



Factsheet: CP ITG update (Spring 2025)

The Community Pharmacy IT Group (CP ITG) held its main quarterly meeting in March 2025 to advance its objectives. The meeting and updates covered many topics, presented below in no particular order of priority are some of the workstream and discussion updates.

NHS Vaccination Digital Service

The Vaccination Digital Services team is dedicated to advancing digital solutions that enhance the delivery of NHS vaccination programs. One of the team's current core projects is the ongoing development and phased rollout of the [Record a vaccination service \(RAVS\)](#). To be further piloted in the community pharmacy sector, RAVS is designed to record vaccination events in various settings, including hospitals, maternity services, and community pharmacies. This tool aims to streamline the recording and managing of vaccination events while offering NHS England valuable insights into user needs, with the potential for national rollout



EPS and the detained estate



NHS England's Health and Justice Information Service (NHSE HJIS) has worked collaboratively with stakeholders to prepare for the Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) rollout in this care setting. NHS England recently [announced](#) that, between late February and May 2025, EPS will be fully implemented across Detained Estate healthcare services in England.

Care Identity Service (CIS) and multi-factor authentication (MFA)

NHS Care Identity Service 2 ([CIS2](#)) Authentication is a secure service used by health and care professionals in England to access national clinical information systems. The 2025 Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPTK) introduces a new mandatory question concerning using multi-factor authentication (MFA) within clinical systems. Both Smartcards and CIS2 solutions meet the current DSPTK MFA criteria.



Primary Care Cyber Security Readiness



The Joint Cyber Unit assesses cybersecurity readiness and capabilities across the primary care sector, including community pharmacy, general practice, optometry, and dentistry. As part of this effort, the unit has conducted interviews to gain deeper insights into cybersecurity challenges and needs. Additionally, a comprehensive survey has been launched to evaluate various aspects of cybersecurity. Pharmacy and supplier representatives are all encouraged to [complete the survey](#) by **6th April 2025**.

Supplier development frameworks

NHS England is supporting community pharmacy suppliers in transitioning to the Digital Services for Integrated Care ([DSIC](#)) Catalogue, which will promote development required for pharmacy NHS services modules. This [systems framework](#) is also supporting pharmacy digital developments outlined in the Primary Care Recovery plan. It has similarities with the GP IT Futures programme in which GP IT suppliers could be incentivised to make relevant changes.



Read more about IT and Community Pharmacy England's IT work: Full pharmacy IT bulletin ([pdf](#) or [html](#) versions) and [Community Pharmacy IT Group](#)