

# NHS New Medicine Service - self-assessment of readiness for community pharmacists

This self-assessment is to provide you (the pharmacist) with a framework to assure yourself, your employer (where appropriate) and the NHS that you have reflected upon the skills and knowledge necessary to provide the NHS New Medicine Service (NMS) and can demonstrate them.

Pharmacy contractors are separately required to ensure that their premises meet the required standard and that all the pharmacists providing the service have completed this self-assessment.

## 1) Do you understand the purpose and background of the service?

**Do you know why this service is being commissioned and the evidence behind it?**

Yes, because I have undertaken the following:

*This requires you to reflect on your knowledge about the service, including its role in supporting medicines optimisation and adherence and how it supports NHS priorities.*

## 2) Do you understand the aims and intended outcomes of the service?

**Do you understand the aim of the service to support patients taking a new medicine?**

Yes, because I have undertaken the following:

**Do you understand what outcomes are required when providing this service?**

Yes, because I have undertaken the following:

*This requires you to reflect on your knowledge about adherence, the eligible conditions / therapies and the medicines used in the eligible conditions / therapies. This includes the theory and practical application of supportive interventions, together with how this will work in the pharmacy/pharmacies where you work and in your daily professional practice.*

**3) Do you understand the service specification and how to provide the service effectively?**

**Do you understand the service and how to provide it?**

Yes, I understand the patient engagement, intervention and follow up steps because I have undertaken the following:

*This requires you to examine the service specification, remembering that there are both requirements and prohibitions.*

*You should be particularly mindful of the following aspects to ensure you have a full understanding:*

- Recruitment/referral from another healthcare professional*
- Eligible clinical conditions/medicines*
- Where opportunities to offer relevant healthy lifestyle advice can be taken*
- Obtaining and recording consent*
- Method of undertaking the intervention – face-to-face/telephone appointment*
- Intervention process – interview schedule and next steps*
- Arranging the follow-up appointment*
- Follow-up – advice and support, next steps and action to be taken if you cannot contact the patient*
- Appropriate referral to the GP/Primary Care Network clinical pharmacist at the intervention and follow up stages*
- Clinical record keeping for the pharmacy patient record*
- Record keeping for reporting to NHS England and NHS Improvement*

*You may also wish to review the clinical areas covered by the service to ensure that you are competent in those particular areas, in the mechanism of action and initiation protocol of the medicines and especially any side-effects, to help you address patients' questions or concerns.*

4) Have you considered the necessary communications that are required with pharmacy staff and other local healthcare providers, and the consultation skills you require to communicate effectively with patients in order to provide the service?

Are you aware that the pharmacy contractor or their representative is required to communicate with local GP practices about the service?  Yes

Are you aware that colleagues in the pharmacy are required to have an appropriate understanding of the service?  Yes

Are you aware of the need to employ shared decision-making principles when providing this service?  Yes

Do you meet or are you actively<sup>1</sup> working towards the Consultation Skills for Pharmacy Practice: Practice Standards for England, as determined by Health Education England?

Yes, because I have undertaken the following:

If you have NOT answered 'Yes' to all of the above questions, you are not yet ready or eligible to provide the NMS.

The Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) has facilitated the development of learning materials for the NMS. The learning materials support pharmacists with gaps in their skills and knowledge in order to help them demonstrate they are able to provide the NMS. For more information visit [cppe.ac.uk](http://cppe.ac.uk).

#### Pharmacist's declaration

I have answered 'Yes' to all the above questions and therefore declare that I have the necessary skills and knowledge to provide the NHS New Medicine Service and can demonstrate these.

Signed:

Date:

Name:

GPhC registration number:

*A completed copy of this form should be given to the pharmacy contractor at any pharmacies where you provide the NMS.*

*You may want to record the activities you have undertaken to prepare yourself for providing the NMS in your GPhC Revalidation Record.*

<sup>1</sup> If you confirm that you are 'actively working towards' the standards, you are declaring that you are undertaking the relevant learning and CPD to meet the standards. It is expected that you will have accessed the standards and associated learning to meet this requirement and that you will complete the assessment within 12 months of signing the Pharmacist's declaration above.

As a pharmacy professional you should continuously seek to develop your consultation skills throughout your career and, therefore, this topic should regularly feature in your CPD plan. To access the assessment, go to the [CPPE website](http://cppe.ac.uk). If you have not yet completed the assessment, you should be able to provide evidence of the consultation skills learning you have undertaken.