

Unlocking Community Pharmacy's Potential

Community pharmacies can do more to **improve the public's health and prevent ill-health**, helping Government to shift healthcare to prevention, rather than cure.

Pharmacies have much to offer **Neighbourhood Health Services, bringing care closer to home**. They could provide a wider range of clinical services close to patients' homes, working across care pathways as part of a fully resourced and integrated neighbourhood team.

And pharmacies can do much to **optimise the use of medicines** – ensuring that everybody taking a medicine gets the most benefit possible from it, and that the NHS gets value for money on its spend on medicines.

This resource is based on *'A vision for community pharmacy'* published by Nuffield Trust and The King's Fund, 2023.

1

Preventing ill health and supporting wellbeing

Stop smoking support

All smokers and users of vapes will be able to access an open-access pharmacy-based smoking cessation service.



Expanded Vaccination Services

People will have increased choice and be able to access a wide range of NHS vaccinations from their community pharmacies.



Women's Health Services



Women will have more choice and access to sexual health services, including a menopause advice service and long-acting reversible contraception, building on the existing supply of regular, oral contraception and emergency contraception pharmacies already offer.



Weight Management

People will be supported with weight management either by accessing a pharmacy-based service or being referred to another service, such as the NHS digital weight management service, depending on their needs.



2

Living well with medicines

Adherence support services

People will be able to access support to help them gain the maximum value from their medicines. For example, people who are prescribed an inhaler will have their inhaler technique assessed when starting treatment and then regularly during treatment.



3

Providing clinical care for patients

Management of Long-term Conditions

As prescribers, pharmacists will be able to manage certain long-term conditions such as hypertension and asthma.

Discharge Medicines Service

People will be able to access support around their medicines when they are discharged from hospital.

New Medicine Service

People will be able to access support when they are newly prescribed a wide range of medicines.

Deprescribing and amendment of prescriptions

As prescribers, pharmacists will be able to synchronise prescriptions; carry out interventions to improve adherence; optimise therapy with formulation changes; and amend treatment to address supply chain shortages.



Medicines optimisation services

As prescribers, pharmacists will be able to help patients to optimise their medicines regimens including offering the initiation of electronic repeat dispensing; structured medication reviews; pharmaceutical care plans; therapeutic drug monitoring; and pharmacogenomics services.

Pharmacy First/ Prescribing Service

People will be able to walk in to community pharmacies as a first port of call for a wide range of minor illnesses or the urgent supply of medicines, building on the existing Pharmacy First service and delivering the Government's pledged Community Pharmacist Prescribing Service to relieve more pressure on the wider NHS.

