



# Changes to the FP10 NHS Prescription Form

January 2020

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# 1. Background

- 1.1 This document provides guidance to GPs, prescribers, pharmacists, pharmacy staff and staff in secondary care settings on new procedures which have been developed to ensure patients receive their treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) free-of-charge when treatment is prescribed using the NHS prescription form (FP10) or Electronic Prescription Service (EPS).
- 1.2 It also provides information about how patients should declare their exemption from NHS prescription charges when they are in receipt of Universal Credit and meet certain criteria.
- 1.3 Following user testing undertaken by the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA), and consultation with stakeholders, the layout of the FP10 NHS prescription form has been amended to make it clearer for patients and dispensers within the limits of the paper size and legal requirements.
- 1.4 The new FP10 has also been updated to reflect changes to legislation e.g. the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). In line with guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office, if information is collected in person (on the paper prescription form/token (FP10DT), the [NHSBSA's privacy statement](#)<sup>1</sup> should also be made available at that time. In general, web links are appropriate to provide this information in a digital setting, when someone is providing their information electronically. If possible, pharmacies are asked to provide printed copies of the NHSBSA privacy statement for a patient if they ask to see it. This could be by displaying the relevant information on a notice board in an accessible place for patients in the pharmacy premises, for example.
- 1.5 Further communications and updating of guidance, webpages and publications such as the Drug Tariff will follow in due course.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/yourinformation](http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/yourinformation)

## 2. The Changes

- 2.1 The suite of FP10 prescription forms is being updated. Changes will be made to the layout of the prescription form(s), which are intended to better enable patients to claim the exemptions to which they are entitled, and so help reduce prescription charge revenue losses caused by patient error and fraud.
- 2.2 Changes are also being made to the Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) and prescribing and dispensing systems as soon as possible.
- 2.3 The main changes are as follows:
- A new exemption box U for patients who are in receipt of Universal Credit and meet the criteria for free help with health costs.
  - Removal of box X "was prescribed free-of-charge contraceptives" from the paper FP10/FP10DT (token).
  - Exemption box G 'has a War Pension exemption certificate' has been re-worded to 'Prescription Exemption Certificate issued by the Ministry of Defence'. This is to better represent the exemption certificates issued by Veterans UK and those entitled to an award under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS).
  - Combination of the age exemption boxes A "is under 16 years of age" and C "is 60 years of age or over". These exemptions will be a single exemption category, A "is 60 years of age or over or is under 16 years of age".
  - Introduction of a new prescriber endorsement 'FS' for 'free supply of sexual health treatment' to enable prescribers to endorse prescriptions for STIs to indicate to dispensers that the patient should not be charged.
- 2.4 A copy of the back of the new paper FP10 is provided at Annex A, a copy of the back of the current paper FP10 is provided at Annex B. The front of the prescription form has not changed. An example of a prescription form with an item for treatment of an STI, endorsed with FS, has been included in Annex C.

## Timing

- 2.5 The updated suite of FP10s, and corresponding hospital outpatient prescription forms, will be put into circulation as soon as possible. There will be a period of transition where old stock is used up, prior to use of new stock; old stock should

continue to be used until stocks of it run out. The NHSBSA, which processes prescription forms for both the purposes of reimbursing pharmacies and carrying out exemption checking, will handle both old and new prescription forms during the transition. The new paper FP10 will be in circulation from the end of January 2020, with updates to the EPS following as soon as possible.

2.6 Further communications will be issued when the new forms are ready for issue.

## 3. Sexually Transmitted Infections

- 3.1 The National Health Service Act 2006 (section 173) provides for free treatment for Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs). This guidance refers to Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) rather than STDs. This is to be consistent with professional and other guidance which refers to STIs e.g. the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence and the British Association for Sexual Health and HIV.
- 3.2 There are well established mechanisms to provide treatment free-of-charge in specialist sexual health clinics, but this may not now be the case in all settings. There will be cases where patients are seen by GPs or private providers and treatment is provided via an NHS prescription. At present, there is no mechanism for prescribers to be able to endorse a prescription to indicate to a dispenser that the prescription item is to treat an STI and should be provided free-of-charge. Operational arrangements need to be amended to comply with the Act.
- 3.3 A technical solution is being developed to accommodate a new prescriber endorsement **FS for free supply of sexual health treatment** on the Electronic Prescription Service. This is being introduced to enable prescribers to endorse the prescription to signify that items prescribed to treat a sexually transmitted infection are provided free-of-charge.
- 3.4 The format of the FS endorsement will be defined in the *Requirements and Guidance for Endorsements in the Electronic Prescription Service (EPS)*<sup>2</sup> document. This new endorsement will operate by way of guidance, as most existing endorsements do. This will give GPs some flexibility to use their discretion when prescribing items for STI treatment.
- 3.5 Whilst there will not be a patient tick box on the paper form, a new category worded 'was prescribed free-of-charge (FOC) sexual health medication', or similar, will be added to EPS dispensing systems for the purposes of processing prescriptions for reimbursement. This category will have the Electronic Reimbursement Endorsement Message (EREM) code 0017, letter Y, on dispensing systems.
- 3.6 **The EPS free-of-charge sexual health treatment category will ONLY apply to those items which have been endorsed FS by the prescriber to indicate that they should be supplied free-of-charge as provided by legislation.** Additional

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/prescribing-and-dispensing/endorsement-guidance>

prescriber endorsements may be introduced over time for tuberculosis and aftercare under section 117 of the Mental Health Act.

- 3.7 This guidance has been produced for prescribers and dispensers to set out the scope of this free supply, and the process by which NHS prescriptions for STIs should be dispensed, to ensure that, regardless of the setting, there is no cost to the patient.

## Scope (infections covered by this change)

- 3.8 It is recognised that there are a range of conditions which can be associated with sexual activity but are not necessarily usefully considered sexually transmitted infections (STI). For the purposes of this change, it is considered that **only those conditions for which sexual contact is a main route of transmission of an infection should be ordinarily managed as “STI treatment”**, e.g. treatment for chlamydia would be free, treatment for candidiasis would not.
- 3.9 The management of STIs in any setting, including primary care, should conform to national standards. There are a range of different STIs and STI syndromes that may be appropriately diagnosed and managed in primary care:
- Chlamydia
  - Anogenital warts
  - Genital herpes
  - Pubic lice
  - Pelvic Inflammatory Disease
  - Trichomonas
  - Epididymo-orchitis
- 3.10 Further guidance on STIs that may be suitable for managing in primary care can be found in the guidelines section of the [British Association for Sexual Health and HIV](https://www.bashh.org/guidelines)<sup>3</sup> (BASHH) website and in BASHH's [Standards for the management of sexually transmitted infections \(STIs\)](https://www.bashh.org/about-bashh/publications/standards-for-the-management-of-stis/)<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.bashh.org/guidelines>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.bashh.org/about-bashh/publications/standards-for-the-management-of-stis/>

- 3.11 Specialist Sexual Health Services provide expertise in diagnosing and managing complex infections, including providing access to diagnostics and treatments, antimicrobial and population surveillance and management interventions, and can support Primary Care to ensure all patients receive optimal care.
- 3.12 For public health reasons, it is recommended that some conditions including HIV, gonorrhoea, hepatitis and syphilis should continue to be referred to specialist services.
- 3.13 For gonorrhoea, due to rising concerns of antimicrobial resistance, only services able to provide access to culture testing and to deliver injectable treatments should provide treatment. All suspected cases of infectious syphilis should be referred to specialist services. A small number of patients with inactive untreated syphilis identified for example during investigation of memory problems may be suitable for treatment in Primary Care, but this should be in collaboration with a sexual health specialist.
- 3.14 It is important that patients receive an appropriate package of care for STI diagnosis and treatment including health promotion advice around how to prevent STIs and re-infection, partner management (which can be in partnership with the sexual health service) and be offered wider STI/HIV screening or onward referral to specialist sexual health services where appropriate.

## **Electronic Prescription Service**

- 3.15 Parallel amendments are being made to the Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) to tie in with the introduction of the updated FP10 prescription forms. These amendments will enable prescribers to endorse the script to signify that the medication being prescribed is to treat an STI and will enable dispensing systems to receive and process this additional information. We are arranging for these amendments to be made as soon as possible.
- 3.16 Many treatments for STIs will also be used for other indications. Without the FS endorsement it will not be apparent if an item is for treatment of an STI. For free-of-charge contraceptives, NHSBSA maintain a list of items to assist with processing for reimbursement (a copy of which can be found in the Drug Tariff). However, it is not possible to maintain a similar list for STIs due to the number of products and variety of indications these treatments can be used for. Therefore, prescribers will need to select the FS endorsement manually on the EPS system. Prescribing systems may provide access to this function in different ways, e.g. check boxes or drop-down lists.

