

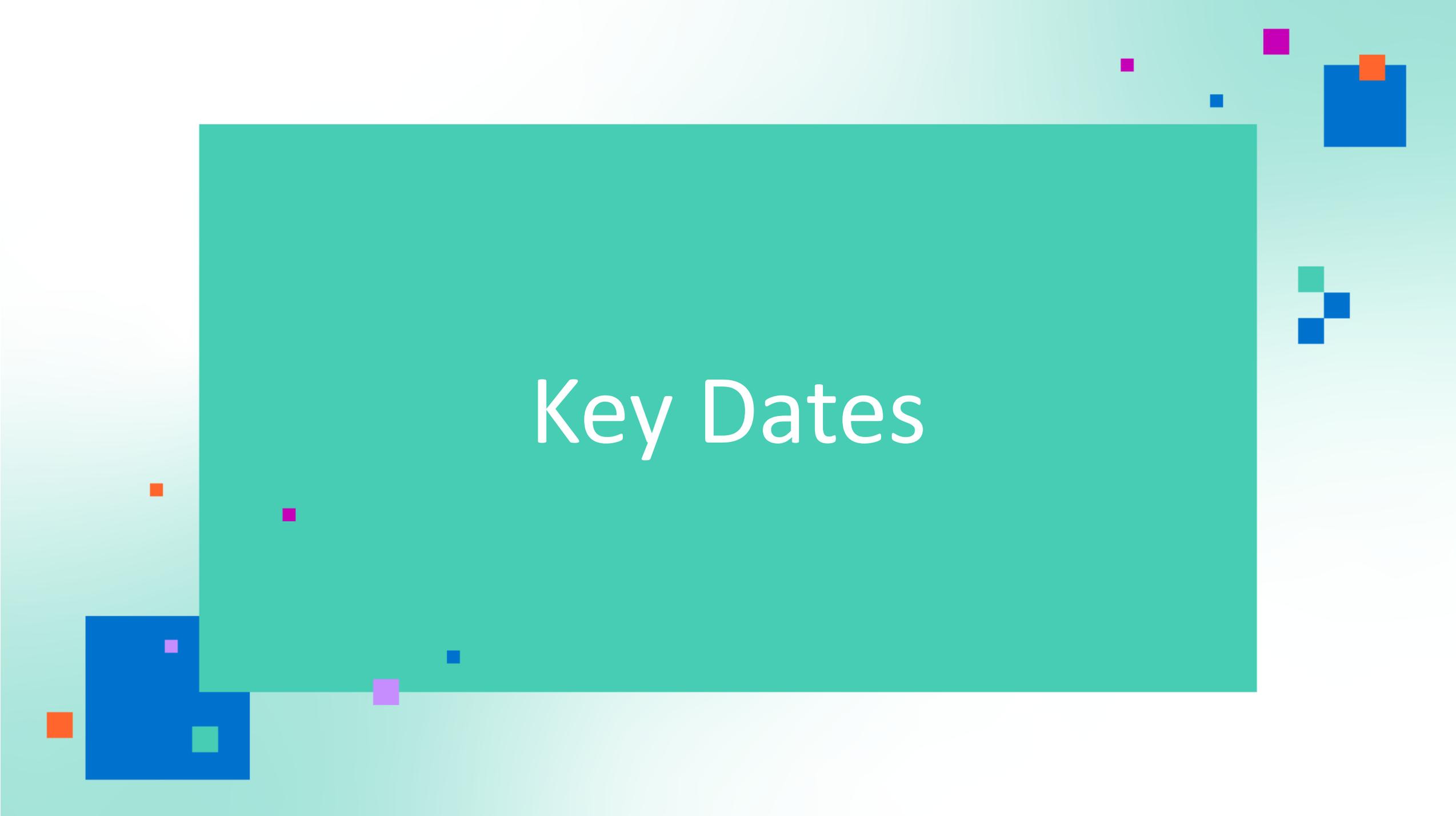
PQS 25/26

Declaration Day

Secure Your PQS Payment

Helen Musson
Chief Officer



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Key Dates



April – June 2025

1 April

PQS start date

Spacer use criteria begins (patients aged 5–15 years)
Bronchodilator use criteria begins (3+ in 6 months)

