

MARCH 2025

Community Pharmacy Ealing

Stay up to date with the latest announcements from your LPC

IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES

Date: 1st March 2025

Pharmacy First: The activity threshold of clinical pathway consultations increases to a **minimum of 30 clinical pathways per month** (an [announcement](#) was made on 14 October 2024 about this). This means pharmacy owners have to provide a **minimum of 30 consultations that pass the gateway point** (as detailed in the clinical pathways) in March 2025 to be eligible for the £1,000 monthly payment.

Action: Ensure pharmacy team members are aware of the increase in activity threshold and discuss actions that can support the team to reach the increased target.

Date: 31st March 2025

Flu: 2024/25 Flu Vaccination Service ends.

Action: At the end of the day remove any promotional materials for the Flu Vaccination Service (including any on your website) and ensure all staff are aware that the service has now finished for 2024/25.

HLP: Deadline for undertaking a community engagement exercise (at least one must be undertaken per financial year) on the promotion of healthy living, which involves:

- Actively working in collaboration with other organisations to deliver pharmacy outreach and any locally commissioned services; and
- Taking prevention and health promotion services beyond the pharmacy premises. Pharmacy outreach may be face to face and take services to people where they live or spend time or may be virtual events.

Pharmacy First: Deadline for pharmacy owners who are delivering Pharmacy First to also deliver the Pharmacy Contraception Service and Hypertension Case-Finding Service to qualify for the monthly £1,000 fixed payment (as well as meeting the relevant consultation threshold). Please also note the statement from Janet Morrison, CPE's CE, on March 17th *“....We are not able to give a running commentary on negotiations, but as the Secretary of State commented to Parliament last week – negotiations are ‘about to conclude’. It remains our goal to communicate with the sector as soon as possible, and before the start of the financial year.”*

ToS: Deadline for verifying and, where necessary, updating the information contained in a pharmacy's [NHS website](#) profile **and** their [DoS](#) profile for the 1st January to 31st March 2025 quarter of the financial year.

This is a mandatory requirement for all pharmacy owners.

Action: If you have not updated your NHS website profile and your DoS profile using [NHS Profile Manager](#), complete this by the end of the day.

ToS: Deadline for having completed the [pharmacy owner-chosen clinical audit](#).

This is a mandatory requirement for all pharmacy owners.

Date: 1st April 2025

Pharmacy First: Pharmacy First: New Pharmacy First caps introduced; these caps are based on the monthly average of Pharmacy First (clinical pathways) delivered during November 2024 to January 2025).

Action: View your assigned Band and monthly cap on the [NHS Business Services Authority's website](#).

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Date: Between 1st April and 30th June 2025

ToS: Pharmacy owners are required to verify and, where necessary, update the information contained in their [NHS website](#) profile and their [DoS](#) profile at least once each quarter of the financial year. The new quarter starts on 1st April and ends on 30th June 2025.

This is a mandatory requirement for all pharmacy owners.

Actions:

- Register for [NHS Profile Manager](#) with your personal NHSmail address if you haven't already.
- Once registered, update your NHS Profile Manager pharmacy profile; for each profile check that the pharmacy's opening times, contact information and services information are up to date or verify this information if it is correct (even if no changes have been made during the financial quarter, pharmacy owners must still verify this information using NHS Profile Manager as this creates a record which will act as evidence to NHS England that these actions have been undertaken).

Date: As soon as reasonably practicable after the end of 2024/25

ToS: Pharmacy owners must send a copy of their [annual complaints report](#) to the local NHS contract management team as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of the year to which the report relates.

This is a mandatory requirement for all pharmacy owners.

Action: Send the annual complaints report to the local NHS contract management team.

Date: 30th June 2025

ToS: Deadline for meeting the requirement to ensure pharmacy owners have verified and, where necessary, updated the information contained in their [NHS website](#) profile and their [DoS](#) profile for the 1st April to 30th June 2025 quarter of the financial year.

This is a mandatory requirement for all pharmacy owners.

Action: If you have not updated your NHS website profile and your DoS profile using [NHS Profile Manager](#), complete this by the end of the day.

ToS: Deadline to complete the [Data Security and Protection Toolkit](#).

This is a mandatory requirement for all pharmacy owners.

