

Identifying the differences EPS non-nominated tokens vs bar-coded paper prescription

Community pharmacy teams should familiarise themselves with the various prescription forms and tokens they will encounter. This factsheet compares the differences between Release 1 (R1) barcoded paper prescriptions and EPS non-nominated (Phase 4) paper tokens.

Both types of these forms are printed by prescribers onto green FP10SS stationery and both include barcodes and barcode numbers on the right. Depending on the type of form, pharmacy teams will process it differently. The image comparison below sets out the key differences to look out for. Non-nominated tokens may look identical to other EPS prescription tokens.

Release 1 (R1) barcoded paper prescription (with an electronic prescription message)

Prescription token (issued in parallel with a legal electronic NHS prescription) e.g. non-nominated paper tokens



Pharmacy Stamp: Age 33, Title: Forename, Surname & Address MR ANDREW CHARLTON, D.o.B 20/03/1973, NHS Number, POSTCODE, Endorsements, Medication Item Description 1-4, Signature of Prescriber Joe Bloggs, For dispenser No. of Prescriber on form DR A JONES, GP CODE, GP ADDRESS LINE 1-3, TELEPHONE NUMBER, PCT NAME, NHS FP10SS0406

Barcode number length:
The barcode is twice as long on a Release 1 (R1) barcoded paper prescription compared to the EPS token short 18-character token number.

Signature boxes: R1 barcoded paper prescriptions must include an ink signature whereas Tokens include wording ("PRESCRIPTION TOKEN – Not to be used as a prescription, even if signed by an authorised prescriber")



Pharmacy Stamp: Age 33, Title: Forename, Surname & Address MR ANDREW CHARLTON, D.o.B 20/03/1973, NHS Number, POSTCODE, Endorsements, Medication Item Description 1-4, Signature of Prescriber PRESCRIPTION TOKEN - not to be used as a prescription, even if signed by an authorised prescriber, Date, For dispenser No. of Prescriber on form DR A JONES, GP CODE, GP ADDRESS LINE 1-3, TELEPHONE NUMBER, PCT NAME, NHS FP10SS0608

Read more about:

- cpe.org.uk/tokens
- [cpe.org.uk/non-nominated EPS prescriptions](https://cpe.org.uk/non-nominated-EPS-prescriptions)
- [EPS-related forms and tokens factsheet](#)