1 May

Aspiration payment window opens

16 May

Aspiration payment window closes



July – September 2025

1 July

Aspiration payment is paid to pharmacy owners if claim is submitted by deadline of 16 May

August

CPPE Consulting with People with Mental Health E-Learning

31 August

Deadline to sign up for:

- Pharmacy First Service
- Pharmacy Contraception Service

to meet the Gateway criterion

1 September

Antimicrobial Stewardship Clinical Audit start date

September

CPPE Emergency Contraception Training & E-assessment
DBS Check



October – December 2025

Oct

CPPE Sepsis Training & Assessment

Nov

Palliative Care Action Plan



January – April 2026

2 February

PQS declaration window opens

3 February

Final date to start audit

Eight weeks until 31st March 2026, the deadline for ensuring the requirements of the quality criteria have been met

27 February

PQS declaration window closes

Final date to submit your claim for MYS to claim payment

31 March

FINAL deadline to meet the requirements of the domains for PQS

1 April

Pharmacy owners will be paid their PQS payment



Aspiration Payment

Aspiration Payment

- Claim period: **1 – 16 May 2025**.
- Early payment: £57.50 per point for up to 75% of intended points.
- Reconciled after final declaration in April 2026.
- Aspiration payment paid on 1 July 2025.



Gateway Criterion

Gateway Criterion

To participate, all pharmacies should have:

- Registered for Pharmacy First and Pharmacy Contraception Service **by 31 August 2025**
- Remain registered **until 31 March 2026**

Important: If you deregister during the scheme, even briefly, you will be ineligible for payment.

Contractors will not be required to make a declaration for this gateway criterion as this will be verified by a post payment review of the contractor's declaration to deliver the service and subsequent registration from 1 September 2025 until the end of the scheme, 31 March 2026.

Contractors should note that they will not be able to claim payment for the quality criteria during the declaration period if the gateway criterion has not been met.

Gateway Criterion

Special Cases – New Openings & Ownership Changes

- Pharmacies opening between **1 Sept and 31 Dec 2025** must have registered both services **within 2 weeks**
- Pharmacies opening **from 1 Jan 2026** will not qualify for PQS 2025/26

Domains

A decorative graphic featuring a large, solid purple rectangle centered on a light teal background. The word "Domains" is written in white, sans-serif font across the middle of the purple rectangle. Scattered around the purple rectangle are several small, solid-colored squares in various colors: orange, magenta, blue, and green. Some of these squares are grouped together, such as a cluster of blue and orange squares in the top right corner and another cluster of blue, green, and orange squares in the bottom left corner.

Medicines Optimisation (30 points)

Training	Pharmacist	Pharmacy Technician
CPPE E-Learning – Consulting with people with mental health problems	✓	
CPPE E-Learning & E-Assessment – Emergency Contraception	✓	✓

- ❑ Palliative and End of Life Care

Action Plan

- ❑ Respiratory
 - ❑ Use of a Spacer in Patients Aged 5-15 Years
 - ❑ Referrals for patients using 3 or more short-acting bronchodilator inhalers in 6 months

Patient Safety (20 points)

Training	Pharmacist	Pharmacy Technician
CPPE E-Learning & E-assessment – Sepsis	✓	✓
Enhanced DBS Checks	✓	✓

- ❑ Antimicrobial Stewardship - Pharmacy First consultations - Clinical Audit

Medicines Optimisation

Domain 1 - Medicines optimisation

SCREEN 1

Do you want to claim for the Medicines optimisation domain?

- Yes
- No

Palliative and
End of Life Care
Action Plan

Respiratory

CPPE
Consulting with
people with
mental health
problems

CPPE
Emergency
Contraception

All four must be completed to claim this domain's points.

