Funding and Contract Subcommittee Agenda

**Date: Wednesday 31st January 2024**

**Start time: 13:15pm**

**Location: Hosier Lane, London**

**Items are confidential where marked**

**Members:**Peter Cattee (Chairman), David Broome (Deputy Chairman), Jas Heer, Tricia Kennerley, Prakash Patel, Adrian Price, Anil Sharma, Ian Strachan, Gary Warner

**In attendance:**Mike Dent, Jack Cresswell, Rob Thomas, Suraj Shah and Mitesh Budhia

1. Welcome from Chair
2. Apologies for absence

Ian Strachan

1. Declarations or conflicts of interest
2. Minutes of last meeting **(Confidential Appendix FCS 01/01/24)** and matters arising

**MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

1. CPCF negotiations
	1. Pharmacy First Caps **(Confidential Appendix FCS 02/01/24)**

**MATTERS OF REPORT**

1. Update on independent economic review **(Confidential verbal update)**
2. Potential expansion of auditing to cover more service payments **(Confidential Appendix 03/01/24)**
3. Reimbursement reforms
4. Category A **(Confidential Appendix 04/01/24)**
5. Category M **(Confidential Appendix 05/01/24)**
6. Remuneration and reimbursement
7. CPCF outturn forecasts **(Confidential Appendix FCS 06/01/24)**
8. January 2024 Cat M **(Confidential Appendix FCS 07/01/24)**
9. Margin update **(Confidential Appendix FCS 08/01/24)**
10. Price concessions update **(Appendix FCS 09/01/24)**
11. General funding update **(Appendix FCS 10/01/24)**

1. Statistics **(Appendix FCS 11/01/24)**
2. Any other business

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Subject** | Price concessions update |
| **Date of meeting** | January 2024 |
| **Committee/Subcommittee** | FunCon |
| **Status** | Not confidential |
| **Overview** | Overview of monthly price concessions granted |
| **Proposed action(s)** | No action required |
| **Author(s) of the paper** | CPE Dispensing & Supply Team |

**Appendix 09/01/2024** **Not Confidential**

**Price Concessions Update**

 **January 2024**

* As of 23nd January 2024, CPE has applied for **180** price concessions. Further applications may be submitted throughout the month based on reports received by CPE.
	+ As of 23 January 2024, **46** price concessions have been agreed between DHSC and CPE. We are still in discussion with DHSC on prices for other products requested.
	+ There were no price concessions from December 2023 that rolled over into January 2024.

**December 2023**

* CPE applied for a total of **167** price concessions in December 2023. DHSC wrote to CPE on 21st December with their list of final prices and a redetermination.
* **155** price concessions were granted by DHSC and, of these, **118** were agreed between DHSC and CPE.
* **37** products had prices imposed as CPE was unable to agree to the final prices proposed by DHSC.
* **10** products had a no concessionary price imposed by DHSC.
* **2** products where CPE and DHSC agreed to no concessionary price.
* There were no price concessions from November that rolled over into December 2023.
* Following concerns raised by pharmacy owners about the price concessions granted for December, CPE wrote to DHSC urging a review of prices imposed or not granted for **9** products.
* On 12th January 2024, DHSC wrote to CPE with a list of redetermined concessionary prices for the following **4** products for the dispensing month of December 2023 (Unfortunately, DHSC did not move from its original position on the 5 other products CPE applied for):
	+ Aripiprazole 5mg tablets - £8.52 (previously imposed no price concession)
	+ Digoxin 125mcg tablets - £3.70 (previously imposed no price concession)
	+ Digoxin 250mcg tablets - £3.70 (previously imposed no price concession)
	+ Ezetimibe 10mg tablets - £17.78 (previously imposed a price of £9.44)

**November 2023**

* CPE applied for a total of **153** price concessions in November 2023. DHSC wrote to CPE on 30th November with their list of final prices.
* **138** price concessions were granted by DHSC and, of these, **107** were agreed between DHSC and CPE.
* **31** products had prices imposed as CPE was unable to agree to the final prices proposed by DHSC.
* **15** products had a no concessionary price imposed by DHSC.
* There were **12** price concessions from October that rolled over into November 2023.
	+ For **3** of these products, CPE sought an upward adjustment following prices increases reported in November. However, DHSC only granted an upward adjustment for 1 product and maintained the rolled over prices for the other 2 products.