- 3.17 The EPS currently has no provision to include an FS endorsement. If prescribers add the endorsement to the dosage instructions or pharmacy notes in free text this will not be seen by the NHSBSA and the item will not be treated as exempt from charging. Therefore, **until the EPS can be amended, prescribers are advised to prescribe STI treatment on paper FP10s, adding the FS endorsement and signature by hand next to each item prescribed for an STI.** It is hoped that the slight increase in time that it will take to do this will be offset by the clarity and reassurance it will bring to patients in the small number of cases where this workaround will apply. Dispensers are asked to use the workaround below in 'Treatment via the current prescription form', whereby any paper form with an FS endorsement is sent to NHSBSA in the red separator.
- 3.18 Once available on the EPS prescribing and dispensing systems, application of the FS endorsement may auto-populate the FOC sexual health treatment field (code 0017) on the dispensing system if the prescription only contains items endorsed with FS. This box selection can be overridden by the dispenser. If other items that attract a charge are on the prescription the EPS message will not be auto-populated so that the correct EPS code can be applied, i.e. the patient either pays for these other items or is exempt from charging for another reason. In instances where the only items on the prescription are free-of-charge contraceptives and STI treatment, the EREM code for either can be selected.
- 3.19 For mixed scripts, where there is an item endorsed with FS, the dispensing system may display a warning box to remind the dispenser that the prescription contains a mixture of items and that the dispenser should select the applicable charge status i.e. charge paid or an exemption from charging. If, on a mixed script, the chargeable items are not dispensed, and only the STI treatment is dispensed, the dispenser will need to select the FOC sexual health category (EREM code 0017, letter Y) on the dispensing system, depending on how the systems displays the charge/exemption categories.
- 3.20 Regulatory changes have been made to require prescribers to use EPS where Phase 4 is available, and the prescriber has connectivity access to it. The regulatory changes allow prescribers to legally use paper prescriptions should EPS be inaccessible or inoperable. Other circumstances where a paper form prescription can be used are:
- "Without delay" for example, if a GP is on a home visit and does not have access to EPS, to ensure timeliness of the patient receiving treatment;
  - If the patient needs the prescription to be dispensed outside England, for example a border patient or someone who will be travelling;

- “Patient welfare” where the patient insists on a paper prescription and if the prescriber thinks the patient’s welfare will be in jeopardy if they do not use a paper prescription.

3.21 Until the technical solution for EPS has been provided for the FS endorsement, prescribers will need to provide treatment for STIs on paper prescriptions and hand endorse with FS for each item intended for treatment of the STI. In EPS Phase 4 pilots or later national deployment, paragraph 3.20 above refers to the regulatory changes that allow for prescribers to legally provide a paper prescription for treatment of STIs as a temporary workaround; if the function to apply the FS endorsement is not available on the EPS system then the EPS is classed as inaccessible or inoperable for prescribing free-of-charge sexual health treatments.

## Treatment for STIs via the new NHS Prescription Form

3.22 An image of the reverse of the new NHS prescription form can be seen in **Annex A**.

3.23 Some patients with an STI may additionally fall into one of the prescription charge exemption categories e.g. they have a condition for which they have a valid medical exemption certificate, or they may be on certain Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) benefits. Irrespective of a patient’s exemption status, where prescribers issue a prescription endorsed for the treatment of an STI, they should inform patients that this will be provided by the NHS without a prescription charge when the prescription form is endorsed.

3.24 Items classed as free-of-charge for the treatment of an STI should not be included on the same prescription form as items for which a prescription charge is usually applicable. This arrangement for STIs is based on the existing operational process for those with a War Pensioner exemption certificate. In this instance, prescribers are requested to split items between forms into those items prescribed for their accepted disablement and those that are not; this is necessary so that only those items for the accepted disablement are provided without a prescription charge.

3.25 However, if prescriptions are issued with a mixture of both free-of-charge STI items and items for which a prescription charge is usually applicable, these prescriptions should be processed according to a patient's exemption or charge paid status. Please see paragraph 3.28 for more information.

3.26 There is no requirement in legislation for the patient, or their representative, to sign the NHS prescription form to receive their STI treatment (or contraceptives) free-

of-charge - because these treatments are free to all so there is no exemption that must be claimed. Therefore:

- If a prescription form contains ONLY free-of-charge items (contraceptives or STI treatment), the patient or their representative, is not required to complete the back of the form or sign the form.
- If a prescription contains both free-of-charge items and items for which a charge is levied, and the PATIENT IS NOT EXEMPT from charging, the patient, or their representative, is required to sign the form and complete the amount paid box.
- If a prescription contains both free-of-charge items and items for which a charge is levied, and the PATIENT IS EXEMPT from charging, the patient, or their representative, is required to select the exemption category and sign the declaration to confirm proper entitlement to exemption from charges. A declaration and signature are not needed if the exemption is for those aged under 16 or aged 60 or over and the DOB is printed on the form.

3.27 For those patients who may not want their prescription item identified as treatment for an STI for any reason, prescribers should exercise their discretion and not add the FS endorsement. **Without the endorsement the prescribed treatment would then be treated as a chargeable item, and patients should be advised that unless they are exempt from charges for another reason, they will have to pay the appropriate charge.** In these instances, patients should be informed of alternative services that are able to provide free-of-charge treatment.

3.28 Prescribers and dispensers are encouraged to follow the process below:

**The Prescriber:**

- Endorse the front of the paper prescription form by writing FS and signing next to each item prescribed for the treatment of an STI. An example endorsed form is provided at Annex C.

OR

- Select the FS, free supply of sexual health/STI treatment option on the prescribing system, once this functionality is available, for each item intended to treat an STI. Prescribers should not free-type the 'FS' endorsement into the dosage instructions for EPS prescriptions as this will not be recognised by NHSBSA during processing.

The steps set out in the bullet points above will be necessary to communicate to the dispenser that the items prescribed should be issued without a prescription charge, and to ensure the prescription form is processed for pharmacy reimbursement correctly.

**NOTE:** The FS endorsement will stay with the electronic prescription within the EPS prescribing and dispensing systems through to processing by the NHSBSA.

Once the FS endorsement is available in the EPS prescribing and dispensing systems, if a paper prescription (FP10 or token) is required, the FS endorsement will be printed on the front of the prescription form or token next to the applicable item(s).

### **The Dispenser:**

- For prescriptions that **ONLY contain items endorsed with FS**, a prescription charge should not be levied. In this instance, the back of the form does not need to be completed and a patient's signature is not required. The EPS Electronic Reimbursement Endorsement Message (EREM) should be FOC sexual health medication (prescription message code 0017, letter code Y). Paper prescriptions should be put in the red separator when submitted to the NHSBSA for processing.
- The NHSBSA automatically process contraceptive items on a prescription as free-of-charge based on the item name. As only one value can populate the EPS message, if there are **free-of-charge contraceptives and FS endorsed STI treatment ONLY** on the prescription, the EREM should be either FOC sexual health medication (prescription message code 0017, letter Y) or FOC contraceptives (prescription message code 0010, letter X). No prescription charge will be deducted by the NHSBSA if either category code is selected in this circumstance. Paper prescriptions should be put in the red separator when submitted to the NHSBSA for processing.
- For prescriptions containing both **items endorsed with FS and chargeable items, if a patient IS NOT EXEMPT** from prescription charges, the amount paid for the chargeable items should be entered on the form and the patient should sign the form or token. The EPS EREM should be charge paid (prescription message code 0001 charge paid at current rate or 0000 charge paid at old rate where applicable). ALL paper prescriptions with an FS endorsement should be put in the red separator when submitted to the NHSBSA for processing.
- For prescriptions containing both **items endorsed with FS and chargeable items, if a patient IS EXEMPT** from prescription charges, they should select

the exemption box that entitles them to free NHS prescriptions, read the declaration and sign the form or token (a declaration and signature is not needed if the exemption is for those aged under 16 or aged 60 or over and the DOB is printed on the form). A charge should not be levied. The EPS EREM should be ONE exemption category, the exemption category that entitles the patient to free NHS prescriptions e.g. 0005 for the maternity exemption, 0006 for the medical exemption. ALL paper prescriptions with an FS endorsement should be put in the red separator when submitted to the NHSBSA for processing.