Action: If not completed, do so by the end of the day.

COMMUNITY PHARMACY SERVICES

Pharmacy First

Further changes to monthly targets

The ability of pharmacy owners to achieve the thresholds for the monthly Pharmacy First payment has been an ongoing topic of concern for pharmacy owners and Community Pharmacy England since the service launched.

Month	Minimum number of clinical pathway consultations
January 2025	25
February 2025	25
March 2025	30

New Pharmacy First caps from January 2025

New Pharmacy First caps will be introduced from January 2025; these caps are based on the monthly average of Pharmacy First (clinical pathways) delivered during August 2024 to October 2024.

A list of pharmacy owners, their assigned Band and monthly cap can be found on the NHS Business Services Authority's (NHSBSA) website.

[Read more information on the NHSBSA website about the Pharmacy First caps](#)

See CPE's latest article for clarification on clinical pathway guidelines, as well as the responsibilities and limitations of pharmacists delivering Pharmacy First.

[Read the latest myth busting article](#)

[View additional myths on our Pharmacy First myth busting page](#)

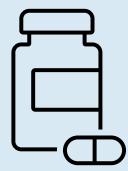
Claim period extended for Pharmacy First (23rd January 2025)

A new provision has been agreed from February 2025 which provides pharmacy owners with a longer time period to claim for provision of Pharmacy First (as well as the Hypertension Case-Finding Service, Pharmacy Contraception Service (PCS) and Smoking Cessation Service (SCS)) if IT issues outside of a pharmacy owner's control have prevented them from making a claim within the required time period.

De-registration from Pharmacy First (23rd January 2025)

A clarification will also be added to Part VIC of the February Drug Tariff with regards to Pharmacy First (as well as the Hypertension Case-Finding Service, PCS and SCS). If a pharmacy owner de-registers from providing one of the above Advanced services on the MYS portal, they will not be able to re-register for that service for a period of four months from the final day of their 30 day's notice.

[Read more about the extended claim period and de-registration](#)



EALING PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Thank you to those who completed the Ealing PNA contractor questionnaire.

As required by the Pharmaceutical Regulations 2013, Ealing Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) are preparing to publish a revised Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) by 1st October 2025.

The Draft PNA is now ready for consultation which is taking place between 3rd March and 4th May 2025.



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Hypertension Case-Finding

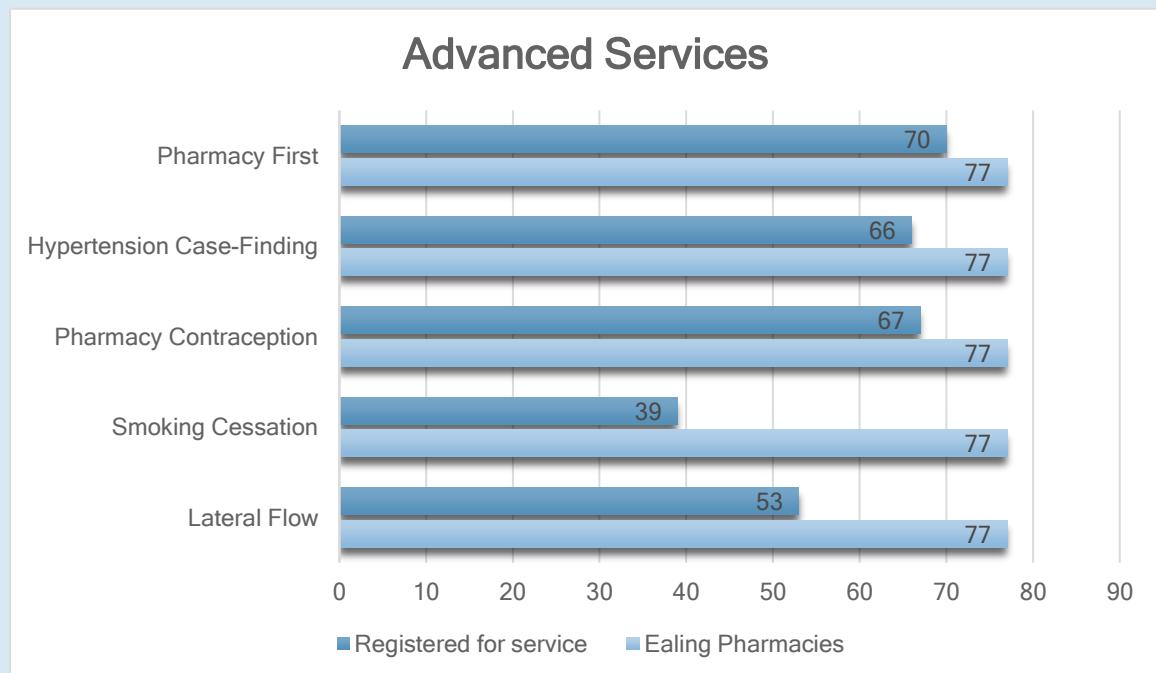
Reminder to all contractors: Where the clinic blood pressure measurements are 140/90mmHg or higher but less than 180/120mmHg, then ABPM should be offered to the patient in a timely manner. For example, either on the same day as the clinic reading where an ABPM device is available, as soon as convenient to the patient, or as soon as an ABPM device will become available. **GPs must be notified by email each time an ABPM check is carried out as part of the Hypertension Case Finding Service.**