**Price concessions summary graphs**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Subject** | General funding update |
| **Date of meeting** | January 2024 |
| **Committee/Subcommittee** | FunCon |
| **Status** | Not confidential |
| **Overview** | General update on various funding issues |
| **Proposed action(s)** | No action required |
| **Author(s) of the paper** | CPE Dispensing & Supply Team |

**Appendix FCS 10/01/2024** **Not Confidential**

**General funding update**

The following items are included as matters of report:

1. January 2024 Category M prices announced
2. Improved price for Ezetimibe and further price concessions granted for December 2023
3. November 2023 reimbursement price changes for Premarin and Premique Low Dose
4. Adcal-D3 reimbursement prices following list price changes
5. How prescriptions for unlicensed specials should be written
6. Final reminder: Check your referred back/disallowed prescriptions on MYS before they expire in January 2024
7. Gepretix® added to the HRT PPC medicines list from November 2023
8. Newly launched FreeStyle Libre 3 Sensors enter the Drug Tariff and DND list from January 2024
9. DHSC permits use of antiviral medicines against influenza
10. Updates to SSPs - active and expired SSPs
11. Market movements with implications for supply
12. DST webpage views
13. **January 2024 Category M prices announced**

The Drug Tariff Category M pricelist for January 2024 was published by Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) on the [NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) website](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/drug-tariff/drug-tariff-part-viii).

Based on our analysis of the Category M price list for January 2024, Community Pharmacy England estimates:

* There will be an overall reduction to reimbursement of approximately £35m per quarter on like-for-like Category M lines.
* The effect of new entrants to Category M will be a reduction to reimbursement of approximately £3m per quarter.
* Therefore, the overall impact of the new Category M list will be a reimbursement reduction of approximately £38m per quarter, equivalent to a reduction in AIV of around -14p per item.

This indicative modelling uses the latest pharmacy dispensing volumes available to Community Pharmacy England as a proxy for the expected dispensing volumes in quarter Jan-Mar 24. The actual impact of the changes in the quarter will be subject to variation based on actual volumes observed.

Results from the Margin Survey of Independent Community Pharmacies up to Q1 2023/24 had indicated that there remained an over delivery of margin, and therefore in the normal course of business a reduction in the Drug Tariff would be expected. However, in discussions with the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), Community Pharmacy England had lobbied for no reduction in the January Drug Tariff. As well as stressing the unsustainable financial pressures already being experienced by English pharmacy businesses, making further reductions impossible to absorb, we argued that the timing of this reduction, coinciding as it does with the launch of the new Pharmacy First Service, could hamper the successful launch and uptake of this critical service.

The matter was ultimately referred to Ministers, who determined that a reduced margin adjustment would be applied to the January Drug Tariff, in the region of -£9m per quarter.

In addition to margin adjustments which are the subject of discussion between DHSC and Community Pharmacy England, the Category M Drug Tariff methodology also reflects movements in the underlying market (i.e. movements in buying prices of medicines). These are systematic and not subject to negotiation.

The reference period used by DHSC for setting the January Drug Tariff was the Jul 2023 – Sep 2023 period. An estimated overall change in like-for-like medicines of -£35m per quarter indicates that according to market data gathered by DHSC, prices reduced in the region of -£26m per quarter in the reference period (i.e. £35m minus the intended £9m margin adjustment), and this price movement is reflected in the January Category M pricelist. Of particular note are the further reductions in Apixaban prices, which are in line with reports given to Community Pharmacy England by Pharmacy owners.

Community Pharmacy England hosted a [webinar](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/book-now-for-our-category-m-webinar/) on Drug Tariff Category M and retained margin on **Tuesday 23rd January**.

1. **Improved price for Ezetimibe and further price concessions granted for December 2023**

Following representations made by Community Pharmacy England on behalf of community pharmacy owners, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) redetermined the December 2023 concessionary prices for the following medicines:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Drug** | **Pack size** | **Price concession** |
| Aripiprazole 5mg tablets | 28 | £8.52 |
| Digoxin 125microgram tablets | 28 | £3.70 |
| Digoxin 250micrgram tablets | 28 | £3.70 |
| Ezetimibe 10mg tablets | 28 | £17.78 (previously £9.44) |

The new and/or improved prices applied to prescriptions submitted for payment for the dispensing month of December 2023. These prices do not apply to January 2024 prescriptions. The final list of price concessions granted for December 2023 can be found [here](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/improved-prices-for-ezetimibe-and-further-price-concessions-granted-for-december-2023/).

