
PUBLIC HEALTH LOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENTS 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021

Community Pharmacy Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) to under 25s and Chlamydia screening

1. Introduction

This service is for the provision of free Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC), pregnancy testing, condom provision under the East Sussex C-Card Condom distribution scheme for young people (C-Card) and chlamydia screening kits the demand for which may be urgent and/or unpredictable.

This service covers:

- Assessing and dispensing, under local Patient Group Direction (PGD), free emergency hormonal contraception to East Sussex residents aged 25 and under.
- Provision of free pregnancy testing to East Sussex residents aged 25 and under
- Provision of free chlamydia screening tests to all under 25s who request a service and opportunistically for any under 25 year old who uses the premises.
- Provision of free chlamydia screening postal kits for those aged over 25.

In addition, the service is expected to provide the C-Card service specification and distribute condoms as per the C Card service specification.

Compliance with all aspects of this specification is mandatory for Practitioners providing EHC and chlamydia tests under the Local Service Agreement to ensure a satisfactory service standard. Only provision performed in line with this specification will be reimbursed and evidence of accreditation will be required before any payments are made.

2. Background/Evidence Base

This service will contribute to a reduction in the number of unplanned pregnancies and induced abortions by reducing the barriers to access EHC and provision of sexual health advice and referral to sexual health services as appropriate. It will also contribute to a reduction in the rate of chlamydia in young people aged under 25. The East Sussex Comprehensive Sexual Health Needs Assessment (2013) carried out focus groups with under 25s which indicated that the majority of participants were happy/very happy to use a pharmacy for contraceptive services and chlamydia screening. Results indicated that pharmacies can provide flexible and convenient services with longer opening times in some pharmacies, in comparison to other services, this meant that sexual health services in pharmacy were available in evenings and over the weekend when other services were closed.

The cost of buying EHC, excludes many clients from accessing EHC via the community pharmacy. It has been estimated that only 50% of pregnancies are planned, with 16% unplanned and 29% ambivalent. Unplanned and ambivalent pregnancies can have a major impact on individuals, families and wider society¹.

¹ Wellings K, Kyle GJ, Mercer CH, Tanton C, Clifton, S, Datta J, Copas, AJ, Erens, B, Gibson LJ, Macdowall W, Sonneberg P, Phelps A & Johnson AM. The Prevalence of unplanned pregnancy and associated factors in Britain: Findings from the third National Survey of Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyles (Natsal-3). Lancet Online 26/11/13: <http://www.thelancet.com/themed/natsal>

Emergency contraception is effective and will prevent most pregnancies when taken after intercourse. Emergency contraception can be used following unprotected intercourse and contraceptive failure.

There are two methods of emergency contraception: copper-bearing intrauterine devices (IUDs) and oral emergency hormonal contraceptive (EHC). When inserted within five days of unprotected intercourse, a copper-bearing IUD is the most effective form of emergency contraception available. There are two different emergency contraceptive pill regimes licensed in the UK. The first emergency contraceptive pill regime is called ellaOne and is one oral dose of Ulipristal acetate 130mg, taken within five days (120 hours) of unprotected intercourse. A second emergency contraceptive pill regime is one oral dose of Levonorgestrel 1.5mg, taken within 72 hours of unprotected sexual intercourse.

Rates of Chlamydia in young people aged 15-24 are much higher than other age groups possibly due to the focus on testing this age group following the Public Health Outcomes Framework Indicator (2013-current) to achieve a diagnostic rate of 2,300 per 100,000 young people aged 15-24. Chlamydia screening self test kits are easy, and cost effective in identifying chlamydia and supporting people to access treatment.