- Patients are not required to provide evidence of entitlement for free-of-charge STI treatment (or contraceptives).

**NOTE:**

**To avoid a prescription charge being deducted from the contractor's reimbursement, ALL PAPER prescriptions endorsed with FS must be placed in the red separator when submitted to the NHSBSA for processing.**

**Dispensing doctors will be adopting the red separator for the purposes of processing any prescription that has an item endorsed FS.**

- 3.29 If a patient claims that their prescription is to treat an STI, but the script has not been endorsed by the prescriber, the prescription would need to be returned to the prescriber for endorsement. The pharmacist can either advise the patient to return to their prescriber to get the prescription endorsed, or the pharmacist can do so on the patient's behalf, if they get the patient's consent to do this. For an EPS prescription, the original script would need to be cancelled or marked as not dispensed and a new prescription issued. For a paper FP10, the prescriber could hand endorse against each STI item on the prescription (see Annex C).
- 3.30 Only those items prescribed to treat an STI should be endorsed with FS for free supply of sexual health treatment. Even if an item on the prescription could be used to treat an STI it should not be provided free-of-charge without the prescriber endorsement.
- 3.31 Patients expect their confidentiality to be respected, and prescribers, pharmacists and their staff should take all necessary steps to protect and respect their patients' confidentiality when processing information about their personal details, medication and the clinical indication for which their treatment has been prescribed. Prescribers, pharmacists and their staff should be discreet and sensitive when managing these prescriptions given the stigma sometimes still attached to a positive STI diagnosis.

## Treatment via the current prescription form

- 3.32 An image of the reverse of the current NHS prescription form can be seen in **Annex B**.
- 3.33 During the period of transition to the new prescription form (both paper and EPS) a temporary workaround will be in place.

### The Prescriber:

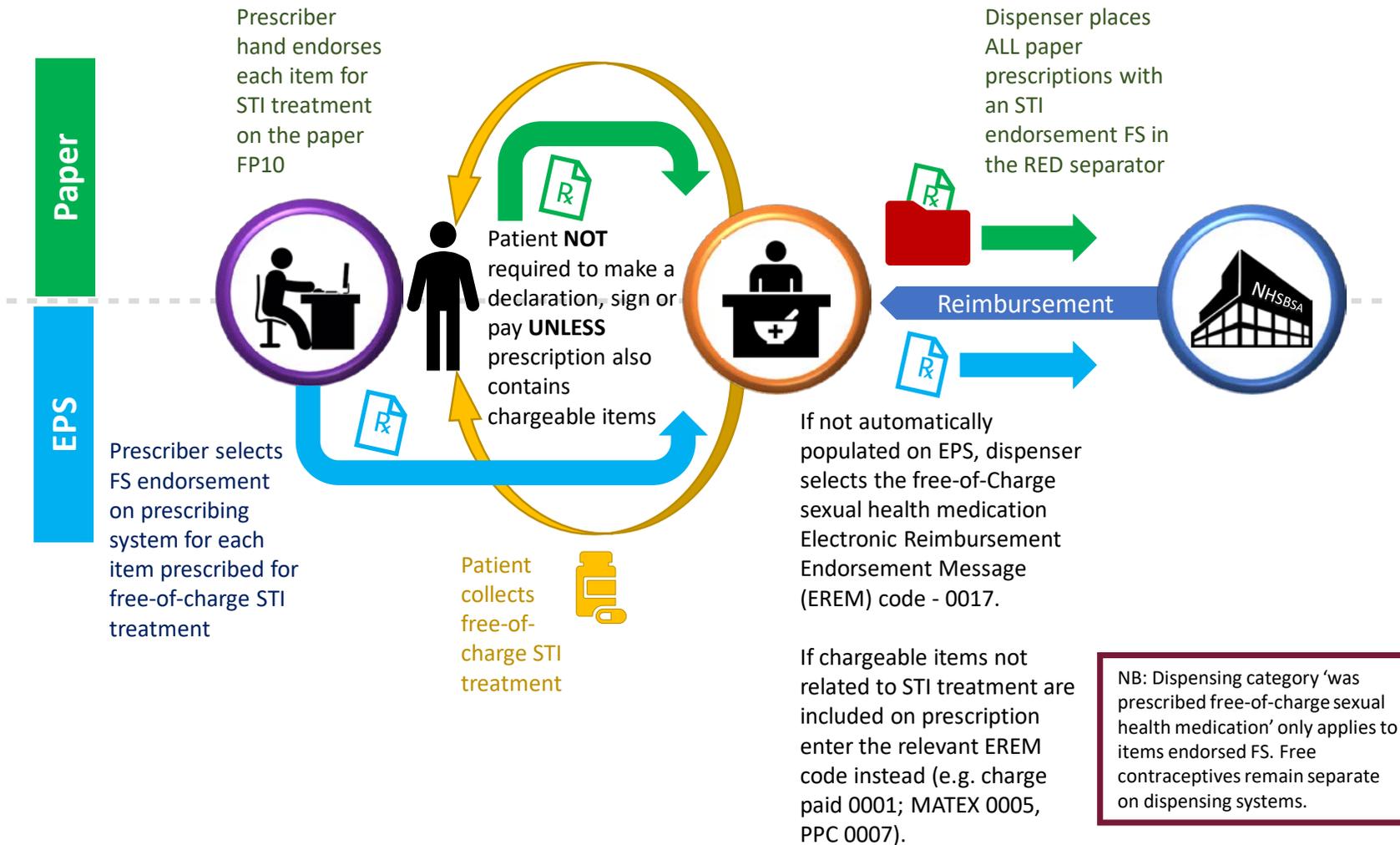
- If the **FS endorsement is not available in the EPS**, prescribers should prescribe treatment for STIs on a paper FP10 and manually endorse and sign the front of the prescription form by writing FS and signing next to each item prescribed for treatment of an STI. Prescribers should issue a separate form for any items provided free-of-charge, i.e. free-of-charge items should not be included on the same prescription form as items for which a charge is usually applicable.
- If the **FS endorsement functionality has been enabled in the EPS** prescribing system, select the endorsement - this may be accessible in different ways depending on the prescribing system e.g. check boxes or drop-down lists. When an item is endorsed by the prescriber for the treatment of an STI, this will communicate to the dispenser that the item is free-of-charge. The FS endorsement will be printed next to the item prescribed on the front of both the new and current FP10/FP10DT (token).