1. **November 2023 reimbursement price changes for Premarin and Premique Low Dose**

During the month of November 2023, Community Pharmacy England received several reports from pharmacies unable to obtain Premarin and Premique Low Dose at or below the published [Drug Tariff](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/drug-tariff) prices. A price concession application for these products was not required because of the [price change mechanism](https://cpe.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Dispensing-and-Supply-Factsheet-What-is-the-Price-Change-Mechanism.pdf) rules. The [redetermined](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/november-2023-reimbursement-price-changes) reimbursement prices are set out in the table below:

| **Product** | **Published November 23 Drug Tariff Price** | **Actual Reimbursement Price for November 23** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Premarin 0.3mg tablets | £6.07 | £24.02 |
| Premarin 0.625mg tablets | £4.02 | £26.87 |
| Premarin 1.25mg tablets | £3.58 | £52.56 |
| Premique Low Dose tablets | £6.52 | £34.13 |

Please note: This is not an exhaustive list of reimbursement prices for November 2023 under the price change mechanism. The products listed in the table above include those reported by pharmacy owners as not being available to purchase at or below the published Drug Tariff price for November.

Prices listed in Part VIIIA of the Drug Tariff, for Categories A and C products are indicative and follow the [price change mechanism](https://cpe.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Dispensing-and-Supply-Factsheet-What-is-the-Price-Change-Mechanism.pdf) rules for generic drugs. Price changes up to and including the 8th of the month takes effect for prescriptions dispensed in that same month. Any price changes after the 8th, take place in the following month.

Click here for more information on the [price change mechanism](https://cpe.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Dispensing-and-Supply-Factsheet-What-is-the-Price-Change-Mechanism.pdf).

1. **Adcal-D3 reimbursement prices following list price changes**

On the 20th November 2023, Kyowa Kirin International UK NewCo Ltd increased its list prices for the following Adcal-D3 products:

| **Product** | **Pack size** | **Previous list price** | **New list price from 20 November 2023** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Adcal-D3 750mg/200unit caplets | 112 | £2.95 | £3.54 |
| Adcal-D3 Lemon chewable tablets | 56 | £3.65 | £4.38 |
| Adcal-D3 Lemon chewable tablets | 112 | £7.49 | £8.99 |
| Adcal-D3 chewable tablets tutti frutti | 56 |  £3.65 | £4.38 |
| Adcal-D3 chewable tablets tutti frutti | 112 | £7.49 | £8.99 |

Under the [price change mechanism](https://cpe.org.uk/funding-and-reimbursement/reimbursement/how-the-price-change-mechanism-works/) rules, a list price change for branded medicines up to and including the 8th of the month takes effect for prescriptions dispensed in the following month. A price change after the 8th of the month will be applied for reimbursement purposes to prescriptions dispensed one month later.

**Therefore, the new list prices for the Adcal-D3 preparations listed above will apply to reimbursement for prescriptions dispensed from January 2024. Any prescriptions submitted for payment for the dispensing month of December 2023 will be reimbursed as per the old list prices**.

1. **How prescriptions for unlicensed specials should be written**

Medicine Supply Notifications or Supply Disruption Alerts, issued by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and NHS England (NHSE) often include recommendations for prescribers to consider unlicensed alternatives for medicines affected by shortages. The recommended unlicensed products are not always available on prescribing systems for GPs to select, often due to delays in adding the information on the NHS Dictionary of Medicines and Devices (dm+d) database or if prescribing system suppliers have not ‘mapped’ across the appropriate codes by using the latest dm+d extract.

Consequently, some prescribers apply different workarounds such as free-typing ‘(Special Order)’ or similar into the dosage or additional instructions field of electronic or paper prescriptions. Pharmacy owners are not reimbursed for supplying unlicensed medicines (specials) ordered on prescriptions written this way as any supplementary product information contained within the dosage area of a prescription is NOT read by the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA). Further information on supplementary product information can be found here: [cpe.org.uk/dosearea](https://cpe.org.uk/digital-and-technology/eps/endorsing-and-submission/problem-with-product-information-in-dosage-instructions/).