Please see service specification at <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PRN00173-adv-service-spec-nhs-community-pharmacy-hypertension-case-finding-advanced-service-v2.3.pdf>

Test results, including 'normal' clinic readings (BP \geq 90/60mmHg and <140/90mmHg), should be sent on a minimum of a weekly basis, or as locally agreed, to general practices for patients who complete the service that week and do not need a referral. These results should be sent at the end of each week with a standardised title, e.g. 'WEEKLY SUMMARY OF BP MEASUREMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO PATIENT RECORDS'.

The service specification must be complied with in all respects.

The below graph details the number of pharmacies within Ealing that are registered for each of the Advanced Services.



This table lists the Locally Commissioned Services currently available in Ealing (as of the most recent PNA)

Please contact the LPC office for further details on
group@middlesexpharmacy.org



Ealing Locally Commissioned Services

Supervised Consumption
Needle Exchange
London Flu and PPV Vaccination
Emergency Hormonal Contraception
In hours Palliative Care
Out of hours Palliative Care
Transforming community equipment service

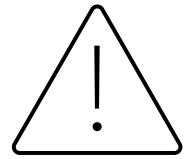
PharmOutcomes Referral Email Alerts

To update **PharmOutcomes** so that emails, inboxes, or sent messages notify you whenever a new referral comes in, please follow these steps:

1. Go to the “Home” tab and select “My Account.”
2. Click “Update My Organisational Details.”
3. You will be directed to a page displaying all your organisation’s details.
4. Locate the section that asks you to **confirm which email addresses should receive referrals.**
5. You can select **multiple email addresses**, including shared NHS mailboxes and personal emails.

It is strongly recommended to **use an NHS email wherever possible** to ensure that patient-sensitive information remains within NHS organisations and complies with **GDPR** regulations.

Please see the attached screenshot for further guidance.



New Pharmacy Regulations Briefing: What you need to know

Community Pharmacy England has published a briefing on key regulatory changes aimed at improving dispensing efficiency and supporting clinical service capacity. The briefing outlines new regulations, including the application of Original Pack Dispensing to NHS services, upcoming Hub and Spoke legislation (expected by late 2025), and future changes to supervision.

Community Pharmacy England has recently published a briefing outlining several important regulatory changes currently underway to help make dispensing more efficient and support capacity for the provision of clinical services.

This **Briefing** provides guidance for pharmacy owners and their teams on the new pharmacy regulations:

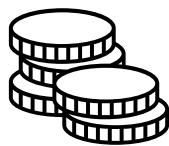
- Original Pack Dispensing +\- 10% – now applicable to NHS dispensing.
- Hub and Spoke – new legislation is pending, its introduction is delayed and now likely in late 2025.
- Supervision – new legislation is envisaged but there is no date for its introduction.

In addition, the current interpretation of supervision has been articulated and this, with the way the GPhC regulates the sector, indicates pharmacies may maximise the use of the pharmacy team's clinical skills, as well as current technology such as remote, automated hub dispensing, and local, automated dispensing.