Palliative Care Action Plan

- Confirm stockholding of 16 critical medicines.
- Update NHS Profile Manager or Directory of Services only if stockholding.
- Have a robust action plan available for inspection if not stockholding.
- The plan must support quick patient access and be retained for 3 years.

You must show evidence of a process being in place.

Links

- ❑ [NHS Profile Manager](#)
- ❑ [Regional DoS Lead](#)
- ❑ [NHS Service Finder](#)
- ❑ Action Plan Template: [PDF](#) / [Word](#)

Palliative Care Action Plan

SCREEN 2

Palliative and End-of-life Care Action Plan

Does your pharmacy routinely hold the 16 palliative and end-of-life critical medicines listed and can it support local access to parenteral haloperidol?

Report on MYS:

- Confirm whether pharmacy **holds stock** of the 16 palliative and end-of-life critical medicines.
- If Yes, declare **DoS update- 'Pharmacy palliative care medication stockholder'**.
- All other pharmacies not holding stock must declare that they have a new or updated **action plan by the end of 31 March 2026**.

SCREEN 3

By the end of 31 March 2026, your pharmacy must have a new or updated action plan in place on the premises available for inspection. This plan should be used when you do not have the required stock of the 16 critical medicines or parenteral haloperidol available for a patient.

The action plan must include collated information from pharmacies in your area, to aid a patient, relative or carer in obtaining medication as swiftly as possible, by redirecting them to the nearest open community pharmacy that stocks the 16 critical medicines or parenteral haloperidol.

Will your pharmacy have a new or updated action plan by the end of 31 March 2026?

- Yes
- No

CPPE Mental Health E-Learning

- All **pharmacists** must complete CPPE Mental Health e-learning between April 2022–March 2026.
- No e-assessment, but completion must be confirmed and certificate of study downloaded.
Certificates must be stored for 3 years for verification.

Links

- ❑ [CPPE E-learning: Consulting with people with mental health problems](#)
- ❑ Training Record Sheet: [PDF](#) / [Word](#)

Declaration Day

Report on MYS:

- Total number of pharmacists at the pharmacy **on the declaration day** who have satisfactorily completed the CPPE online training since 1 April 2022.
- That the pharmacy owner holds evidence to support this.
- The number of pharmacists **on the declaration day** who have not yet completed the training but will do so by 31 March 2026.

CPPE Mental Health E-Learning

SCREEN 4

CPPE Consulting with people with mental health problems e-learning

How many pharmacists working at the pharmacy on the day of the declaration have satisfactorily completed the 'CPPE Consulting with people with mental health problems' e-learning since 1 April 2022?

If none, enter 0 (zero)

<number> pharmacists

How many pharmacists working at the pharmacy on the day of the declaration have not satisfactorily completed the 'CPPE Consulting with people with mental health problems' e-learning since 1 April 2022, but will undertake this requirement between the day of the declaration and the end of 31 March 2026?

If none, enter 0 (zero)

<number> pharmacists

Will your pharmacy have the evidence to demonstrate that all pharmacists working at the pharmacy on the day of the declaration have satisfactorily completed, within the last 4 years

(between 1 April 2022 and end of 31 March 2026), the 'CPPE Consulting with people with mental health problems' e-learning, or will your pharmacy have this evidence by the end of 31 March 2026?

- Yes
- No

Respiratory: Spacer Use (Ages 5–15)

- Check that patients aged 5-15 have a **spacer** if using a press and breathe MDI.
- Refer to if they don't.
- Keep records in the PMR.

Even if no patients are found, you must show evidence of a process being in place.

Links

- ❑ [CPE Guidance- Asthma Referrals](#)
- ❑ GP Referral Form: [PDF](#) / [Word](#)
- ❑ [Data Collection Form](#)

Declaration Day

Respiratory: Spacer Use

(Ages 5–15)

Report on MYS:

- Total number of children referred to a prescriber for a spacer device, between 1 April 2025 and declaration day.