Example of an incorrectly issued electronic prescription for a non-Part VIII special:



Pharmacies are advised to return such prescriptions back to prescribers so that they can be written correctly with ‘Special Order’ included as part of the drug name field (see examples below).

Example of a correctly issued electronic prescription for a non-Part VIII special:


With over 90% of all prescriptions now issued via EPS, Community Pharmacy England has urged DHSC to add any recommended unlicensed alternatives to dm+d in a timely manner to facilitate electronic prescribing of these products. This will help to avoid any delays in getting the medication to patients and to ensure pharmacy owners are reimbursed accordingly.

Once the unlicensed product has been added to dm+d, a prescriber must select the appropriate Actual Medicinal Product (AMP) on their prescribing system. In EPS, a prescription for a special would read as either:

* ‘Drug name (Drug Tariff Special Order)’ – for a Part VIIIB listed special’; or
* ‘Drug name (Part VIIID Drug Tariff Special Order)’ – for a Part VIIID listed special’; or
* ‘Drug name (Special Order)’ – for a non-Part VIII special; or
* ‘Drug name (Imported (Country))’ – for a non-Part VIII unlicensed import

If the unlicensed product is not listed on dm+d, a prescriber will need to issue a paper FP10 prescription written as ‘Drug name (Special Order)’ to indicate that a special is required. The words ‘(Special Order)‘ should be included as part of the prescribed product name to ensure NHSBSA can recognise and reimburse the specials product correctly.

Example of a correctly written paper FP10 prescription for an unlicensed special

 

Paper FP10 prescriptions for specials must be endorsed and placed in the red separator during end of month submission. See our [Unlicensed specials and imports](https://cpe.org.uk/dispensing-and-supply/dispensing-process/dispensing-a-prescription/unlicensed-specials-and-imports/) page for further guidance on endorsing and submission of EPS and paper FP10 prescriptions for specials. Pharmacy teams may need to refer to this guidance during discussions with a prescriber to help explain that an EPS prescription needs to be cancelled and re-issued with the correct AMP selected (where listed) or that a replacement paper FP10 form needs to be issued to ensure that it can be accurately priced by the NHSBSA.

1. **Final reminder: Check your referred back/disallowed prescriptions on MYS before they expire in January 2024**

**Pharmacy teams are reminded that they have until the 5 February 2024 to complete and submit the required information for all outstanding referred back (unpaid) prescriptions received prior to July 2022. After 5 February, all referred back prescriptions older than 18 months (including any paper referred back forms sent to pharmacies prior to July 2022) will be deleted from the**[**Manage Your Service (MYS) portal**](https://services.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/nhs-prescription-services-submissions/login)**. At the end of October 2023, approximately 2,500 referred back prescriptions sent to 180 pharmacies prior to July 2022 were yet to be completed.**

The [October 2023](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/reminder-check-your-disallowed-referred-back-prescriptions-on-mys-before-they-expire/) Drug Tariff was recently updated to include an 18-month deadline for completion and submission of any new referred back prescriptions to the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA). From 1 February 2024, any new referred back prescriptions sent to pharmacies will remain available for completion on the MYS portal for a period of 18 months. Please note the 18 month deadline starts from the first time the referred back prescription is added to MYS.

Delays in the completion of missing information for referred back items can affect the timing of payments. This can create potential cash-flow risks for pharmacy owners if very expensive items are referred back, or a large number of prescriptions are returned to the pharmacy to complete the missing information. To reduce any delays in payment, pharmacy teams are advised to complete and return all referred back prescriptions as soon as possible.

Additionally, the [January 2024 Drug Tariff](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/reminder-check-your-referred-back-disallowed-prescriptions-on-mys-before-they-expire-in-january-2024/) was updated to include a 18-month deadline to submit a challenge to the NHSBSA for any prescriptions believed to have been incorrectly disallowed by the NHSBSA. Pharmacy owners are urged to review any disallowed items on MYS and submit a challenge to the NHSBSA if it is believed any have been incorrectly disallowed. Recent examples of incorrectly disallowed items include [Hypromellose 0.3% eye drops and Emulsifying ointment](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/review-and-challenge-disallowed-items-via-mys/).

For further information and background, click [here](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/reminder-check-your-referred-back-disallowed-prescriptions-on-mys-before-they-expire-in-january-2024/).

