Community Pharmacy Thames Valley

Community Pharmacy Services

Community Pharmacy Introduction

- 328 Community Pharmacies across Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire
- Varied opening hours across the week including weekend opening allowing increased access to patients.
- Highly skilled teams, led by a pharmacist, who are able to support the local population to access healthcare in a timely manner.

Essential Services

Offered by all pharmacy contractors as part of the NHS community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF)

- **Discharge Medicines Service (DMS)** – This service aims to optimise the use of medicines, reduce harm from medicines at transfers of care, improve patients' understanding of their medicines, and reduce hospital readmissions. Click here for further information.
- **Dispensing medicines** – Pharmacies are required to maintain a record of all medicines dispensed, and also keep records of any interventions made which they judge to be significant. Click here for further information.
- **Disposal of unwanted medicines** – Community Pharmacy contractors are obliged to accept back unwanted medicines from patients. Click here for further information.
- **Healthy Living Pharmacies** – The framework is aimed at achieving consistent provision of a broad range of health promotion interventions through community pharmacies to improve health and wellbeing and to reduce health inequalities. Click here for further information.
- **Repeat dispensing and eRD** - Community Pharmacies will dispense repeat dispensing prescriptions by a GP, ensure the supply is required, and ensure there is no reason that the patient should be referred back to their GP. Click here for further information.

Advanced services

Community Pharmacies can choose to provide any of these services as long as they meet the requirements set out in the Secretary of State Directions.

- **Pharmacy First Service** – Patients can be referred by NHS 111 for minor illness or an urgent supply of a medicine, or by their GP for a minor illness. SEVEN Common Conditions can also be treated with medicines without the need of a prescription. Click here for further information.
- **Flu and COVID vaccination service** – This campaign aims to vaccinate all patients who are eligible to protect them from the virus. Click here for further information.

- **Pharmacy contraception service** – This service aims to provide patients with greater choice and access to their contraception. This service now includes safe delivery of Emergency Hormonal Contraception. Click here for further information.
- **Hypertension case finding service** – Patients are either referred by the GP or identified in pharmacy as having a need for a clinic Blood Pressure check or ABPM check. This service aims to identify patients who may not be diagnosed as hypertensive. Click here for further information.
- **New Medicines Service (NMS)** – This service supports patients during the initial weeks when starting new medicines for specific conditions. The aim is to improve compliance and adherence.
- **Smoking Cessation Service** – Community Pharmacies manage the continuing provision of smoking cessation support initiated in secondary care following patient discharge from hospital. Click here for further information.
- **Lateral Flow Device Service** – The Lateral flow device tests supply service for patients potentially eligible for COVID-19 treatments (LFD service). Click here for further information.
- **Men B Vaccinations (2026/27)** – short term campaign for Yr 13 and First Time University Entry – click here

Local services

These services are developed locally and are designed to meet local health needs:

- Substance Misuse (Needle Exchange & Supervised Consumption) (All Local Authorities)
- Emergency Provision of Medication (includes Palliative Care Meds)
- Smoking Cessation Services in Partnership with Solutions for Health in Oxfordshire
- Varenicline distribution in Bucks and Oxfordshire
- Minor Ailment Service for Low Income Families
- COVID Antiviral dispensing and On Call services
- Ear Health Referral Pathway (E Berks Only)

Free, same-day, in-person NHS consultations with your local pharmacist for any of the conditions below:

NHS

Earache (Children aged 1-17 years)	Sinusitis (12 years and over)	UTI's (Females aged 16-64 years)	Sore Throat (5 years and over)	Shingles (18 years and over)	Impetigo (1 year and over)	Infected Insect Bites (1 year and over)	Blood Pressure Checks (40 years and over)	Contraception (First, next or emergency supply)

Click here to find your Local Pharmacy