

Community Pharmacy Introduction

- 331 Community Pharmacies across Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire
- Varied opening hours across the week including weekend opening allowing increased access to patients.
- Highly skilled teams, led by a pharmacist, who are able to support the local population to access healthcare in a timely manner.

Essential Services

Offered by all pharmacy contractors as part of the NHS community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF)

- **Discharge Medicines Service (DMS)** – This service aims to optimise the use of medicines, reduce harm from medicines at transfers of care, improve patients' understanding of their medicines, and reduce hospital readmissions. Click [here](#) for further information.
- **Dispensing medicines** – Pharmacies are required to maintain a record of all medicines dispensed, and also keep records of any interventions made which they judge to be significant. Click [here](#) for further information.
- **Disposal of unwanted medicines** – Community Pharmacy contractors are obliged to accept back unwanted medicines from patients. Click [here](#) for further information.
- **Healthy Living Pharmacies** – The framework is aimed at achieving consistent provision of a broad range of health promotion interventions through community pharmacies to improve health and wellbeing and to reduce health inequalities. Click [here](#) for further information.
- **Repeat dispensing and eRD** - Community Pharmacies will dispense repeat dispensing prescriptions by a GP, ensure the supply is required, and ensure there is no reason that the patient should be referred back to their GP. Click [here](#) for further information.

Advanced services

Community Pharmacies can choose to provide any of these services as long as they meet the requirements set out in the Secretary of State Directions.

- **Pharmacy First Service** – Patients can be referred by NHS 111 for minor illness or an urgent supply of a medicine, or by their GP for a minor illness. SEVEN Common Conditions can also be treated with medicines without the need of a prescription. Click [here](#) for further information.
- **Flu vaccination service** – This campaign aims to vaccinate all patients who are at risk of developing more serious complications from the virus. Click [here](#) for further information.
- **Pharmacy contraception service** – This service aims to provide patients with greater choice and access to their contraception. Click [here](#) for further information.
- **Hypertension case finding service** – Patients are either referred by the GP or identified in pharmacy as having a need for a clinic Blood Pressure check or ABPM check. This service aims to identify patients who may not be diagnosed as hypertensive. Click [here](#) for further information.
- **New Medicines Service (NMS)** – This service supports patients during the initial weeks when starting new medicines for specific conditions. The aim is to improve compliance and adherence.
- **Smoking Cessation Service** – Community Pharmacies manage the continuing provision of smoking cessation support initiated in secondary care following patient discharge from hospital. Click [here](#) for further information.
- **Lateral Flow Device Service** – The Lateral flow device tests supply service for patients potentially eligible for COVID-19 treatments (LFD service). Click [here](#) for further information.

Local services

These services are developed locally and are designed to meet local health needs:

- Early Hormonal Contraception (All Local Authorities)
- Substance Misuse (Needle Exchange & Supervised Consumption) (All Local Authorities)
- Guaranteed Provision of Urgent Medication
 - Palliative Care (BOB & Frimley ICBs)
 - Antivirals (BOB ICB)
- Minor Ailments Service – Provision of OTC Meds for certain minor illnesses for those patients on lower income or their dependents. (BOB ICB)
- Covid AntiVirals Service (Frimley ICB)