1. **Gepretix® added to the HRT PPC medicines list from November 2023**

From 1 November 2023, the list of medicines covered by the HRT prepayment certificate (HRT PPC) was updated to include a new brand of progesterone micronised capsules, Gepretix®.

Part XVI of the November 2023 Drug Tariff was updated to include the following new HRT medicine for which patients will be able to purchase an HRT PPC:

**Gepretix® – Progesterone micronised 100mg capsules**

In June 2023, we [announced](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/two-new-products-added-to-the-hrt-ppc-medicines-list-from-june-2023/) the addition of the following medicines to the HRT PPC list.

* Tibolone 2.5mg tablets (Livial®)
* Prasterone 6.5mg pessaries (Intrarosa®)

Pharmacy teams should also note that the following HRT three medicines have been discontinued and will be removed from the list of medicines covered by the HRT PPC in August 2024:

* Bedol® 2mg tablets
* Climanor® 5mg tablets
* Clinorette® tablets

Pharmacy staff are advised to check the NHSBSA website for [an up-to-date list of HRT medicines covered by the HRT PPC](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/help-nhs-prescription-costs/nhs-hormone-replacement-therapy-prescription-prepayment-certificate-hrt-ppc/medicines-covered-hrt-ppc). Community Pharmacy England has updated its [HRT medicines list](https://cpe.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/HRT-Medicines-List-2.pdf) to reflect the changes taking effect from November 2023. The HRT medicines list has been compiled following consultation with the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), NHSBSA and the NHS England Menopause Clinical Reference Group. The list will be updated as new HRT medicines licensed for the treatment of menopause become available in the UK or as existing HRT medicines are discontinued from the UK market. If a product that meets the criteria is missing from the HRT medicines list please contact dhsc.publicenquiries@dhsc.gov.uk.

1. **Newly launched FreeStyle Libre 3 Sensors enter the Drug Tariff and DND list from January 2024**

The new FreeStyle Libre 3 Sensors recently launched by Abbott Diabetes Care Ltd have been added to the Appliances section in Part IXA of the January 2024 [Drug Tariff](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/drug-tariff)).  At the same time, the sensors have also been included in the [Drugs for which Discount is Not Deducted (DND)](https://cpe.org.uk/funding-and-reimbursement/pharmacy-funding/discount-deduction/) list (Part II of the Drug Tariff).

As the FreeStyle Libre 3 Sensors can only be ordered by pharmacies directly from the manufacturer without any discount, Community Pharmacy England made representations to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) for this appliance to be exempt from any discount deduction. DHSC agreed to its addition to the DND list to help ensure that pharmacies are not faced with dispensing these sensors at a loss.

FreeStyle Libre 3 Sensors are not interchangeable with FreeStyle Libre 2 Sensors and require a different reader or the FreeStyle LibreLink app to scan and receive the results. The arrangements for ordering the FreeStyle Libre 3 sensors remain the same as for the  Freestyle Libre 2 sensors – via the Abbott Diabetes Care [pharmacy ordering portal](https://www.freestylelibrepharmacyportal.co.uk/).

1. **DHSC permits use of antiviral medicines against influenza**

The DHSC via its Central Alerting System (CAS) published a letter on 14 December 2023 advising that due to increasing flu levels in the community, Prescribers working in primary care may now prescribe, and community pharmacists may now supply antiviral medicines (oseltamivir and zanamivir) for the prophylaxis and treatment of influenza at NHS expense. This is in accordance with NICE guidance, and Schedule 2 to the National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts (Prescription of drugs etc) Regulations 2004), commonly known as the Grey List or Selected List Scheme (SLS).

Prescribers may prescribe for patients in clinical at-risk groups as well as those who are at risk of severe illness and/or complications from flu if not treated, in accordance with National Institute for Health and Care Excellence guidance and the Selected List Scheme (SLS) in Part XVIIIB of the England and Wales Drug Tariff.

Community pharmacy contractors who receive FP10 NHS prescriptions, written generically or by brand, for oseltamivir (Tamiflu®) or zanamivir (Relenza®), the antivirals included in the SLS list, are therefore reminded that prescriptions for these products must be endorsed SLS by the prescriber. If the SLS endorsement is missing, the prescription should not be dispensed and will not be passed for payment by NHS Prescription Services. Pharmacy staff cannot make the SLS endorsement themselves. [Click here to view the CAS alert](https://www.cas.mhra.gov.uk/ViewAndAcknowledgment/viewAlert.aspx?AlertID=103244).

