



Prescriber type EPS codes

This factsheet provides more information for pharmacy teams about prescriber type EPS codes.

Prescriptions have indicators about the type of prescriber that issued the prescription e.g. a General Practitioner (GP) or a Community practitioner nurse. Different prescriber types have different prescribing rights.

With paper prescriptions the type of paper prescription form stationery, the colour of the form and the description on the form indicate the prescriber type. EPS electronic prescription messages do not need to make use of the stationery form reference (e.g. 'FP10SS') because **prescriber type EPS codes** are used instead within EPS messages.

Comparing paper to electronic indications of prescriber type

The table below compares how paper stationery forms and EPS prescriptions indicate prescriber type.

| | Paper prescription form stationery | EPS prescriptions |
|---|--|--|
| Use of paper stationery form reference codes | Paper prescription form stationery include stationery reference codes e.g. 'FP10SS' or 'FP10HNC' printed onto the prescription form for use by a prescriber. | <p>EPS electronic prescriptions do not need to make use of the stationery form reference (e.g. 'FP10SS') because prescriber type EPS codes are used instead.</p> <p>EPS tokens can still be printed onto relevant paper forms e.g. 'FP10SS'. NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) scan those EPS tokens submitted during the pricing process, but the standard pricing by NHSBSA makes use of the electronic message not the scanned token.</p> |
| Further information about 'types' | Paper prescription forms such as 'FP10SS' are used to enable printing of paper prescriptions or EPS tokens are explained at: <u>Paper prescription forms (PSNC)</u> . | <p>The <u>EPS prescribing specification</u> explains: "The EPS supports three prescribing models; acute; repeat; and <u>eRD</u>."</p> <p>NHSBSA maintains the list of prescriber type EPS codes within the <u>EPS endorsing guide specification</u>: e.g. 'EPS Prescription Type Code 0001' indicates "General Practitioner (GP) Prescribing"</p> |

System supplier development to support EPS

Prescribing system suppliers may include or add logic to their prescribing systems to ensure that prescribers do not inadvertently try to request an item that they should not. E.g. Controlled drugs prescribed by Community practitioner nurses are not allowed within NHS prescriptions. Prescribing system logic can prevent a Community practitioner nurse prescriber being able to request a controlled drug via EPS e.g. by providing suitable warnings or blocks.

Pharmacy system suppliers may also add logic to their pharmacy systems to prevent pharmacy teams inadvertently trying to process a prescription which is not allowed to be reimbursed by the NHS (if received). E.g. a pharmacy system could help to prevent a prescription being processed for a Controlled Drug, if the prescriber type EPS code was for a community practitioner nurse prescriber (and therefore NHS Controlled Drugs are out of NHS scope).

Some pharmacy patient medication record (PMR) systems suppliers can opt to adjust the colour on-screen when a different prescriber type is indicated, but this is not a pharmacy system requirement. See also: **PMR wishlist items**.

EPS prescriber rollout: was originally rolled out to GP practices. However, **EPS continues to be expanded to urgent and other care settings and more prescriber type**. NHSBSA may further update the EPS prescriber type codes later.

Read more at: **psnc.org.uk/epsdispense**; **psnc.org.uk/systems**; **Paper prescription forms**; and **Who can prescribe what**.