

Tablet Press Extra

The prescribing newsletter for GPs, nurses and pharmacists NHS Northamptonshire CCG



Community Pharmacy Extended Care Services

Following a successful pilot in the Staffordshire and Shropshire area, NHSE&I Midlands are 'soft-launching' a service called Community Pharmacy Extended Care Services. This service will allow a greater number of patients to be treated in community pharmacy who would previously have been seen in general practice.

As clinical training is required by the pharmacist, the service has been broken down into 3 tiers with Tier 1 already available from pharmacies that have chosen to participate in the service. Tier 2a is likely to be available from 1st March 2021 and Tier 2b could be commissioned from selected pharmacies in a PCN area during the next financial year.

Tier 1 Service	Tier 2a Service	Tier 2b Service
Simple UTI (Females only)	Infected insect bites	Acute otitis externa
Acute bacterial conjunctivitis	Infected eczema	Acute otitis media
	Impetigo	Acute bacterial sinusitis
		Sore throat

Whilst the conditions may be resolved with consultation, advice and over the counter products, it is possible for participating pharmacies to treat some patients via PGDs who ordinarily would have had to see their GP for a prescription. Please see below for further details which may assist practice staff to signpost appropriately.

Condition	1 st line treatment	
Simple UTI (Females only)	Nitrofurantoin PGD	
	Aged 16 to 64 years	
Acute bacterial conjunctivitis	Chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops or 1% ointment PGD	
	Aged 3 months to 2 years	

If a treatment is provided, the pharmacy will send details to the GP practice via PharmOutcomes for the patient's record to be kept up to date.

The roll out of this new referral pathway will compliment GP referrals into the Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (GP-CPCS) which has been highly valued by patients and general practice where it is already in operation. Discussions regarding GP-CPCS are underway between community pharmacy and two pilot GP pilot sites in Grand Union PCN and implementation is hoped to begin soon.

Community pharmacy contractors have been advised to contact practices within their PCN area to notify them of their intention to provide these services and a full list of pharmacies participating in Extended Care Services can be found using this <u>link</u>.

For any queries or expressions of interest relating to these services, please email england.eastmidspharmacy@nhs.net or chiefofficer@pharmacynorthamptonshire.co.uk