### The Dispenser:

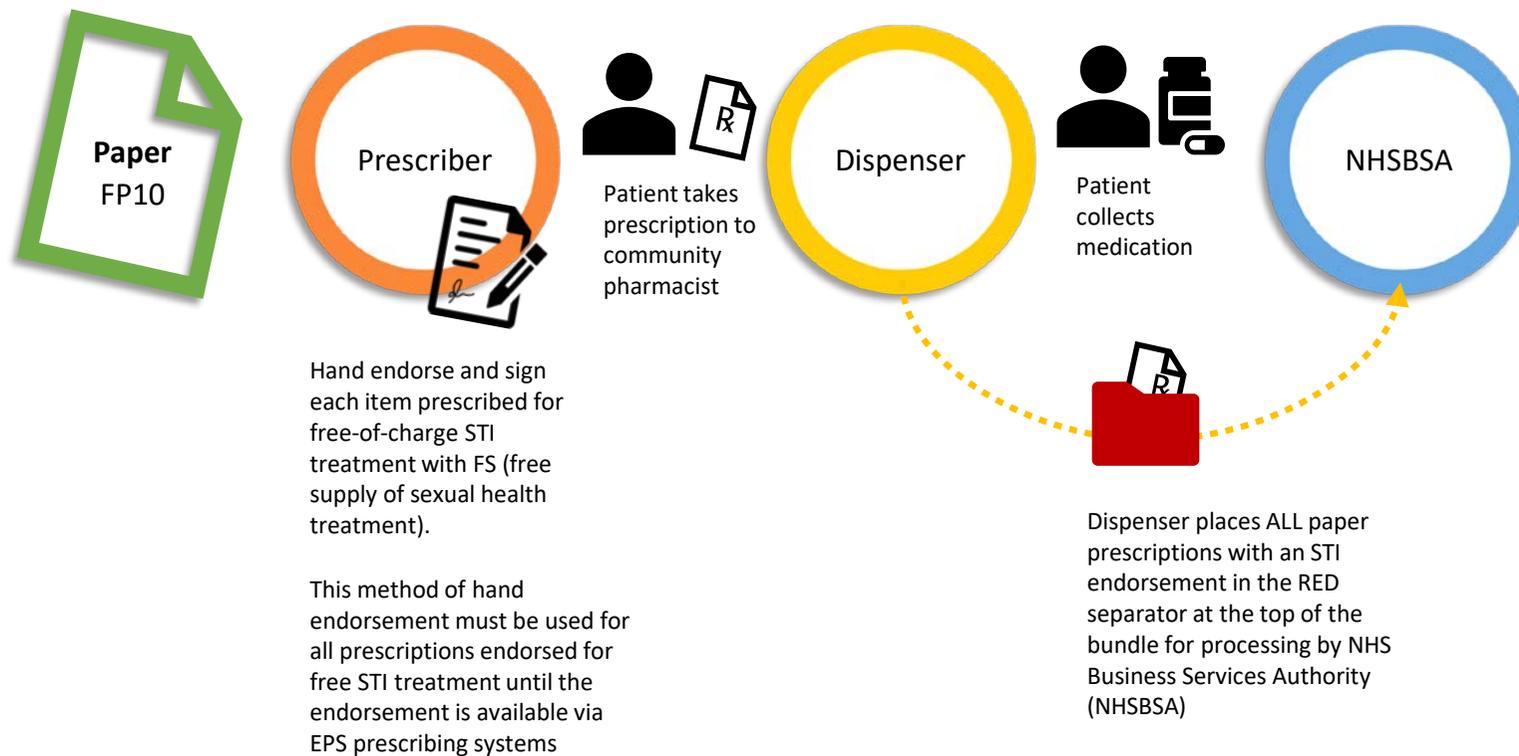
- If a patient presents with the current paper prescription form which has an item endorsed with FS, the prescription should be processed as described in paragraph 3.28.
- In the EPS, if an item has the prescriber endorsement FS in the prescriber endorsement field for free supply of sexual health treatment the prescription should be processed as described in paragraph 3.28.

**NOTE: To avoid a prescription charge being deducted from the contractor's reimbursement, ALL PAPER prescriptions endorsed with FS must be placed in the red separator when submitted to the NHSBSA for processing.**

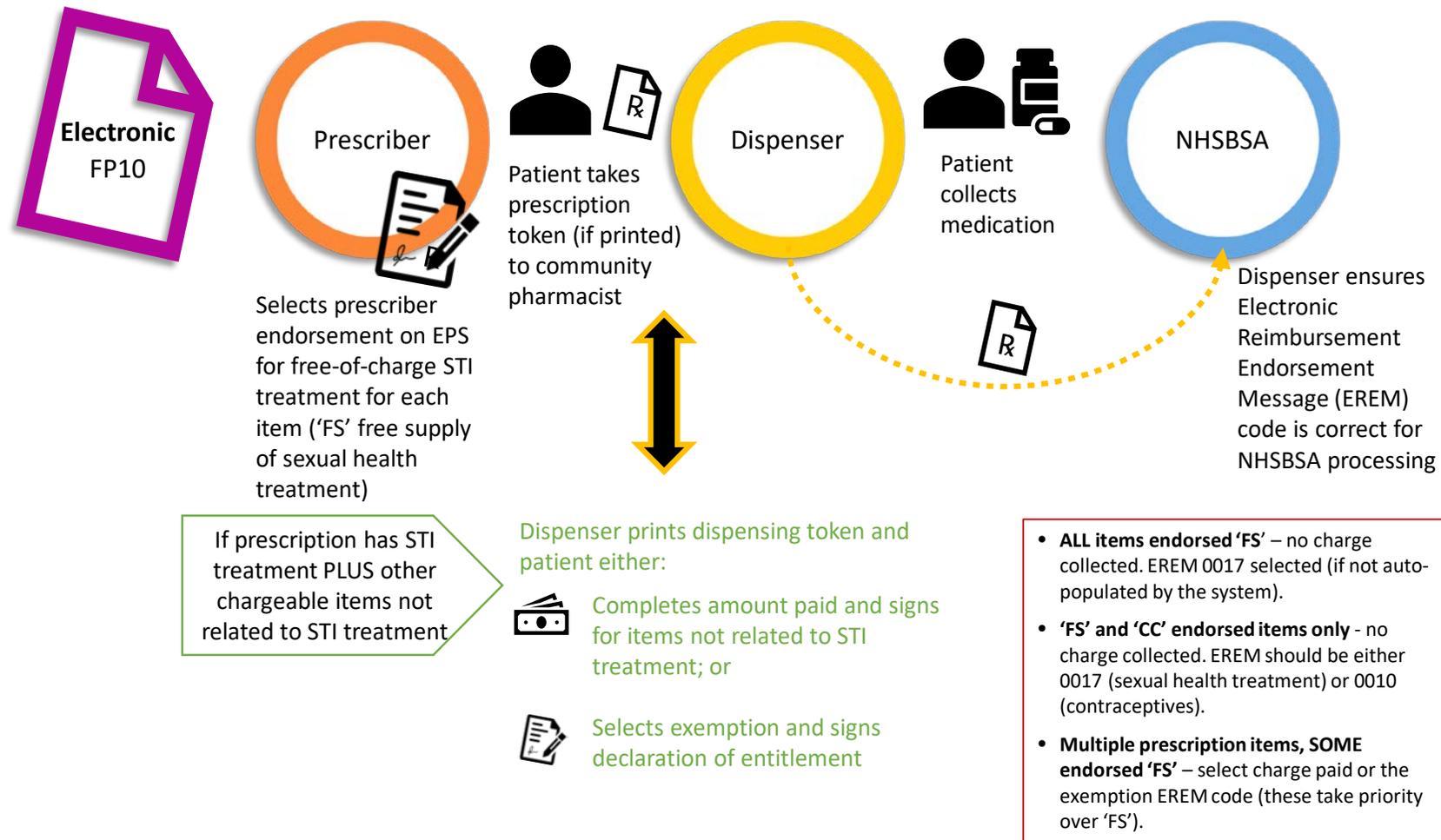
# Providing free-of-charge treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) via the NHS prescription forms



# Providing free-of-charge treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) via the **paper** FP10 NHS prescription forms