National Policy Drivers:

- A Framework for Sexual Health Improvement in England (DH 2013)
- Working together to Safeguard Children and Young People (2013)
- Emergency Contraception Guidance (FSRH 2011)
- Healthy Lives, Healthy People white paper (2010)
- Teenage Pregnancy Strategy Beyond 2010 (2010)
- You're Welcome Quality Criteria (2007)
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Recommended Standards for sexual health services (MedFASH 2005)
- National Service Framework for children, young people and maternity services
- Every Child Matters (2004)
- Sexual Offences Act (2003)

This service specification and related training will support community pharmacies, to work towards the Access Standards contained in the Department of Health's 'You're welcome' criteria and link the pharmacists into the whole system approach to provision of sexual health service across East Sussex for East Sussex residents. This will include awareness of patient pathways between specialist and non specialist medical services and thus enhance information and advice to those attending pharmacies for services

3. Aims and Outcomes

- to increase chlamydia/gonorrhoea testing rates within pharmacies;
- to increase chlamydia detection rates in East Sussex;
- to improve young people's access to, and choice of, EHC;
- to increase young people's knowledge and understanding of sexual health and contraception including emergency contraception.
- to reduce East Sussex unintended pregnancy rates;
- to reduce prevalence of Chlamydia within East Sussex: and,
- to expand the whole sexual health system access and availability across East Sussex for East Sussex residents.

4. Service Outline/Standards

The pharmacy will provide EHC Ulipristal Acetate or Levonorgestrel 1.5mg free of charge to clients in line with the terms and conditions of ESCC PGD (see Accreditation section number 8) for the Supply of Ulipristal Acetate and Levonorgestrel 1.5mg through Community pharmacies to young people aged 25 years and under. All EHC will be dispensed for consumption on the premises only.

This service specification is intended to provide free of charge EHC to young people aged 25 years and under who are most likely to experience unintended pregnancies and for whom purchasing EHC over the counter would be a significant barrier.

From time to time patients aged over 25 years or over may experience significant barriers to accessing EHC within the available time frame. In circumstances where patients aged over 25 years would not be able to access EHC through other means, or who may have significant barriers to access through other means, pharmacies may use their clinical judgement to dispense EHC under this service specification to this group.

Pharmacies will provide Chlamydia/Gonorrhoea postal kits **as an opt out test, to all young people who request pregnancy tests, EHC and condoms**. Test kits will be supplied to pharmacies via the chlamydia screening programme. The Pharmacy will order sufficient supplies of condoms and chlamydia screening kits. In addition to Provision of EHC the pharmacy will offer when relevant:

- A free pregnancy test and appropriate referral advice to women aged 25 years and under only.
- Free condoms following the current C-Card scheme guidance where the individual is registered for C Card
- For those not registered for C-Card, condoms will be given and recorded in all instances of provision of EHC and pregnancy tests.
- Accurate and up to date information and advice on sexual health issues, and referral to other sources of support e.g. specialist centres, support groups or other health and social care professionals as appropriate.

The pharmacy will be responsible for the promotion of the services outlined in this service specification. The Pharmacy will put on view a display indicating the available services listed under this specification.

Specific service standards and responsibilities of the provider regarding young people

- All advice and information given to young people will be in line with East Sussex County Council's policies for the provision of contraception and sexual health advice services for young people
- All staff providing this service to young people will assess and demonstrate in records that the young people are Fraser Competent.
- All staff working with young people will ensure young people are aware of the limits of confidentiality in line with Sussex Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures.
- All staff working with young people are expected to be responsive to the needs of individual young people regarding age, learning ability, culture, religion, ethnicity, sexuality and gender.
- All staff will have a current working knowledge of community provision offering sexual health and contraceptive services (including young person specific and outreach services).

Availability

The expectation is that a pharmacy delivering EHC will have an accredited pharmacist(s) available for at least 80% of core opening hours. On a case by case basis, restricted availability may be agreed by the Commissioner.

Pharmacies must notify the Commissioner of any changes to service provision.

Clinical Governance

As part of good clinical governance pharmacies are required to develop, implement, monitor and review the clinical quality of the service that they undertake. All service providers will:

- Undertake a risk assessment to ensure adequate facilities and equipment are in place to deliver the service and identify the resources available to support the service.
- Develop appropriate systems for record keeping including patient assessment, follow-up/recall and an appropriate clinical record.

