



## **Summary of key changes to the Public Health pharmacy services 2023-24**

Claire Jones, Public Health Pharmacy Adviser. February 2023

### **Public Health pharmacy contract 2022-25**

#### **What stays the same?**

- All pharmacies have now signed up to the Public Health pharmacy service contract which covers the period 2022-25.
- All communication from the commissioning team will continue to be via email to either the appropriate head office contact or the pharmacy shared NHS mailbox.

#### **What's new?**

- Pharmacies (or head offices) will be emailed a contract variation letter and the accompanying service specifications for 2023-24.
- The contract variation letter should be signed and returned to confirm acceptance of the service specifications and an indication of which services the pharmacy intends to deliver for 2023-24 by a deadline of 17 March 2023.<sup>1</sup>

### **NRT e-voucher scheme**

#### **What stays the same?**

- The NRT formulary choices remain the same.
- Two NRT products (i.e. combination therapy) provided to all clients free of charge.
- The duration of treatment remains at up to 12 weeks for all clients, except for pregnant women and their significant others where NRT provision can remain in place for up to 40 weeks.
- Pharmacy staff are not required to undergo named training to meet this specification.
- The Stop Smoking Service will provide clients with a unique NRT e-voucher code for a pharmacy to enter this code onto PharmOutcomes in order to redeem a NRT e-voucher and supply against it.
- The NRT quantities supplied must continue to be entered as the total number of individual units (e.g. mls or patches or cartridges) and NOT the number of packs (e.g. 1 bottle or 1 pack). However, the quantity entered by the stop smoking adviser on the NRT e-voucher will also continue to be as the total number of individual units.
- The pharmacy can continue to alter the choice of NRT product without a new e-voucher (when entering the NRT supplied, the PharmOutcomes template will ask the pharmacy to confirm if either the pharmacy has supplied what the adviser requested, or if there was a product change and the reason why).

#### **What's new?**

- From 1 April 2023, the Stop Smoking Service will issue NRT e-voucher codes for a 2-week supply of NRT which should be supplied in full by the pharmacy each time.
- A new PharmOutcomes template will allow pharmacies to redeem a 2-weekly e-voucher, supply the full 2-week supply, and then fully save the supply to submit the 2-week e-voucher for payment.
- The remuneration for the service is changing to:
  - Acceptance fee for every 2-weekly e-voucher: £3.00 ex VAT
  - Dispensing fee for each NRT product: £1.20 ex VAT
  - NRT Drug Tariff product cost
- For any existing 4-week partially saved e-vouchers, pharmacies should fully save and therefore submit for payment, these e-vouchers on the existing PharmOutcomes template by a deadline of 1 July 2023, after which this 2022-23 claims template will no longer be available.

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<sup>1</sup> Emailed to [Karen.Kennedy@durham.gov.uk](mailto:Karen.Kennedy@durham.gov.uk)



### **Alcohol brief intervention service**

#### **What stays the same?**

- The service, service declaration, training requirements and remuneration for the service remain the same.
- AUDIT C slips entered onto PharmOutcomes should be marked with an indication that they have been entered onto the system and with the initial of the staff member who has entered the data onto the system. These slips should continue to be retained for at least 6 months for audit purposes.

#### **What's new?**

- The AUDIT C slip and the tear off customer advice pad has been updated and will be distributed to pharmacies currently providing the service.<sup>2</sup>

### **Supervised consumption service**

#### **What stays the same?**

- The service, service declaration, training requirements and remuneration for the service remain the same. Registered pharmacy technicians can continue to provide the supervised consumption service.
- The fee per supervision remains the same and is per client supervision (i.e. one supervision claim per client visit to the pharmacy).
- All daily doses of methadone to continue to be dispensed in separate containers.
- Medication should be withheld, and the recovery coordinator contacted if the client misses 3 or more doses consecutively.
- As part of contingency planning, pharmacies are required to:
  1. Inform the local Recovery Centre in the event of a pharmacy service disruption so that arrangements can be made with clients.
  2. Ask all clients for their current telephone numbers once a month to aid with contacting clients during any periods of service disruption.
  3. Inform the Recovery Centre clinical lead if the pharmacy is reaching its capacity for a safe client list to see if any arrangements can be made to mitigate this.

### **The naloxone (Prenoxad) supply service**

#### **What stays the same?**

- The service, service declaration, training requirements and remuneration for the service remain the same. The service lead can continue to be a registered pharmacy technician. There will continue to be a set-up fee to include the initial cost of the minimum stock level of two Prenoxad injections, which will be paid on the completion of a separate PharmOutcomes template.
- The tear off pads for recording new and repeat supplies remain the same.
- Trained pharmacists or registered pharmacy technicians can supply naloxone (Prenoxad) injection to a person who has previously never received a supply.
- Any trained member of staff can issue a re-supply of naloxone (Prenoxad).
- The pharmacy stocks Prenoxad injection with a minimum stock level of two.
- The pharmacy has supplies of the necessary customer materials: naloxone supply records (two tear-off pads from the Council) and patient information (Prenoxad Injection Clients Guide at <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/3054/rmms><sup>3</sup>).

### **Durham County Council staff flu vaccination service 2023-24**

This will be commissioned again from October 2023. As before, further detail will become available over the summer.

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<sup>2</sup> Or contact [Sandra.Waters@nhs.net](mailto:Sandra.Waters@nhs.net) for further information.

<sup>3</sup> Please discard any old supplies of two customer information tear off pads and replace these with the *Prenoxad Injection Clients Guide* at <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/3054/rmms>