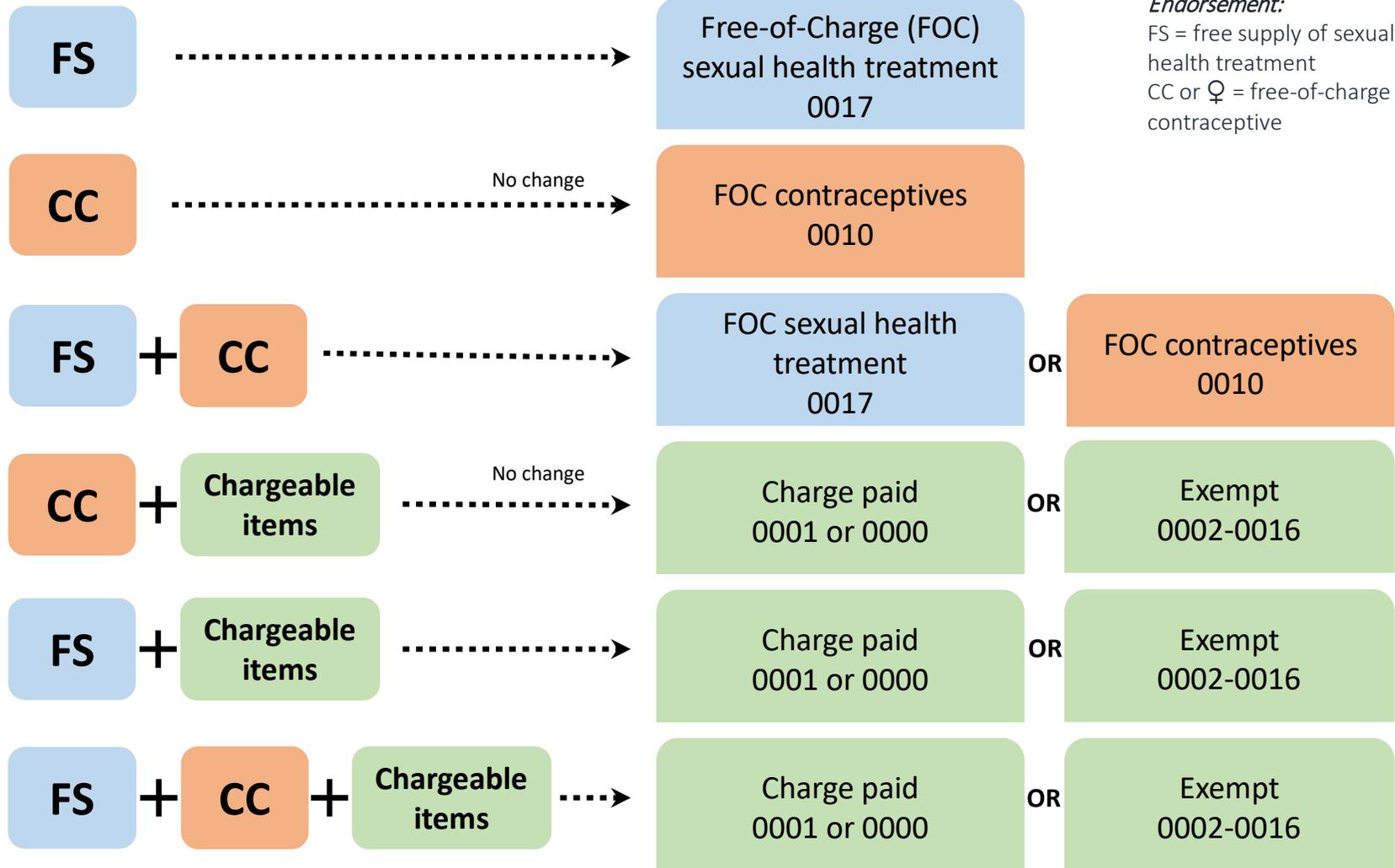


# Providing free-of-charge treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) via the **electronic** NHS prescription forms



**Electronic Prescription contains:**

**Electronic Reimbursement Endorsement Message (EREM):**



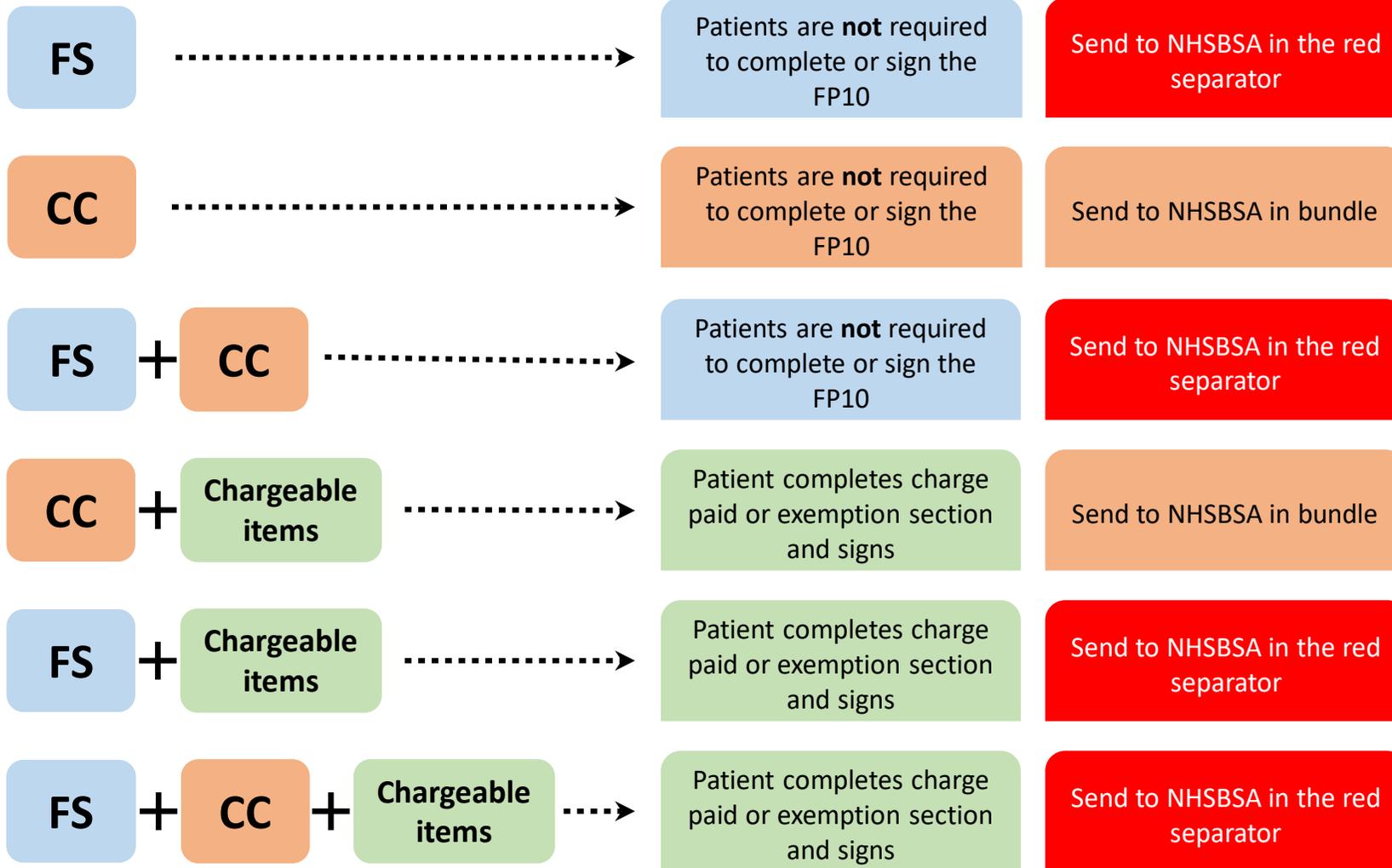
*Endorsement:*  
 FS = free supply of sexual health treatment  
 CC or ♀ = free-of-charge contraceptive

**NOTE:**

- 1- The patient is not required to tick a box or sign the prescription for free contraceptives or STI treatment – this is the only change to the procedure for processing prescriptions that contain free contraceptives only. NHSBSA identify contraceptives by the item name and treat ALL contraceptives as “no charge” items.
- 2- Charge paid will usually refer to 0001 charge paid at the current rate but value 0000 charge paid at the old rate may be used when applicable

**Paper Prescription contains:**

**Action:**



*Endorsement:*

FS = free supply of sexual health treatment  
 CC or ♀ = free-of-charge contraceptive

NOTE: The patient is not required to tick a box or sign the prescription for free contraceptives or STI treatment – this is the only change to the procedure for processing prescriptions that contain free contraceptives only. NHSBSA identify contraceptives by the item name and treat ALL contraceptives as “no charge” items.

## 4. Contraceptives

- 4.1 The National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Regulations 2015 provide for the free supply of contraceptive substances and appliances. Legislation does not require a patient to make a declaration or sign a form to receive these free-of-charge prescription items. Therefore, box X "was prescribed free-of-charge contraceptives" has been removed from the new paper FP10 prescription form and token.
- 4.2 For contraceptives, there are a finite number of products a prescriber can choose for that purpose. The Drug Tariff (Part IXA Contraceptive Devices and XVI Contraceptive Drugs, see extract in Annex E) lists the contraceptive items that are automatically processed free-of-charge and do not require a prescriber endorsement. On some EPS systems, these contraceptives are automatically endorsed with 'CC' which is printed next to that item on the front of the form, when a prescriber selects the contraceptive substance/appliance.
- 4.3 Prescriptions for other drugs not listed in the Drug Tariff which are being used for contraceptive purposes should be endorsed with 'CC' as detailed in the Drug Tariff. For example, Co-cyprindiol (Dianette) can be used for more than one indication. A prescriber can choose Dianette (acne) or Dianette (contraception) - which would require a prescriber endorsement. This applies to both EPS and paper prescriptions.
- 4.4 NHSBSA can accurately process prescriptions for free-of-charge contraceptives (including items endorsed 'CC', ♀ or in another way that makes it clear the item is prescribed as a free-of-charge contraceptive) along with other items on a prescription form. NHSBSA systems will treat contraceptives listed in the Drug Tariff and items endorsed 'CC' as free-of-charge regardless of a patient's exemption or charge status, or the indication for which the contraceptive item has been prescribed.
- 4.5 If possible, contraceptives should not be included on the same prescription form as items for which a prescription charge is usually applicable. This arrangement for contraceptives is based on the existing operational process for those with a War Pensioner exemption certificate. In this instance, prescribers are requested to split items between forms into those items prescribed for their accepted disablement and those that are not; this is necessary so that only those items for the accepted disablement are provided without a prescription charge.
- 4.6 Whilst the current paper FP10 remains in circulation, pharmacy staff can, but are not required to, select box X on the back of the prescription form. The patient can but is not required to tick the box or sign for these items. If the prescription

contains other items for which a charge should normally be levied, the prescription should be processed as either charge paid, or the appropriate exemption category should be selected.