SCREEN 5

Use of a spacer in patients aged 5 to 15 years

By the end of 31 March 2026, can you evidence that between 1 April 2025 and the day of the declaration, the pharmacy has checked that all children aged 5 to 15 years (inclusive) prescribed a press and breathe pressurised MDI for asthma have a spacer device, where appropriate, in line with NICE NG245 and referred children aged 5 to 15 years (inclusive) with asthma to an appropriate healthcare professional where this is not the case?

Where no patients are identified you will still be eligible for payment if you can evidence that you have robustly attempted to identify suitable patients and have processes in place for referrals if a suitable patient is identified.

- Yes
- No

Between 1 April 2025 and the day of the declaration, how many children aged 5 to 15 years (inclusive) have been referred to a prescriber for a spacer device, where appropriate, in line with NICE NG245?

If none, enter 0 (zero)

<number> children

Respiratory: Inhaler Referrals

- Identify patients using 3+ short-acting bronchodilator inhalers within 6 months, without corticosteroids
- Refer to an appropriate healthcare professional

As with the previous criterion, process documentation is essential.

Links

- ❑ [CPE Guidance- Asthma Referrals](#)
- ❑ [CPE Flowchart](#)
- ❑ GP Referral Form: [PDF](#) / [Word](#)
- ❑ [Data Collection Form](#)



Declaration Day

Report on MYS:

- Total number of asthma patients who were dispensed three or more short-acting bronchodilator inhalers without a corticosteroid inhaler over a six-month period and were referred for an asthma review between 1 April 2025 and the declaration day.



Respiratory: Inhaler Referrals

SCREEN 6

Referrals for patients using 3 or more short-acting bronchodilator inhalers in 6 months

The pharmacy must have a process in place to identify and refer patients with asthma who had 3 or more short-acting bronchodilator inhalers dispensed without any corticosteroid inhaler within a 6-month period.

Can you evidence that this process was in place between 1 April 2025 and the day of the declaration, and that these cases were referred to an appropriate healthcare professional for an asthma review?

Where no patients are identified you will still be eligible for payment if you can evidence that you have robustly attempted to identify suitable patients and have processes in place for referrals if a suitable patient is identified.

- Yes
- No

Between 1 April 2025 and the day of the declaration, how many patients with asthma who had 3 or more short-acting bronchodilator inhalers dispensed without any corticosteroid inhaler within a 6-month period, were referred to an appropriate healthcare professional for an asthma review?

If none, enter 0 (zero)

<number> patients

CPPE Emergency Contraception Training & E-assessment

- Required for **pharmacists and pharmacy technicians** intending to provide the service
- Must be completed between **April 2023–March 2026**
- Evidence of completion must be retained

Links

- ❑ [CPPE E-learning: Emergency Contraception](#)
- ❑ [CPPE E-assessment: Emergency Contraception \(2025\)](#)
- ❑ Training Record Sheet: [PDF](#) / [Word](#)

Declaration Day

CPPE Emergency Contraception Training & E-assessment

Report on MYS:

- Total number of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians intending to provide the Pharmacy Contraception Service, working **at the pharmacy on the declaration day**, who **have** completed the training and passed the e-assessment since 1 April 2023.
- Confirmation that the pharmacy owner holds **evidence** to support this.
- Total number of those who **have not yet** completed the training and assessment but will do so by 31 March 2026.

SCREEN 7

CPPE emergency contraception e-learning and e-assessment

How many pharmacists intending to provide the Pharmacy Contraception Service (PCS), working at the pharmacy on the day of the declaration have satisfactorily completed the 'CPPE emergency contraception' e-learning and passed the associated e-assessment since 1 April 2023?

If none, enter 0 (zero)

<number> pharmacists

How many pharmacy technicians intending to provide the Pharmacy Contraception Service (PCS), working at pharmacy on the day of the declaration have satisfactorily completed the 'CPPE emergency contraception' e-learning and passed the associated e-assessment since 1 April 2023?