Reminder: Check and challenge your disallowed items using MYS

A disallowed item is one that has **NOT** been passed for payment by the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA). Community Pharmacy England is encouraging pharmacy owners to check their disallowed items history on the **Manage Your Service (MYS) portal** to identify any unpaid items and check the reasons why these were disallowed by the NHSBSA. If an item is believed to have been incorrectly disallowed, pharmacy owners should **submit a challenge to the NHSBSA**, who will investigate the issue and rectify any missing payments if a pricing error is identified.

Reminder: Check and challenge your disallowed items using MYS - Community Pharmacy England



Changes to 2026/27 Foundation Pharmacist training

Multi-sector rotations of training in different areas of pharmacy practice were due to become a requirement for all Foundation Pharmacist trainees starting in the 2026/27 training year. However, mindful of the current pressures faced by pharmacy teams and the broader healthcare sector, NHS England has decided that the planned rotations will be implemented via a phased approach instead.

[Find out more](#)

[FSRH statement: Glucagon-like peptide-1 \(GLP-1\) agonists and oral contraception](#)

The Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health statement highlights that individuals of child-bearing age using GLP-1 agonists should be advised to use effective contraception and be informed of the recommended 'washout' period (see statement for details). As tirzepatide has an effect on the bioavailability of oral contraceptives, an alternative method of contraception should be used, as the statement describes.

[Read more about this in NHS England's letter announcing the change](#)

NHS England has announced the patient cohorts eligible for the Spring 2025 COVID-19 vaccination programme, following Government approval of Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) advice. The programme will include adults aged 75 and over (including those turning 75 by 17th June 2025), residents in older adult care homes, and individuals aged 6 months and over who are immunosuppressed, as outlined in the [COVID-19: the green book](#).

Vaccinations are set to begin on 1st April 2025, prioritising care home residents and housebound patients, with the campaign running until 17th June 2025.

[Read more in NHS England's letter](#)

TRAINING

The MPG have held several successful training sessions covering, Pharmacy First, Hypertension Case-Finding and Contraception. All post event materials can be found on our website:

[Middlesex Pharmaceutical Group –
Middlesex Group Of Local
Pharmaceutical Committees |
Representing Nine Middlesex Borough
Areas \(middlesexlpcs.org.uk\)](http://middlesexlpcs.org.uk)



CPPE training links:

[Blood pressure assessment in community
pharmacy: essential skills : CPPE](#)

[NHS Pharmacy Contraception Service: delivering
effective consultations to initiate contraception :
CPPE](#)

Please find **attached** the latest flyer for core CPPE workshops for the upcoming semester April 25 to Sept 25.

Don't miss ordering the healthcare resources you need, Some good free resources here that are delivered foc.

<https://campaignresources.dhsc.gov.uk/search/>

[Medisa](#)

Research opportunity

We would like to understand how you feel about providing **children's minor illness consultations**...under Pharmacy First (clinical pathways or minor illness) and self-referred/ signposted for advice.

Survey 1. Pharmacy Team https://imperial.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3xYoMWQbGOMNeES



Survey 2. Patient/carer survey for parents/carers (including staff and their contacts) on using pharmacy services for children:

https://imperial.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8BmMI1IOCXgxTuu



Virtual Outcome

The MPG Chairs & V. Chairs have agreed not to renew the annual subscription with Virtual Outcomes.

Your LPC have moved offices

Please note the MPG offices are now located at:

The Middlesex Pharmaceutical Group of LPCs
Premier House
Ground Floor, 309 Ballards Lane,
Finchley,
N12 8LY



Drug Tariff Watch – March 2025

[Drug Tariff Watch – March 2025 - Community Pharmacy England](#)

Serious Shortage Protocols

The SSP is available to view on the NHS Business Service Authority (BSA)'s [dedicated SSP web page](#).

We here at the LPC office support all MPG contractors and pharmacy teams. We would love to hear any feedback you may have about your LPC and if there is anything you would like raised at our next committee meeting.

Let us know on group@middlesexpharmacy.org

Join the Ealing LPC WhatsApp Alert Group

Please see the below link to join our LPC WhatsApp alert group (if not joined already) or scan the QR Code on your smartphone

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/FDuN31ePcQxLwrsrgZT9OG>

