Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS).