

# Pharmacy Contraception Service

Thursday 29 February 2024

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# Agenda

- **7.30pm Helen Musson; Chief Officer Community Pharmacy Hertfordshire:** an overview of the essential elements of the national Pharmacy Contraception Service
- **7.50pm Alpesh Patel, Pharmacist, Crescent Pharmacy Hertford:** a local view of implementation of the Pharmacy Contraception Service
- **8.05pm Dr Clare Searle, GP, Bridgewater Surgery Watford:** initiation of oral contraception and choice of products
- **8.25pm Ruth Dean, Health Improvement Lead: Women's Health and Partnerships, Public Health Hertfordshire:** Sexual Health in Hertfordshire and how to signpost for Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC)
- **8.45pm Questions**

# Pharmacy Contraception Service

From **1 December 2023**, the service incorporates initiation and repeat supplies of contraception.

- **Initiation**: where a person wishes to start oral contraception for the first time or needs to restart oral contraception following a pill free break. A person who is being switched to an alternative pill following consultation can also be considered as an initiation
- **Ongoing Supply**: Where a person has been supplied with oral contraception by a primary care provider or a sexual health clinic and a subsequent equivalent is needed.

# Pharmacy Contraception Service

- The Pharmacy Contraception Service is an **advanced** service, therefore participation is optional for all pharmacies.
- Any pharmacy registering to provide the service must now provide the **full service**, i.e. both initiation and ongoing supply.
- Pharmacies that have never registered for the pharmacy contraception service could register from **1 December 2023** but should register via [MYS](#) only when they have completed all the training and are ready to start delivering consultations.
- Those who had previously registered for the advanced Pharmacy Contraception Service should opt-in to the extended service via the [MYS portal](#) by **11:59 pm 29 February 2024** or they will be automatically deregistered.
- Guide to [registration](#).

# Preparation for service

- Pharmacies must use an NHS-assured clinical IT system and pharmacy owners must select and contract an IT system in advance.
- Develop a SOP for the provision of the service.
- Ensure all staff involved with the service have read the [service specification](#).
- Ensure all registered pharmacists delivering the service have read and signed the [Patient Group Directions](#) and are familiar with at least one of the online shared decision-making contraception consultation tools.
- **The PGD does not restrict which brands can be supplied. Hertfordshire and West Essex ICB has no formulary so there are no restrictions on the products within the PGD that can be dispensed. Other areas may have formularies but this is not available in Hertfordshire and West Essex.**
- Ensure all pharmacists and pharmacy staff are appropriately trained and competent to offer the service.
- Order any required equipment such as a BP monitor, height measuring and weight measurement scales.
- Update your pharmacy's service details on the NHS website using [NHS Profile Manager](#).
- Community Pharmacy England have devised a [checklist](#) which will help guide through the steps needed to prepare to provide the service.

# Competency Requirements

- Pharmacy contractors must ensure that pharmacists and pharmacy staff providing the service are competent to do so. This may involve completion of some training.
- Pharmacists are personally responsible for remaining up to date with skills and competencies in the service specification and patient group directions (PGDs).
- It is important to keep documentary evidence of competence.
- Recommended training is listed within the service specification.
- One mandatory requirement is completion of Safeguarding level 3 or to have direct access to professional advice from someone who can advise on Safeguarding at level 3. Ensure access to [contact details for local safeguarding teams](#).

# Patient Eligibility: Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

Yes ✓	No ✗
An individual seeking to be initiated on an OC, or seeking to obtain a further supply of their ongoing OC	The individual is considered clinically unsuitable, or is excluded for supply of OC according to the PGD protocols
Combined oral contraceptive (COC) – age from menarche up to and including 49 years of age;	COC aged 50 years+
Progestogen only pill (POP) – age from menarche up to and including 54 years	POP aged 55 years+
	Individuals under 16 years of age and assessed as not competent using <a href="#">Fraser Guidelines</a> ;
	Individuals 16 years of age and over and assessed as lacking capacity to consent.

# Funding and Claiming Payment

- A set up fee of **£900** per pharmacy premises paid in instalments as follows:
  - £400 paid on signing up to deliver the service via NHSBSA's MYS.
  - £250 paid after claiming the first 5 consultations.
  - £250 paid after claiming a further 5 consultations (i.e. 10 consultations completed) and
  - A fee for each consultation of £18 irrespective of the outcome of the consultation.
- A set up fee of £900 per pharmacy premises paid in instalments as follows
- Cannot claim twice for same activity e.g. the Hypertension Case-Finding Service (incorporating BP clinic measurement).
- Product price for OC supplied in line with Drug Tariff.
- Prescription charges are not relevant to provision of this service.