- 4.7 Although box X "was prescribed free-of-charge contraceptives" has been removed from the back of the new prescription form (and patients are not expected to sign the form), the category will remain on those dispensing systems that usually display it. The NHSBSA procedure for processing free-of-charge contraceptives has not changed.
- 4.8 In instances where the only items on the prescription are free-of-charge contraceptives and FS endorsed STI treatment, the EREM code for either can be selected on dispensing systems.

**Note:** Patients, or their representative, are not required to sign the prescription form or make a declaration of entitlement in the following instance where items are prescribed on an FP10:

- Free-of-charge contraceptives

- Free-of-charge STI treatment

- Age exemptions, for those aged 60 and over, or those under 16 years of age, IF a computer-generated date of birth is recorded in the patient details on the front of the form.

Patients, or their representative, are required to complete the back of the prescription form in all other instances, i.e. if they must pay for items or are entitled to exemption from charges.

## 5. Universal Credit

- 5.1 Entitlement to Help with Health Costs is automatically available to those people who are in receipt of certain means-tested Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) benefits, or tax credits and who meet certain criteria. This is known as passported entitlement. Universal Credit (UC) is a passported benefit. Claimants of Universal Credit are entitled to free NHS prescriptions, free NHS dental treatment, free NHS sight tests, optical vouchers to help with the cost of their glasses and in some circumstance, help with the cost of travel to receive NHS care under the NHS Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme – ONLY if their earnings for the most recent assessment period are below prescribed thresholds on the day the patient would ordinarily be asked to pay the prescription charge. See [Help with health costs for people getting Universal Credit<sup>5</sup>](#) for more information.
- 5.2 Prescription forms were not revised and the EPS was not changed at the time that Universal Credit was introduced, and a workaround was put in place which enables patients to make a valid declaration of entitlement, whereby a patient should be instructed to tick the box K “\*gets income-based Jobseekers Allowance”, and show their Universal Credit award notice as evidence of entitlement. Adding a tick box for Universal Credit, and the equivalent for the EPS systems, enables patients to correctly declare their exemption.
- 5.3 Further changes may result from the digitisation of prescription exemptions through Real Time Exemption Checking (RTEC). RTEC will allow dispensers to check whether the patient is exempt from paying a charge or not before their medication is dispensed. Piloting of RTEC began in early 2019.

### Treatment via the new NHS Prescription Form

- 5.4 The current workaround should no longer be used where a box for Universal Credit is available on the form.

**The Prescriber:**

- No action

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<sup>5</sup> [www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/UC](http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/UC)

## The Dispenser:

- Pharmacy staff may advise the patient, or their representative, which box to select on the form and where to sign to declare their exemption from charges. On the new prescription form patients should select **box U “Universal Credit and meets the criteria”**. On EPS the new exemption category will be letter U, Electronic Reimbursement Endorsement Message (EREM) code 0016.
- Dispensers should ask to see evidence of exemption.
- In cases where no satisfactory evidence is produced by a patient, before supplying the drug or appliance, pharmacy contractors are required to advise the patient, or their representative, that NHS checks are routinely undertaken to verify that persons are exempt from payment of NHS prescription charges as part of the arrangements for preventing or detecting fraud or error. If satisfactory evidence of entitlement is not provided, dispensers should tick the “Evidence Not Seen” box on the paper prescription/EPS dispensing system.
- If a patient (or their representative) is unsure about their entitlement to free prescriptions, for example the patient is waiting for a decision on a benefit claim, the patient should pay for their prescription and ask for a prescription receipt and refund form (FP57) at the time they pay the charge. A refund form cannot be provided at a later date.

5.5 More information on Universal Credit can be found on the Help with health costs page of the [NHS](#)<sup>6</sup> or the [NHSBSA](#)<sup>7</sup> website.

## Treatment via the current prescription form

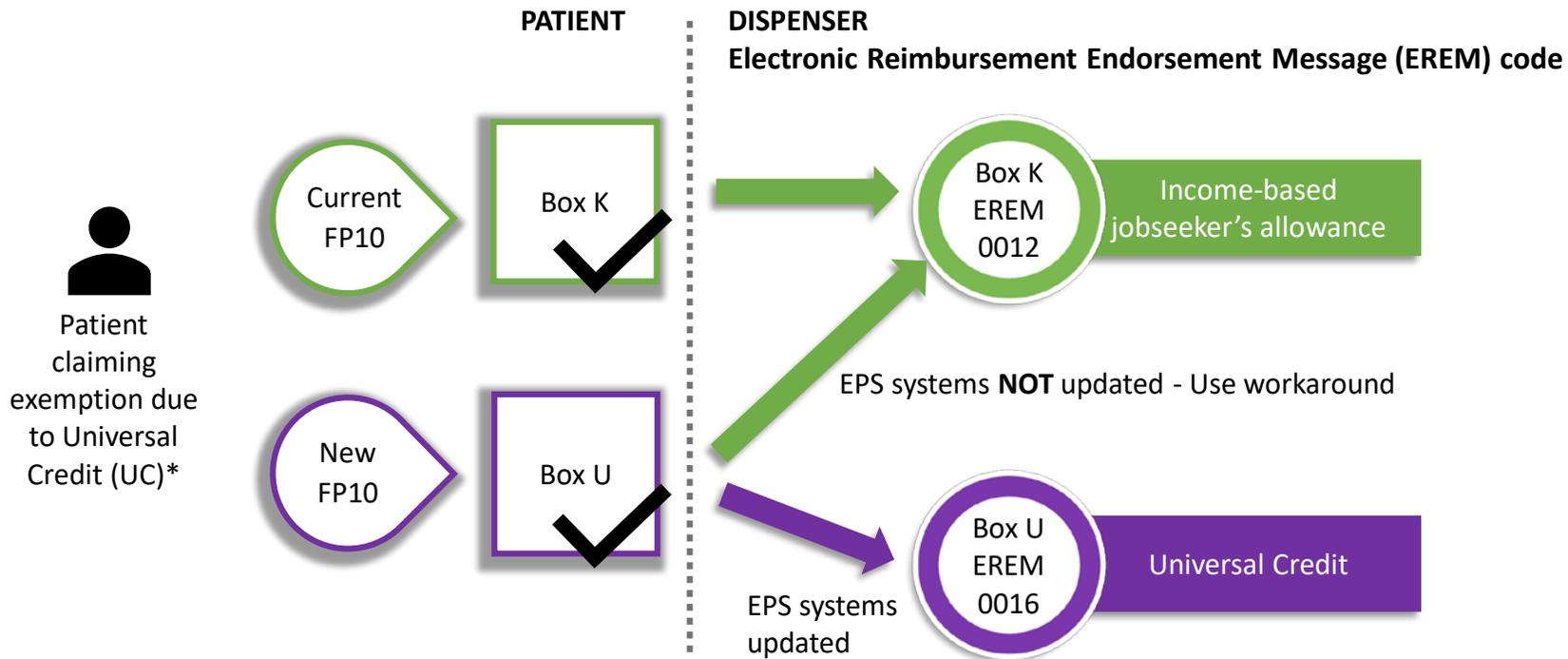
5.6 People in receipt of Universal Credit that meet the specified criteria, should continue to select box K “\*gets income-based Jobseekers Allowance” on the reverse of the current prescription form.

For patients claiming a refund of NHS charges based on the Universal Credit exemption arrangements, the patient should be advised to tick box 11 on the FP57 refund claim form and should be asked to produce their Universal Credit statement as evidence.

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/help-with-health-costs/get-help-with-prescription-costs/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/uc>



\*Universal Credit claimants are only entitled to Help with Health Costs if their earnings in their last assessment period were:

**A**

£435 or less

**B**

£935 or less

And UC includes a payment for a child or they have limited capability for work or work-related activity.