If none, enter 0 (zero)

<number> pharmacy technicians

How many pharmacists intending to provide the Pharmacy Contraception Service (PCS), working at the pharmacy on the day of the declaration have not satisfactorily completed the 'CPPE emergency contraception' e-learning and passed the associated e-assessment since 1 April 2023, but will undertake this requirement between the day of the declaration and the end of 31 March 2026?

If none, enter 0 (zero)

<number> pharmacists

How many pharmacy technicians intending to provide the Pharmacy Contraception Service (PCS), working at the pharmacy on the day of the declaration have not satisfactorily completed the 'CPPE emergency contraception' e-learning and passed the associated e-assessment since 1 April 2023, but will undertake this requirement between the day of the declaration and the end of 31 March 2026?

If none, enter 0 (zero)

<number> pharmacy technicians

Does your pharmacy have the evidence to demonstrate that all pharmacists, and any pharmacy technicians intending to provide the PCS, working at the pharmacy on the day of the declaration have satisfactorily completed, within the last 3 years (between 1 April 2023 and end of 31 March 2026), the 'CPPE Emergency contraception' e-learning and passed the associated e-assessment, or will the contractor have this evidence by the end of 31 March 2026?

- Yes
- No

Patient Safety

Domain 2 – Patient safety

SCREEN 1

Do you want to claim for the Patient safety domain?

- Yes
- No

Antimicrobial
Stewardship Audit

CPPE Sepsis

Enhanced DBS
Checks

All three must be completed to claim this domain's points.

Antimicrobial Stewardship – Clinical Audit

- Audit FeverPAIN 0–3 patients via Pharmacy First Sore Throat from 1 Sept 2025 – 31 Mar 2026.
- Minimum of 10 patients or over (4–8 weeks).
- Submit anonymised data to NHS England via MYS.

Declaration Day

Antimicrobial Stewardship Clinical Audit

Report on MYS:

- Declare that by 31 March 2026 the pharmacy owner will have completed the clinical audit.
- Start and end date of the audit period.
- Declare that 31 March 2026 the pharmacy owner will have shared anonymised data or have declared that no patients have been identified as being suitable for audit.
- Declare that the pharmacy owner has or will have incorporated any learnings from the audit into their future practice by 31 March 2026.

SCREEN 2

Antimicrobial stewardship Pharmacy First clinical audit

Do you declare that the clinical audit will be completed by the end of 31 March 2026?

The audit must be carried out over 4 weeks with a minimum of 10 patients, or up to 8 weeks if the minimum number of patients are not achieved within 4 weeks. If you carried out the audit for 8 weeks and still did not achieve the minimum number of patients then you should also tick 'yes' for this question.

- Yes
- No

If answer is Yes:

What date did you begin the audit, or expect it to begin?

What date did you end the audit, or expect it to end?

Do you declare that by the end of 31 March 2026 you will have shared anonymised audit data or declared that no patients have been identified as being suitable for the audit via the data collection tool on the NHSBSA MYS application?

- Yes
- No

Can you confirm that you will have incorporated any learnings from the audit into future practice by 31 March 2026?

- Yes
- No

CPPE Sepsis Training & E- Assessment

- **All registered pharmacy professionals** must complete CPPE Sepsis training and e-assessment between April 2024–March 2026.
- Keep a copy of the certificate for each staff member.

Links

- ❑ [CPPE Sepsis Online Training](#)
- ❑ [CPPE Sepsis E-Assessment](#)
- ❑ Training Record Sheet: [PDF](#) / [Word](#)

Declaration Day

CPPE Sepsis Training & E-Assessment

Report on MYS:

- Total number of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians, working **at the pharmacy on the declaration day**, who have completed the training and passed the e-assessment since 1 April 2023.
- Confirmation that the pharmacy owner holds evidence to support this.
- Total number of those who have not yet completed the training and assessment but will do so by 31 March 2026.