5. DBS Requirements

A DBS check must be in place for all staff delivering this service. Providers will assure themselves that the appropriate DBS check, for the type of service being undertaken is in place for each member of staff providing the service. Please see guidance www.gov.uk/disclosure-barring-service-check/overview. The County Council policy is that DBS checks are refreshed every three years.

6. Referrals & Eligibility

Eligibility for EHC includes any woman aged 25 or under who is a resident of East Sussex following clinical assessment and presentation of full choice of EHC method, taking into account clinical appropriateness of method and contraindications and exclusions.

Complex contraception issues must be referred through to the East Sussex Specialist Sexual Health Team.

Men and women of any age are eligible to access chlamydia screening postal kits.

7. Equipment & Premises

The Pharmacy must ensure that a confidential consultation space is available within the pharmacy. Where a separate consultation room is not available in the pharmacy, providers must ensure that client confidentiality is maintained at all times and that the premises allow appropriate consultation and advice to be provided to the patient in a way that is acceptable to them. Cups and water will be available as the EHC dose is for administration within the pharmacy only NOT to take away.

8. Accreditation & Training

Patient Group Directions have been agreed for the supply of EHC by community pharmacies in East Sussex.

Emergency contraception may only be supplied by a pharmacist accredited under the accompanying Patient Group Direction (PGD). Pharmacists providing the service must sign the PGD and the PGD must also be counter signed by an authorising manager.

Pharmacy staff must also be trained to confidentially refer each request for EHC to the accredited pharmacist.

The pharmacy contractor must ensure that pharmacists providing the service are competent to do so. Pharmacists will demonstrate to the pharmacy contractor that they have the necessary knowledge and skills to provide the service by completing the community pharmacy emergency contraception Declaration of Competence (DoC) on the CPPE website. www.cppe.ac.uk

As part of the DoC it is a mandatory requirement of this service specification to complete the following CPPE safeguarding e-learning:

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults: a guide for the pharmacy team

Completion of the programme and the associated Level 2 assessment will fulfil the safeguarding requirements at Level 2 for pharmacists as required for the NHSE Quality Payment Scheme and by the intercollegiate document *Safeguarding children and young people*.

Signing the DoC whilst not meeting the competencies may constitute or be treated as a fitness to practice issue. The pharmacy contractor must keep on the pharmacy premises copies of each DoC completed by pharmacists that they employ/engage to deliver the service along with a signed copy of the PGD.

The declaration of competence must be updated every 3 years.

It is a requirement for the pharmacist to set the CPPE viewer on their CPPE profile to “open” to enable commissioners to view the DoC. The PharmOutcomes application on the CPPE profile will also need to be enabled so that the DoC information can be shared with PharmOutcomes.

The commissioner will:

- ensure that an up to date PGD is available via the EHC section of the designated IT pharmacy system;
- ensure that the EHC template, also available via the designated IT pharmacy system, reflects clinical changes and guidance;
- conduct an annual review of pharmacies supplying this service to determine whether the needs of the local population are being met;
- updated information will be provided to pharmacies when published
- provide details of relevant referral points which pharmacy staff may use to signpost service users who require further assistance;
- disseminate information on the service to other pharmacies and health care professionals in order that they may signpost patients to the service;
- provide necessary condom supplies in a timely manner;and
- promote the pharmacy EHC and Chlamydia screening service on the East Sussex Sexual Health website

9. Monitoring, Audit and Reporting

The pharmacy will maintain appropriate records and complete all monitoring paperwork using the ESCC designated IT system to ensure effective ongoing service delivery and audit.