**C**

A dependent child or qualifying young person of someone who meets the criteria in B

Note: For a couple, the net earning threshold applies to their combined net earnings.

## 6. Age

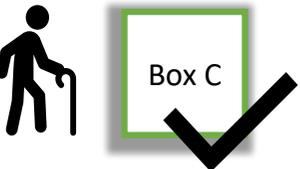
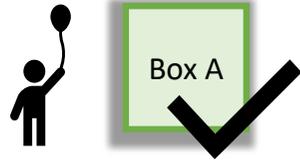
- 6.1 Exemption A "is under 16 years of age" and C "is 60 years of age or over" will become a single category on the new FP10 and EPS. This will become a joint age exemption category - A 'is 60 years of age or over or is under 16 years of age (unless your date of birth is printed on the form)' on the new prescription form.
- 6.2 Prescriptions with a computer-generated date of birth (DOB) do not require a patient to provide proof of age, nor do they require the patient to sign the form. Where this is not the case, i.e. a handwritten form, evidence is required.
- 6.3 Some dispensing systems auto-populate box A and C based on the DOB in the EPS message. A change is being made to combine these two values so that they will become letter code A prescription message value 0002, with letter code C prescription message 0004 becoming redundant. NHSBSA will be able to distinguish between the two age exemption categories based on the DOB.
- 6.4 Until the change has been made, dispensers can continue to select whichever box is appropriate: A or C.
- 6.5 Once the dispensing systems have been changed, if the current form is presented with box C ticked, dispensers will need to select A on the dispensing system.
- 6.6 The other age exemption, category B "aged 16, 17 or 18 and in full-time education" will remain unchanged.

# AGE exemptions

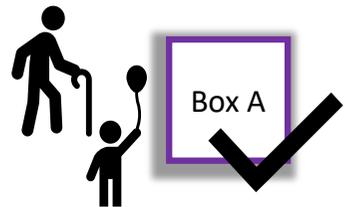
**PATIENT**  
Unless the date of birth is printed on the form

**DISPENSER**  
Electronic Reimbursement Endorsement Message (EREM) code

Current FP10



New FP10



EPS systems **NOT** updated. Dispensers can select either 0002 or 0004 – NHSBSA will use the DOB



No change for Box B under 19 and in full-time education

Current & new FP10

Evidence of exemption should be provided



# Annex A - New Paper Prescription Form

Reverse (Front of form is unchanged)

<p><b>When should I pay?</b></p> <p>You must pay if none of the statements apply to you on the day you were asked to pay. These are the only accepted reasons for not paying.</p> <p><b>I'm not sure if I should pay</b></p> <p>Pay and ask for a prescription refund form (FP57). You can't get one later. If you find you didn't need to pay, you can claim a refund up to 3 months later.</p> <p><b>What if I don't pay when I should?</b></p> <p>We check claims made for free prescriptions. If we can't confirm that you are entitled to exemption from prescription charges, you may be issued a Penalty Charge Notice and you may have to pay up to £100 as well as your prescription charge(s), and you could be prosecuted.</p> <p><b>Can I get help to pay?</b></p> <p>Help with costs may be available. You could also save money by buying a prescription prepayment certificate.</p> <p>Check at <a href="http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/check">www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/check</a></p> <p><b>Is my exemption certificate still valid?</b></p> <p>Visit <a href="http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/exemption">www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/exemption</a> to see what help is available or ask at your GP surgery or pharmacy.</p> <p><b>I am unable to collect my prescription</b></p> <p>If you are unable to collect your prescription someone can do so on your behalf. Your representative should complete the 'If you paid' box and sign the form, or you or your representative should complete the 'If you didn't pay' box, and your representative should sign the form. Your representative will need to put a cross in the 'on behalf of patient' box next to their signature.</p> <p><b>Why did the pharmacy ask to see evidence?</b></p> <p>We need to check your exemption is valid.</p> <p>The NHS Business Services Authority is responsible for this service. We will use your information to check your exemption is valid, pay the dispenser and help plan and improve NHS services. Find out more at <a href="http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/yourinformation">www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/yourinformation</a></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">FP10SS1219 © Crown Copyright</p> <p><b>If you paid</b> Enter amount paid and sign below £ <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> . <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p><b>If you didn't pay</b> Mark a line in one box and sign below</p> <p>A <input type="checkbox"/> is 60 years of age or over <u>or</u> is under 16 years of age (unless your date of birth is printed on the form)</p> <p>B <input type="checkbox"/> is 16, 17 or 18 <u>and</u> in full time education</p> <p>D <input type="checkbox"/> Maternity exemption certificate</p> <p>E <input type="checkbox"/> Medical exemption certificate</p> <p>F <input type="checkbox"/> Prescription prepayment certificate</p> <p>G <input type="checkbox"/> Prescription exemption certificate issued by Ministry of Defence</p> <p>L <input type="checkbox"/> HC2 (full help) certificate</p> <p>H <input type="checkbox"/> Income Support <u>or</u> Income-related Employment and Support Allowance</p> <p>K <input type="checkbox"/> Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance</p> <p>M <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Credit exemption certificate</p> <p>S <input type="checkbox"/> Pension Credit Guarantee Credit (including partners)</p> <p>U <input type="checkbox"/> Universal Credit <u>and</u> meets the criteria. <i>Find out more at <a href="http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/UC">www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/UC</a></i></p> <p><b>Read the declaration and sign the form</b></p> <p>The information I have given is correct and complete and I confirm proper entitlement to exemption.</p> <p><b>!</b> I understand that if I falsely claim, I may be issued a Penalty Charge Notice, and I may have to pay up to £100 - as well as my prescription charge(s).</p> <p>I understand the NHS Business Services Authority may use and share my information within the NHS and with relevant Government bodies to check for fraud and mistakes. Find out more at: <a href="http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/yourinformation">www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/yourinformation</a></p> <p>Signature <input type="text"/> Date <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> On behalf of patient <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>SIGNATURE OF COLLECTOR OF SCHEDULE 2 &amp; 3 CDs <input type="text"/> PHARMACY USE ONLY EVIDENCE NOT SEEN <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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# Annex B - Current Paper Prescription Form

## Reverse

**Should you pay prescription charges?** Read all the statements in **Part 1** opposite. You don't have to pay a prescription charge if any of the statements apply to you (the patient) on the day you are asked to pay. (A valid War Pension exemption certificate only entitles you to free prescriptions for your accepted disablement.) Put a cross in the first box in **Part 1** that applies to you, read the declaration and complete and sign **Part 3**.

**Benefits which DO NOT provide exemption.** You are NOT entitled to exemption from prescription charges because you receive Pension Credit Savings Credit, Incapacity Benefit, Disability Living Allowance, Contributions based Jobseeker's Allowance or Contributions based Employment and Support Allowance. Only those benefits listed in **Part 1** provide exemption. An HC3 certificate does not entitle you to free prescriptions.

**Evidence.** You may be asked to provide evidence to show that you do not have to pay. You could show the relevant benefit award notice, or an exemption or pre-payment certificate. If you cannot show evidence at that time you can still get your prescription items free but your Primary Care Trust will check your entitlement later if you do not show proof (see paragraph about Penalty Charges).

**If you have to pay a prescription charge.** You (or your representative) should put in **Part 2** the amount you have paid and then sign and complete **Part 3**.

**Need help with the cost of prescription charges?** You can get information by ringing 0845 850 1166 or by reading leaflets HC11 or HC12. You may be able to get these leaflets from your GP surgery or pharmacy. Or ring 0845 610 1112 to get one, or go to [www.dh.gov.uk/helpwithhealthcosts](http://www.dh.gov.uk/helpwithhealthcosts)

**Not entitled to free prescriptions? Pre-pay to reduce the cost.** If you think you will have to get more than 4 items in 3 months or 14 items in 12 months it will be cheaper to buy a pre-payment certificate (PPC). Phone 0845 850 0030 to find out the cost, or order a PPC and pay by credit or debit card. You can pay for a 12 month PPC by direct debit instalment payments. Buy on-line at [www.ppa.org.uk](http://www.ppa.org.uk) To pay by cheque get an application form (FP95) from your pharmacy or go to [www.dh.gov.uk/helpwithhealthcosts](http://www.dh.gov.uk/helpwithhealthcosts) The FP95 tells you what to do.