SCREEN 3

CPPE sepsis e-learning & e-assessment

How many registered pharmacy professionals working at the pharmacy on the day of the declaration have satisfactorily completed the 'CPPE Sepsis' e-learning and passed the associated e-assessment since 1 April 2024?

If none, enter 0 (zero)

<number> registered pharmacy professionals

How many registered pharmacy professionals working at the pharmacy on the day of the declaration have not satisfactorily completed the 'CPPE Sepsis' e-learning and passed the associated e-assessment since 1 April 2024 but will undertake this requirement between the day of the declaration and the end of 31 March 2026?

If none, enter 0 (zero)

<number> registered pharmacy professionals

Does your pharmacy have the evidence to demonstrate that all registered pharmacy professionals working at the pharmacy on the day of the declaration have satisfactorily completed, within the last 2 years (between 1 April 2024 and end of 31 March 2026), the 'CPPE Sepsis' e-learning and passed the associated e-assessment, or will the contractor have this evidence by the end of 31 March 2026?

- Yes
- No

Enhanced DBS Checks

- Must be completed for all pharmacists and pharmacy technicians
- Certificate must be issued after 1st April 2023
- Evidence must be available by 31st March 2026 and kept for 3 years

Declaration Day

Enhanced DBS Checks

Report on **MYS** (registered pharmacy professionals on declaration day):

- Number who **have** had an enhanced DBS check and certificate since 1 April 2023.
- Number who **have not yet** but will complete the check by 31st March 2026.
- Confirmation the pharmacy owner holds or will hold **evidence** of DBS checks completed within the last three years.

SCREEN 4

Regularising enhanced DBS checks for registered pharmacy professionals

How many registered pharmacy professionals working at the pharmacy on the day of the declaration have undertaken an enhanced DBS check, with a certificate issued or a status check undertaken using the DBS update service since 1 April 2023?

If none, enter 0 (zero)

<number> registered pharmacy professionals

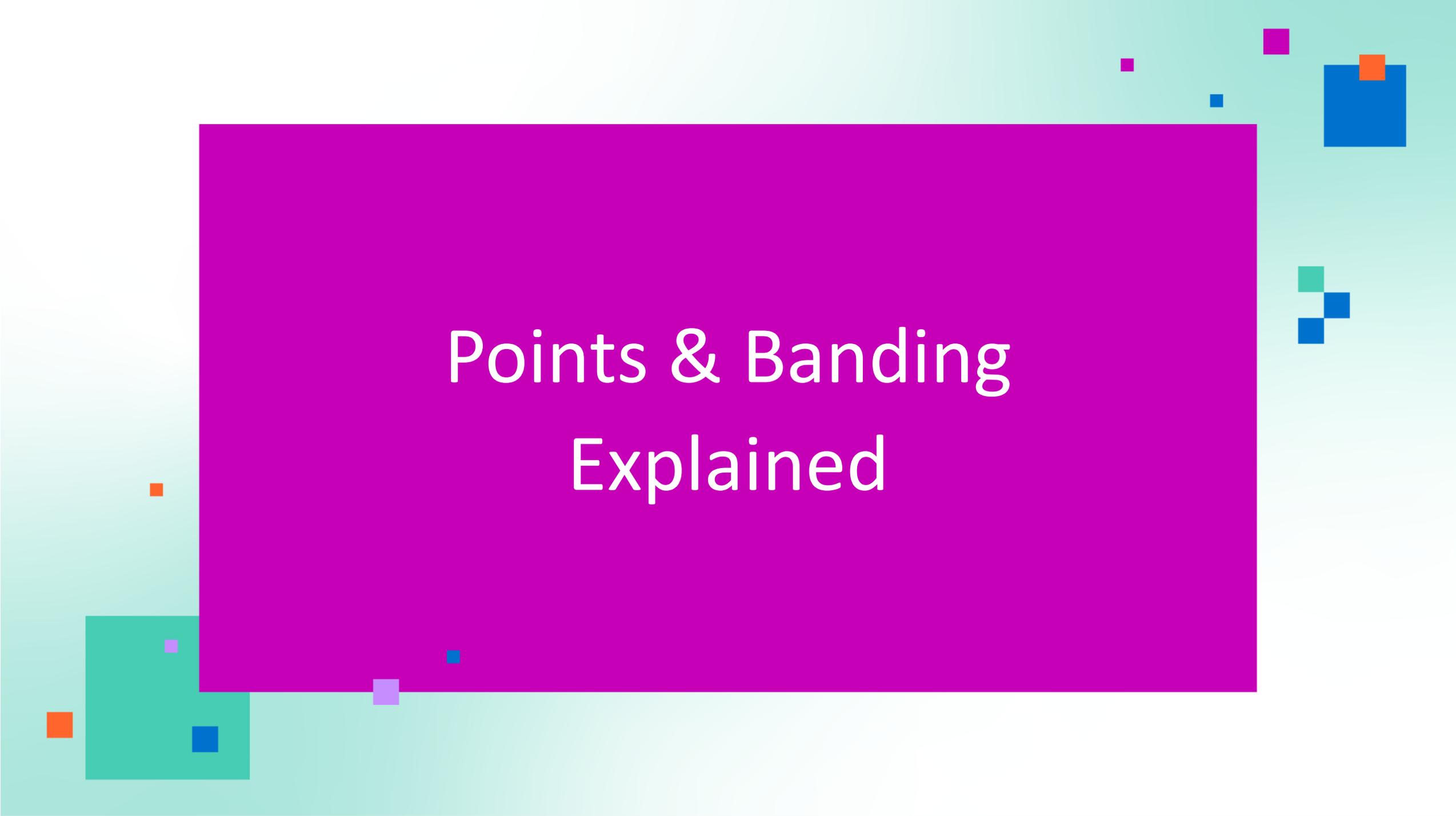
How many registered pharmacy professionals working at the pharmacy on the day of the declaration have not undertaken an enhanced DBS check or a status check using the DBS update service since 1 April 2023 but will undertake this requirement between the day of the declaration and the end of 31 March 2026?