Quality Indicators

- The Pharmacy will review its standard operating procedures and the referral pathways for the service on an annual basis.
- The Pharmacy will demonstrate that pharmacists and staff involved in the provision of the service have undertaken CPD relevant to this service.
- The Pharmacy will participate in an annual ESCC organised audit of service provision.
- The Pharmacy will co- operate with any locally agreed needs assessment and/or research requirements.
- The Pharmacy will provide and check all relevant information for the service to be promoted on the East Sussex Sexual Health website. www.eastsussexsexualhealth.co.uk

10. Payment/Cost

The Council will remunerate Pharmacies participating in this service as shown below:

Activity	Price
Consultation fee (Note this fee only applies to supply of EHC NOT condoms only, pregnancy test only and chlamydia screening).	£21.37
ESCC will pay pharmacies for the supply of Levonorgestrel and Ulipristil Acetate at the rate stated in the NHS Electronic Drug Tariff www.drugtariff.nhsbsa.nhs.uk	
Receipt by chlamydia screening programme of correctly completed Chlamydia/Gonorrhoea NAATS self-test	£5.00
Undertaking a pregnancy test	£3.00
Provision of condoms – to C-Card registered individuals. Claims are made via the C Card specification.	
Provision of condoms - to non C-Card registered individuals - If offering pregnancy testing and/or EHC to under 25s, please offer condoms regardless of whether they are signed up to C-Card scheme.	

Payment will only be made via Pharmoutcomes. If you are not registered with Pharmoutcomes, raise a helpdesk request via <https://pharmoutcomes.org/pharmoutcomes/> to receive a username and password. Details will be required of your store, contact information, and an email address to issue the login details.

11. Ordering of condom and pregnancy testing stock

The condoms for C-Card or non C-Card and pregnancy tests can be ordered via c card supplier (see order form Appendix A), please signpost to a C-Card registration provider. An order form is now included in the specification specifically for the pharmacy to obtain pregnancy tests and condoms to distribute. Please note that a claim for condoms can only be made where the individual is signed up with C-Card. Claims for C-Card can only be made for Pharmacies signed up to deliver this service. The Pharmacy should consider becoming a distribution outlet for C-Card in order to receive payment. A list of C-Card providers is available on the ESCC website.

12. Contacts

East Sussex Specialist Sexual Health Services
Josephine Percival, East Sussex Specialist level three Contraceptive lead
Josephine.percival@esht.nhs.uk

Ordering of Chlamydia screening kits: Sophie Lewis Chlamydia Screening Promotion Officer,
Sexual Health Service, East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
sophie.lewis@nsh.net / 01323 462762

Condoms, pregnancy tests and lubrication: ccard.publichealth@eastsussex.gov.uk

Tony Proom, Strategic Commissioning Manager for Clinical Sexual Health, Public Health
Tony.proom@eastsussex.gov.uk

Tracey Houston, Business Manager, Public Health
Tracey.houston@eastsussex.gov.uk

East Sussex EHC Pharmacy scheme condom and pregnancy test kit order form

Please complete this form to order East Sussex Pharmacy EHC Condoms. Your order can be sent by email, or post to:-

Email: esht.ccardeastsussex@nhs.net

Address: C-Card, Avenue house,
1 The Avenue
Eastbourne
East Sussex, BN7 1UE

Tel: 01323 – 416100

Delivery details

Date of order	
Organisation name	
Contact name	
Delivery address	
Postcode	
Telephone number	
Email address	

Order details

PRODUCT AND DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY (1 box = 144 condoms)
Mates Natural condom (<i>standard size</i>)	box(es)
Mates Conform condom (<i>tighter fitting</i>)	box(es)
Mates King Size condom (<i>larger size</i>)	box(es)
Mates Flavoured condom	box(es)
Mates Skyn condom (<i>non-latex</i>)	box
Pasante Female condom (<i>non-latex</i>)	box of 30
Water Based Lubricant (<i>10ml sachets</i>)	box(es) of 500 sachets
Pasante MEDICheck Dip & Read Pregnancy Test (x50)	box (of 50 tests)

Your order will be confirmed by email and dispatched to you within 10 working days.