# Signposting

## **Individuals can access the service by any of the following routes:**

- Identified as clinically suitable by the pharmacist and accepts the offer of the service.
  - Self-refer to a community pharmacy.
  - Referred by their general practice.
  - Referred from a sexual health clinic (or equivalent) or
  - Referred from other NHS service providers e.g. urgent treatment centres or NHS 111.
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- **Note: for the purposes of this service a referral includes active signposting to attend the pharmacy to receive the service.**

# Promotion

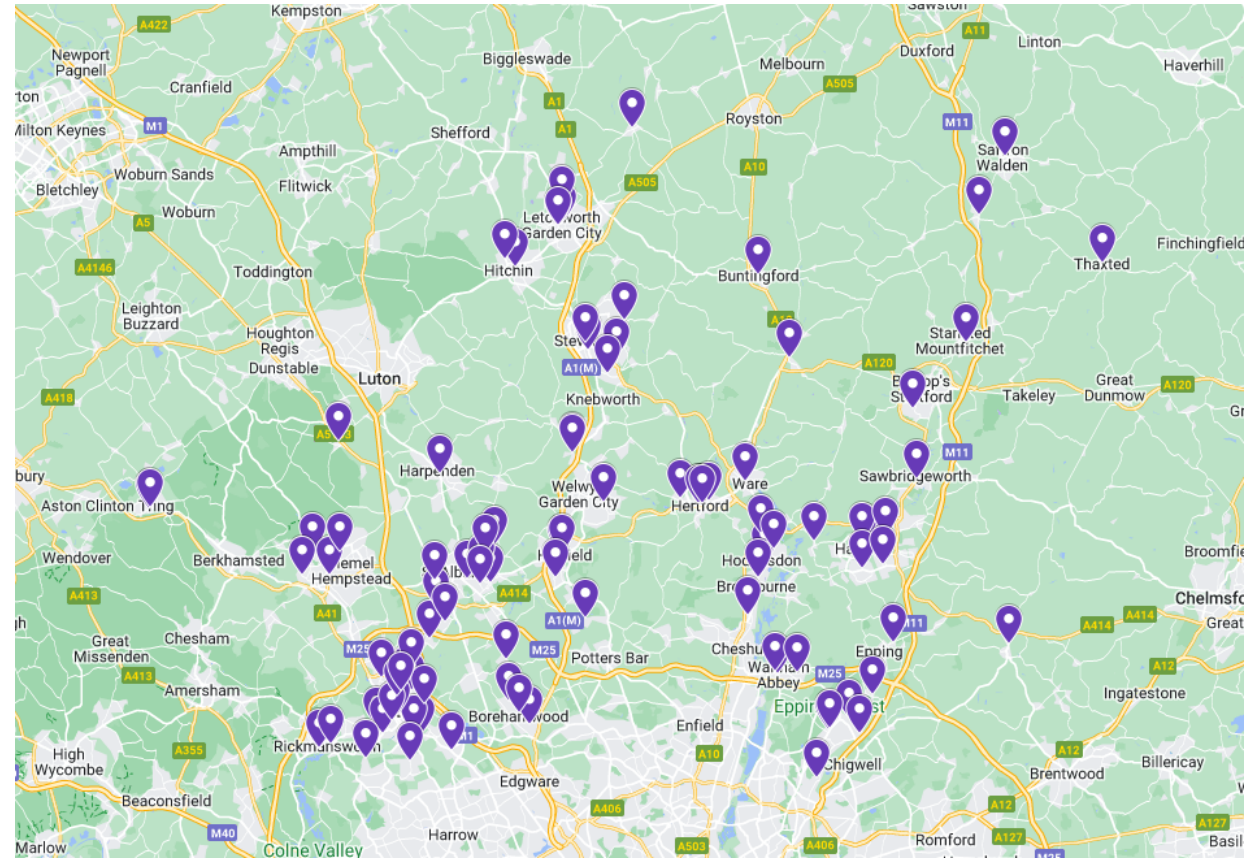
To maximise service opportunities, it is good practice for the pharmacy to make local general practices and sexual health clinics (or equivalent) aware if they are participating in this service.

Resources to promote the service can be found on the [CPE website](#). Ensure that any leaflets or promotional materials are available.



# CPH Support

- 93 community pharmacies in Hertfordshire registered to provide service.
- Mapped those pharmacies in Hertfordshire and West Essex ICB registered.
- Working with ICB to promote the service particularly with GP practices.
- Working with Public Health and Sexual Health Centres to promote the service.
- Encourage all community pharmacies commissioned for the Sexual Health locally commissioned service to optimise their service offering through offering the national advanced service.



# Resources

- [Community Pharmacy Hertfordshire](#)
- [Community Pharmacy England](#)
- [NHS website contraception](#)
- [Sexual Health Hertfordshire](#)
- [Health in Herts](#)