If none, enter 0 (zero)

<number> registered pharmacy professionals

Does your pharmacy have the evidence to demonstrate that all registered pharmacy professionals working at the pharmacy on the day of the declaration have undertaken an enhanced DBS check, with a certificate issued or a status check undertaken using the DBS update service, within the last 3 years (between 1 April 2023 and end of 31 March 2026), or will the contractor have this evidence by the end of 31 March 2026?

- Yes
- No



Points & Banding Explained

Points & Banding Explained

Your total payment depends on your **prescription volume**:

Band	Band 1	Band 2
Annual Items	0-1,800	1,801 and above
Medicines Optimisation	1.50	30.00
Patient Safety	1.00	20.00
Total	2.50	50.00

Each point = £57.50 (min) to £115 (max)

The overall level of the PQS payment will depend on how many of the domains the pharmacy declares it has met.

The Aspiration payment will be reconciled with the payment for the PQS 2025/26 on 1 April 2026.

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Making The Final Declaration

Making The Final Declaration

- Declaration period: **2 – 27 February 2026**.
- MYS.
- [MYS declaration questions 2025/26](#)
- Must meet the gateway criterion.
- Must declare full compliance with criteria in any domain you're claiming for. If a domain's criteria are not fully met, you cannot claim payment for that domain.
- No declaration = no payment/repayment.

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Additional Resources

Additional Resources

Drug Tarriff Update Part VIIA: [Drug Tariff - Pharmacy Quality Scheme \(PDF 284KB\)](#)

CPE PQS: <https://cpe.org.uk/quality-and-regulations/pharmacy-quality-scheme/>

CPE PQS Action and Evidence Workbook: <https://cpe.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/PQS-Action-Evidence-Workbook-2025-26.pdf>

CPPE PQS: <https://www.cppe.ac.uk/services/pharmacy-quality-scheme>

MYS Portal: <https://manage-your-service-pharmacy.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/nhs-prescription-services-submissions/login>