1. **Updates to SSPs**

**Active SSPs**

There are no active SSPs for the first time since the policy was first introduced in 2019 (accurate as of 23 January 2024).

**Expired SSPs**

| **SSP** | **Date expired** | **Supporting Information** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| [SSP053: Clarithromycin 125mg/5ml oral suspension](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/serious-shortage-protocols-ssps) | 12 January 2024 | [SSP053 guide](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2023-04/Endorsement%20guidance%20Clarithromycin%20125mg-5ml%20oral%20susp.pdf) |
| [SSP057: Estradot® 100micrograms/24hours patches](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/serious-shortage-protocols-ssps) | 8 December 2023 | [SSP057 guide](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/serious-shortage-protocols-ssps) |
| [SSP054: Clarithromycin 250mg/5ml oral suspension](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/serious-shortage-protocols-ssps) | 17 November 2023 | [SSP054 guide](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2023-04/Endorsement%20guidance%20Clarithromycin%20250mg-5ml%20oral%20susp.pdf) |

Further information on SSPs can be found on CPE’s [Live SSPs](https://psnc.org.uk/dispensing-supply/supply-chain/live-ssps/) webpage.

1. **Market movements with implications for supply**

To assist pharmacy teams, the following **16** supply disruption alerts and medicine supply notifications issued by DHSC between 7 November 2023 and 10 January 2024 were published on the CPE’s website by the Dispensing & Supply team:

| **Date** | **Drug name** |
| --- | --- |
| 10 January 2024 | [Tegretol® (carbamazepine) 200mg and 400mg prolonged release tablets](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-tegretol-carbamazepine-200mg-and-400mg-prolonged-release-tablets/) |
| 3 January 2024  | [Isosorbide mononitrate 40mg modified release tablets and capsules](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-isosorbide-mononitrate-40mg-modified-release-tablets-and-capsules/) |
| 3 January 2024 | [Shortage of GLP-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1 RA) Update](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/national-patient-safety-alert-dhsc-shortage-of-glp-1-receptor-agonists-glp-1-ra-update/) |
| 27 December 2023 | [Phosphate Sandoz® (sodium dihydrogen phosphate anhydrous 1.936g) effervescent tablets](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-phosphate-sandoz-sodium-dihydrogen-phosphate-anhydrous-1-936g-effervescent-tablets/) |
| 27 December 2023 | [Sando-K ® (potassium chloride 600mg and potassium bicarbonate 400mg [total potassium 12mmol] effervescent tablets](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-sando-k-potassium-chloride-600mg-and-potassium-bicarbonate-400mg-total-potassium-12mmol-effervescent-tablets/) |
| 27 December 2023 | [Testosterone (Testim® ) 50mg/5g transdermal gel unit dose tubes](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-testosterone-testim-50mg-5g-transdermal-gel-unit-dose-tubes/) |
| 27 December 2023 | [Estradiol (Estring®) 7.5micrograms/24hours vaginal delivery system](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-estradiol-estring-7-5micrograms-24hours-vaginal-delivery-system/) |
| 19 December 2023 | [Glucagon (GlucaGen®) 1mg powder for injection kit](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-glucagon-glucagen-1mg-powder-for-injection-kit/) |
| 19 December 2023 | [Somatropin (Genotropin® MiniQuick) 0.6mg, 1.4mg and (Genotropin® GoQuick) 5.3mg powder and solvent for solution for injection pre-filled disposable devices – Update](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-somatropin-genotropin-miniquick-1-4mg-1-6mg-and-1-8mg-powder-and-solvent-for-solution-for-injection-pre-filled-disposable-devices/) |
| 19 December 2023 | [Oxybutynin 5mg modified-release tablets](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-oxybutynin-5mg-modified-release-tablets-2/) |
| 6 December 2023 | [Propantheline bromide (Pro-Banthine®) 15mg tablets](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-propantheline-bromide-pro-banthine-15mg-tablets/) |
| 6 December 2023 | [Diazepam 2mg/5ml oral solution sugar free](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-diazepam-2mg-5ml-oral-solution-sugar-free/) |
| 29 November 2023 | [Dicycloverine 10mg/5ml oral solution](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-dicycloverine-10mg-5ml-oral-solution/) |
| 29 November 2023 | [Fluticasone 400microgram/unit dose nasal drops](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-fluticasone-400microgram-unit-dose-nasal-drops/) |
| 16 November 2023 | [Rasagiline 1mg tablets](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-rasagiline-1mg-tablets/) |
| 7 November 2023 | [Co-trimoxazole 40mg/200mg/5ml oral suspension sugar free](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/medicine-supply-notification-co-trimoxazole-40mg-200mg-5ml-oral-suspension-sugar-free/) |

