

References

Key terms

Emergency supply service: allows pharmacists to make a supply of prescription medicines in an emergency without charging patients for the medicines.

Falls prevention service: pharmacy teams can help to identify those patients who are at risk of a fall, for instance if they are taking certain medicines, or those who have already experienced a fall, and the service aims to prevent falls or fractures in the future.

Medicines Use Review (MUR): pharmacists undertake structured adherence-centred reviews with patients on multiple medicines, particularly those receiving medicines for long term conditions. National target groups have been agreed in order to guide the selection of patients to whom the service will be offered.

Minor ailments advice service: pharmacists and pharmacy teams can offer support to patients to help them self-care and, if appropriate, access medicines for minor conditions without having to visit their GP or an A&E department.

Reablement service: provides patients recently discharged from hospital with expert advice and support with their medicines regimen from a pharmacist in the comfort of the patient's own home.

Respiratory support service: pharmacists would undertake an asthma control test and use a chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) assessment tool when completing MURs on patients with respiratory conditions.

Protecting local health services: using community pharmacy

Statistic	Source
£2.2bn could be saved in five years through a pharmacy minor ailments advice service.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMS data showed there were 51.4m GP consultations for minor ailments in 2007. • According to a PSSRU report, the cost per face-to-face GP consultation is £45. • Using these figures, PSNC modelling then assumed an initial 10% transfer rate of patient appointments from GP practices in year 1, growing to 40% after five years of a national pharmacy minor ailments advice service. • Evaluation of a Pharmacy First (minor ailments advice) service found that 94% of people using it would have used GP practices or urgent care services had it not been in place.
Each GP appointment prevented by pharmacy minor ailments and emergency supply services saves the NHS £45.	
At least 19.5m GP appointments could be transferred to community pharmacy.	
94% of people using a pharmacy minor ailments advice service would have used GP practices or urgent care services had it not been in place.	
More than 27,394 hospital admissions due to asthma could be avoided by using a pharmacy respiratory support service.	According to the National Review of Asthma Deaths (NRAD) , there were 54,789 hospital admissions due to asthma in England in 2011/12. An Isle of Wight respiratory MUR project saw emergency admissions due to asthma fall by more than 50% (reported in Pharmacy Management , Volume 25, Issue 3, page 16).
Up to £150m could be saved by preventing medicines waste.	According to the York Health Economic Consortium , up to £300m of medicines are wasted each year and half this waste could be avoided.
£3,710 could be saved per patient per year using a pharmacy reablement service.	This figure has been calculated from the Enhanced Reablement Report of a service conducted in the Isle of Wight area.
A £34m saving in hospital costs could be made by reducing falls.	According to the Community Pharmacy Future project , the NHS could see an annual saving of £34m in hospitals costs by reducing falls associated with fractures through risk assessment and interventions as part of a pharmacy falls prevention service.

*The current total number of community pharmacies in England is 11,650 according to PSNC records.

References

£264m could be saved by identifying patients with COPD.	According to the Community Pharmacy Future project , the NHS could see an annual saving of £264.5m from diagnosing patients earlier and reducing productivity costs as part of a pharmacy respiratory support service.
£16-17m could be saved if community pharmacists could substitute branded medicines for cheaper generic equivalents.	Based on HSCIC figures.

How does community pharmacy funding work?

Statistic	Source
Pharmacies have saved the NHS at least £11bn since 2005/06.	PSNC calculations based on cumulative effect of reductions in Category M medicines prices (determined by the Department of Health).
National annual funding for community pharmacy has remained relatively unchanged since 2011/12 at around £2.8bn.	Calculation based on Department of Health and PSNC data.
Community pharmacies received around 90% of their income from the NHS.	PSNC analysis of The Cost of Service Inquiry dataset.
They receive roughly £240,000 of NHS funding for their premises, staff and all other pharmacy running costs.	Based on current NHS funding, divided by the total number of community pharmacies in England.*
137 visitors per day	According to figures from the Department of Health , divided by the total number of community pharmacies in England.*
87,000 prescriptions dispensed	NHS payment data, divided by the total number of community pharmacies in England – the calculation works out to 86,952.
281 reviews of medicines use	NHS Medicines Use Review (MUR) payment data, divided by the total number of community pharmacies in England.*

Community pharmacy can reach more people

Statistic	Source
250 people with diabetes	According to Diabetes UK , there were 2.9m people with diabetes in England as of 2015. This figure was then divided by the total number of community pharmacies in England.*
389 people with asthma	According to Asthma UK , there are 4.5m people with asthma in England. This figure was then divided by the total number of community pharmacies in England.*
463 unpaid carers	According to Carers UK , there were 5.4m carers in England as of 2011. This figure was then divided by the total number of community pharmacies in England.*
805 older people	According to Agediscrimination.info , 17.7% of the population is over 65, and the population of England is 53m (as per 2011 census). This figure was then divided by the total number of community pharmacies in England.*
1,137 people with mental health conditions	According to the Mental Health Foundation , an estimated 1 in 4 people in England will experience a mental health problem in any given year, and the population of England is 53m (as per 2011 census). This figure was then divided by the total number of community pharmacies in England.*
1,416 people discharged from hospital	According to HSCIC , there are 16.5m hospital discharges per year (as per 2014 figures), divided by the total number of community pharmacies in England.*

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