

Changes to FP10 NHS Prescription Forms and EPS Tokens



Free of charge items

Contraceptives

Paper: Although contraceptives remain free-of-charge (FOC) items, there will no longer be a category 'X' – "was prescribed free of charge contraceptives".

Prescriptions for **FOC items only** no longer need a patient signature.

EPS: The message code 0010 – "was prescribed FOC contraceptives" still needs to be populated, but new EPS Tokens with FOC items **only** do not need to be submitted to the NHSBSA.

Treatments for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)

Prescribers can apply a new endorsement code 'FS' (for 'free supply') to indicate that an item is being prescribed to treat an STI and can be provided FOC.

Paper: As with other FOC items, there is no patient tick box for this category. Any prescription with the prescriber 'FS' endorsement should be placed in a **red separator** when submitted.

EPS: 'FS' must be present in the EPS prescriber endorsement field. Manual addition of 'FS', e.g. as part of dose instructions, is not acceptable as the NHSBSA does not see this information. A new message code (0017) for "was prescribed FOC sexual health medication" will be added to EPS systems. **Paper prescriptions should be issued until EPS systems have been updated.**

Exemption categories

Age exemption

Paper: The under 16s and 60 or over age exemption categories have been merged into a single category 'A' – "is 60 years of age or over; or is under 16 years of age".

EPS: Until the same changes have been made to EPS systems, pharmacy teams can continue to select EPS message codes 'A' (0002) or 'C' (0004), where appropriate.

War pension exemption

Paper/EPS: The exemption category 'C' – "has a valid War Pension exemption certificate" has been re-worded to read "Prescription exemption certificate issued by Ministry of Defence".

Universal Credit (UC)

Paper: Qualifying patients should now mark box 'U' – "Universal Credit and meets the criteria" on the new forms and continue to use box K "get income-based Jobseeker's Allowance" on old forms.

EPS: A new message code is being created for UC (0016). Until changes have been made to EPS systems, pharmacy teams should continue to select "Income based Job Seeker's Allowance" (0012) as a workaround.

New stock FP10 (1219) (in circulation early 2020*)

Old stock FP10 (0515) (being phased out*)

*Until stock of the FP10 (0515) forms/tokens are exhausted, pharmacies should expect to receive both (existing and new) versions of the prescription forms/tokens.

For more information, please visit psnc.org.uk/exemptionbriefing

Also see [Requirements and Guidance for Endorsement in the EPS](#)

Paid prescription box: Moved to the top of the new form/Token. Patients or their representatives should place a mark here **only** if any prescription charges are paid. **Signature and date box:** Pharmacy teams should **always** ensure that this section of prescription is completed if prescription charges are collected, or if an exemption (other than age exemption and real-time exemption) has been declared by the patient or their representative.

Name and address sections on the reverse: These will not appear on the new form/Token and the reverse is no longer separated into Parts 1, 2 & 3.

Collector of Schedule 2 & 3 CDs signature box: Pharmacy teams are reminded to ensure that this section is completed, where appropriate. Some teams may capture the Controlled Drug (CD) collector's details electronically on their PMR system.

Evidence Not Seen box: Moved to the bottom of the new form/Token. Pharmacy teams are reminded to ensure that this section is completed, where appropriate.