1. **DST webpage views**

Below is a table of the top 10 DST webpage visits by users between **1 October – 31 December 2023**, inclusive:

| **Page** | **Page views** |
| --- | --- |
| [Price Concessions](https://psnc.org.uk/dispensing-supply/supply-chain/generic-shortages/)  | 182,955 |
| [Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs)](https://psnc.org.uk/dispensing-and-supply/supply-chain/ssps/) | 81,618 |
| [Special Container Database](https://psnc.org.uk/dispensing-and-supply/dispensing-process/dispensing-a-prescription/special-containers/special-container-database/) | 20,683 |
| [Controlled Drug Prescription Forms and Validity](https://psnc.org.uk/dispensing-supply/dispensing-controlled-drugs/controlled-drug-prescription-forms-and-validity/) | 18,887 |
| [National Patient Safety Alert: Shortage of methylphenidate prolonged-release capsules and tablets, lisdexamfetamine capsules, and guanfacine prolonged-release tablets.](https://cpe.org.uk/our-news/national-patient-safety-alert-shortage-of-methylphenidate-prolonged-release-capsules-and-tablets-lisdexamfetamine-capsules-and-guanfacine-prolonged-release-tablets/) | 10,250 |
| [Price concession archive](https://cpe.org.uk/funding-and-reimbursement/reimbursement/price-concessions/archive/) | 10,056 |
| [Is this Prescription Form Valid?](https://psnc.org.uk/dispensing-supply/receiving-a-prescription/is-this-prescription-form-valid/) | 8,934 |
| [Report product over Drug Tariff price](https://cpe.org.uk/dispensing-and-supply/supply-chain/problems-with-obtaining-a-generic-medicine/) | 8,097 |
| [Who can prescribe what?](https://cpe.org.uk/dispensing-and-supply/prescription-processing/receiving-a-prescription/who-can-prescribe-what/) | 7,393 |
| [Medicine Shortages](https://cpe.org.uk/dispensing-and-supply/supply-chain/medicine-shortages/) | 7,055 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Subject** | Statistics |
| **Date of meeting** | January 2024 |
| **Committee/Subcommittee** | FunCon |
| **Status** | Not confidential |
| **Overview** | Latest statistics for information |
| **Proposed action(s)** | No action required |
| **Author(s) of the paper** | CPE Pharmacy Funding Team |

**Appendix FCS 11/01/2024 Not Confidential**

**Statistics**

**Dispensing items**

**Oct-23** total items was **94.5m** over 26 dispensing days (**3.6m** items per day). This is **5.0% more** items per day than the same month in the previous year.



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The latest rolling 12 month item volume as of **Oct-23** is **1,114m** items. This is **3.5% more** items than the rolling 12 month total in the same month the previous year.

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As of **Oct-23**, the proportion of all items that are EPS is **96.3%**. The proportion of items that are ERD is **14.8%**.

**Category M**

The **Jan-24** Cat-M list will have an estimated impact of **-13 pence per item** on like-for-like reimbursement

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The estimated packs per month in **Oct-23** was **88.1m**

The cumulative total of like-for-like changes since 2019 is currently **-28 pence per item**

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**Reimbursement / remuneration**



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In **23/24 Q2** the average NIC/item (before clawback) was **£8.60**, and National AIV was **£9.55** (based on data to Sep-23)

In **23/24 Q2** the average fees per item was **£1.51** (based on data to Sep-23).

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**Services**

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**Pharmacy contract numbers**

A waterfall chart of net change in pharmacy numbers per month indicates a cumulative drop of c-985 in the total number of pharmacy contracts since the announcement of the funding cuts.



A long view of pharmacy contract numbers demonstrates steady growth since the introduction of the new contract in 2005, followed by a reversal from early 2018 onwards.

