

Pharmacy Contraception Service (PCS) Checklist

CPE's Emergency Contraception and the PCS Webinar

CPE hosted a [webinar](#) covering the provision of the emergency contraception supply and the changes to the PCS service from **29 October 2025**. It is vitally important that contractors watch the recording as it covers the key changes to the service as well as answering common questions around the updates.

Providing the Contraception Service

Before providing the service, it is important to review the checklist below and complete all parts to ensure you are up to date and confident with the changes from 29 October 2025:

- **Safeguarding**
 - Familiarise yourself with local [safeguarding processes and contacts](#) (in line with 4.18 of the service specification) and have this information to hand in the consultation room.
 - Please note that there are no age criteria for the service. Please use your clinical judgment and refer to [Fraser guidelines](#) when assessing a patient's suitability.
- **Signposting**
 - Familiarise yourself with [local signposting to other services](#) including those that provide long-term contraceptive methods and diagnosis and management of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) (in line with 4.23 of the service specification) and have this information to hand in the consultation room.
- **Review the PGDs**
 - Read through the final [PGDs](#) to ensure you are familiar with the changes coming into place on 29 October 2025.
 - Please note key changes include;
 - The addition of Drospirenone to the POP PGD supply list.
 - Off label supply of EC and how it is used in practice.
 - This service is being extended to allow pharmacy technicians to perform consultations under the pharmacist's guidance.
 - The inclusion and exclusion criteria have changed.
- **Training**
 - Ensure that your [ELFH – Contraception Modules](#) are still in date, if this has expired, make sure to complete this as a priority.
 - ELFH – Contraception Modules is the only mandatory training requirement, however, CPPE also provide additional optional training as a top up - [CPPE Emergency Contraception Training & E-assessment](#)
- **Technicians**
 - Ensure you and your technicians are aware of the technician's role within this service. Technicians are included in the latest service specification and will

be able to provide this service under the guidance of a pharmacist from 29 October 2025.

- **NHS Profiles**

- Please ensure that you update your NHS profile to include the provision of emergency contraception (EC) when the changes to this service go live. To ensure that patients are aware of the service.

Key Points to remember:

- The minimum supply for this service has increased from three months to six months. Maximum supply remains for 12 months.
- **Pharmacies enrolled in the local sexual health service, please note that the supply of Emergency Contraception (EC) will stop on the last day of November 2025.** More information on this will be published in due course.
- Ensure conversations around long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) is discussed where appropriate as well as dual testing ([refer to local sexual health service](#)) which will be updated in line with the introduction of EC to the national service.
- The PCS service is not to be offered in place of an NHS prescription; please dispense this as normal when presented by a patient.
- Ensure clinical notes are recorded accurately and completed within a timely manner.
- When issuing contraception, you must exercise clinical judgment to evaluate the patient's current medication profile. Access the patient's SCR if needed to identify and address all potential drug interactions (i.e. GLP-1's) that could compromise the contraceptive's efficacy, and ensure the patient is fully informed of these interactions.
- Please ensure that you follow the [Hertfordshire and West Essex local formulary](#) (in line with 4.30 and 4.31 of the service specification).