

PAYMENT FOR ESSENTIAL SERVICES (APPLIANCE CONTRACTORS)**1. Infrastructure Payments**

- 1.1 Appliance contractors who dispense a stated number of prescription items in any month will receive an Infrastructure Payment from 1 April 2010.
- 1.2 The level of infrastructure payment will be as follows:
- within the first band, all Appliance Contractors will receive a fixed monthly payment of £150.00; and
 - in the remaining bands, Appliance Contractors will be paid a fee per each Part IXA, Part IXB and Part IXC item dispensed in that month

Band identifier	Number of Part IX prescription items dispensed in one month	Infrastructure payment
A	1 - 10	£150.00 fixed
B	11 - 1,000	£13.60 per item
C	1,001 - 35,000	£2.40 per item
D	35,000 +	£2.30 per item

VIB

- 1.3 Infrastructure payment does not have to be claimed but will be paid automatically each month.

2. Electronic Transmission of Prescriptions Allowances

- 2.1 The Electronic Prescription Service will be deployed in phases with two releases (Release 1 and Release 2) of ETP compliant pharmacy systems. Further details of service implementation and deployment can be found at www.cfh.nhs.uk.
- 2.2 In order to be able to use the Electronic Prescription Service Appliance contractors will need to have:
- an ETP compliant dispensing system accredited as such by NHS Connecting for Health (either Release 1 or Release 2)
 - appropriate network connectivity to be able to operate the Electronic Prescription Service (details of connectivity arrangements for appliance contractors will be made available by NHS Connecting for Health)
 - staff operating the service who are registered users and have been issued with smart cards and PIN numbers by their PCT's Registration Authority.
- 2.3 Any appliance contractors who have dispensed more than 1200 items in the 12 months preceding 1 April 2010 will be paid an allowance of £2600 in their June 2010 payment. Payment will automatically be triggered and no claim form needs to be submitted. If an appliance contractor dispenses less than 1200 items in the 12 months before 1 April 2010 or they open after 1 April 2010, if they are in a position to operate Release 1 of the Electronic Prescription Service they may claim the allowance of £2600 by submitting an ETP R1 Allowance Claim Form to their PCT. Claims must be made by 31 March 2011. After this date no further payments will be made in respect of Release 1.
- 2.4 The release 1 allowance is paid only once, in relation to pharmaceutical services provided at the same premises irrespective of any subsequent merger or sale; or where there has been a relocation, there is no right to claim a further Release 1 allowance for the new relocated premises

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- 2.5 A further allowance of £1,000 will be paid linked to the appliance contractor deploying Release 2 of the Electronic Prescription Service. Payment will be automatically triggered, when an appliance contractor submits a synthetic reimbursement endorsement message to NHS Prescription Services. This synthetic reimbursement endorsement message must be submitted to NHS prescription Services by a date yet to be determined of which three months notice will be given, in order for the allowance to be paid.
- 2.6 The Release 2 allowance is paid only once, in relation to pharmaceutical services provided at the same premises irrespective of any subsequent merger or sale; or where there has been a relocation, there is no right to claim further Release 2 allowance for the new relocated premises.
- 2.7 Subject to the conditions in 2.2, an appliance contractor who operates Release 1 or Release 2 of the service if an appropriate prescription is presented or requested, shall be entitled to an ETP monthly allowance of £200 per calendar month from the PCT for each month that he is able to operate the service.
- 2.8 A contractor must submit an ETP Monthly Allowance Claim Form (previously known as form PPAETP1) to its PCT by the end of the first month that he is able to operate the service to receive the monthly allowance for that month and subsequent months. If at a later date the appliance contractor becomes unable to operate the Electronic Prescription Service, the contractor must inform the PCT in writing immediately so that the PCT can determine whether payment of the ETP monthly allowance should be stopped on a permanent basis or suspended for a month (or other period as specified by the PCT). When the EPS service is resumed, a completed ETP Monthly Allowance Claim Form will need to be resubmitted.
3. **Electronic Transfer of Prescriptions (Wales) TBC**