**Do you need a refund?** If you are unsure if you are entitled to free prescriptions you should pay for the prescription item(s) and ask for a receipt form FP57. **You must get the FP57 form when you pay for the item(s), you cannot get the form later.** If you find you didn't have to pay, you can claim your money back up to 3 months after paying. The FP57 form tells you what to do.

**Patient Representative.** If you are unable to collect your prescription yourself, someone can take your completed form for you. You must complete **Part 1**. Your representative must complete **Parts 2 and 3**. **Anyone who collects a Schedule 2 or 3 controlled drug must sign the box in Part 1 when they collect the item(s) and provide proof of identity if requested.**

**Data collection.** Information about the prescription items on this form will be processed centrally to pay monies due to the pharmacist, doctor or appliance contractor for the items they have supplied to you. The NHS will also use the information to analyse what has been prescribed and the cost. The Counter Fraud and Security Management Service, a division of the NHS Business Services Authority, may use information from this form to prevent and detect fraud and incorrectness in the NHS.

**Penalty Charges.** If it is found that you should have paid for your prescription items, you will face penalty charges and may be prosecuted under the powers introduced by the Health Act 1999. Routine checks are carried out on exemption claims including some where proof may have been shown. You may be contacted in the course of such checks.

FP10SS0608

**NOTE** Patients who don't have to pay must fill in parts 1 and 3 (unless they are exempt on age grounds, and their age is printed on the front of this prescription). Those who pay must fill in parts 2 and 3. Penalty charges may be applied if you make a wrongful claim for free prescriptions. If you're unsure about whether you are entitled to free prescriptions, pay and ask for an FP57 form. You cannot get one later. The FP57 tells you about getting a refund.

**Part 1** The patient doesn't have to pay because he/she:

A	<input type="checkbox"/> is under 16 years of age		Collectors of Schedule 2 & 3 CDs should sign their name:
B	<input type="checkbox"/> is 16, 17 or 18 and in full-time education		
C	<input type="checkbox"/> is 60 years of age or over		
D	<input type="checkbox"/> has a valid maternity exemption certificate		
E	<input type="checkbox"/> has a valid medical exemption certificate		
F	<input type="checkbox"/> has a valid prescription pre-payment certificate		pharmacy use only
G	<input type="checkbox"/> has a valid War Pension exemption certificate		Evidence not seen
L	<input type="checkbox"/> is named on a current HC2 charges certificate		
X	<input type="checkbox"/> was prescribed free-of-charge contraceptives		
H	<input type="checkbox"/> *gets Income Support or income-related Employment and Support Allowance		
K	<input type="checkbox"/> *gets income-based Jobseeker's Allowance		
M	<input type="checkbox"/> *is entitled to, or named on, a valid NHS Tax Credit Exemption Certificate		
S	<input type="checkbox"/> *has a partner who gets Pension Credit guarantee credit (PCGC)		

\*Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ NI no: \_\_\_\_\_

\*I am included in an award of income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support, Pension Credit Guarantee Credit or Tax Credit. Print the name of the person who gets the benefit.

**Declaration** For patients who do not have to pay  
I declare that the information I have given on this form is correct and complete. I understand that if it is not, appropriate action may be taken. I confirm proper entitlement to exemption. To enable the NHS to check I have a valid exemption and to prevent and detect fraud and incorrectness, I consent to the disclosure of relevant information from this form to and by the NHS Business Services Authority, the Department for Work and Pensions and Local Authorities.

Now sign and fill in Part 3

**Part 2** I have paid £ \_\_\_\_\_ Now sign and fill in Part 3

**Part 3** Cross ONE box I am the patient  patient's representative

Sign here \_\_\_\_\_ Date / / \_\_\_\_\_

Print name and address\* \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

\*if different from overleaf © Crown Copyright

# Annex C - Paper FP10 endorsed with FS

Pharmacy Stamp <b>XXX DO NOT USE          NHS PHARMACY          XXX</b> C/o Npfit, Test Data Mgr, Princes Exchange, Princes	Age 26 y D.o.B 25/09/1992	Title, Forename, Surname & Address <b>Mr Cfh-Donotuse Xxtestpatientkbbz</b> Co Npfit Test Data Mgr Princes Exchange, Princes Square Leeds LS1 4HY 999 037 7677
Please don't stamp over age box Number of days' treatment N.B. Ensure dose is stated	NHS Number:	
Endorsements	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>PHARMACIST PRESCRIBER SP</b></p> <p>Metronidazole 400mg tablets <b>FS</b>          take one Twice Daily          14 tablet</p> <p style="text-align: center;">— * —</p> <p>1 item on this prescription</p> <p>* * * * *</p>	
Signature of Prescriber 	Date 22/11/2018	

# Annex D - FP10 comparison tables

<b>Universal Credit</b>	<b>CURRENT / OLD FORM</b> e.g. Version FP10SS0608	<b>NEW FORM</b> e.g. Version FP10SS1219
<b>PATIENT</b>	Select box K “*gets income-based Jobseekers Allowance” and sign declaration of entitlement.	Select box U “Universal Credit and meets the criteria” and sign declaration of entitlement.
<b>PRESCRIBER</b>	No action	No Action
<b>DISPENSER</b>	<p>Existing workaround still applies - Advise the patient to select box K “*gets income-based Jobseekers Allowance”.</p> <p>Electronic Reimbursement Endorsement Message (EREM) code 0012.</p> <p>Ask for evidence. If none is produced select Evidence Not Seen and inform the patient that checks are routinely undertaken to ascertain entitlement to exemption to prevent fraud and error.</p> <p>Advise patient of option to pay and claim refund via FP57 if they are unsure of their entitlement.</p>	<p>Advise patients to select box U “Universal Credit and meets the criteria”.</p> <p>EREM code 0016.</p> <p>Ask for evidence. If none is produced select evidence not seen and inform the patient that checks are routinely undertaken to ascertain entitlement to exemption to prevent fraud and error.</p> <p>Advise patient of option to pay and claim refund via FP57 if they are unsure of their entitlement.</p>

<b>Contraceptives</b>	<b>CURRENT / OLD FORM</b> e.g. Version FP10SS0608	<b>NEW FORM</b> e.g. Version FP10SS1219
<b>PATIENT</b>	If a prescription contains free contraceptives only, patients can tick box X and sign the form, but they are not required to do so.	No action
<b>PRESCRIBER</b>	<p>No change to procedures.</p> <p>If possible, contraceptives should be placed on a separate script to those items that usually attract a charge.</p> <p>Prescriptions for drugs not listed in the Drug Tariff that are being used for contraceptive purposes should be endorsed with CC as detailed in the Drug Tariff (see Annex E).</p>	<p>No change to procedures.</p> <p>If possible, contraceptives should be placed on a separate script to those items that usually attract a charge.</p> <p>Prescriptions for drugs not listed in the Drug Tariff that are being used for contraceptive purposes should be endorsed with CC as detailed in the Drug Tariff (see Annex E).</p>
<b>DISPENSER</b>	<p>The dispenser or patient can, but is not required to, tick box X 'was prescribed free-of-charge contraceptives'.</p> <p><b>EPS UPDATED:</b></p> <p><b>ONLY free contraceptives on form – No change:</b></p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> – The Electronic Reimbursement Endorsement Message (EREM) should be free contraceptives (message code 0010, letter X).</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – send to NHSBSA in bundle.</p>	<p>Box X for free contraceptives has been removed from the new form. Legislation does not require the patient to sign the form where free-of-charge items only (i.e. contraceptive and STI treatment) are on the prescription.</p> <p><b>EPS UPDATED:</b></p> <p><b>ONLY free contraceptives on form – No change:</b></p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> – The EREM should be free contraceptives (message code 0010, letter X)</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – send to NHSBSA in bundle.</p>

	<p><b>Free contraceptives and STI treatment only on form:</b></p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> – The EREM should be FOC sexual health treatment (message code 0017, letter Y) or FOC contraceptives (message code 0010, letter X)</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – send to NHSBSA in the red separator.</p> <p><b>Free contraceptives AND chargeable items on script – No change:</b></p> <p><b>Patient NOT EXEMPT</b> - patient completes the amount paid for the chargeable items and signs form.</p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> - select charge paid</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> - send to NHSBSA in bundle</p> <p><b>Patient EXEMPT</b> – patient selects one exemption box, the category that entitles them to free NHS prescriptions. Patient signs the declaration.</p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> – select relevant exemption category e.g. Medical exemption 0006.</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – send to NHSBSA in bundle.</p>	<p><b>Free contraceptives and STI treatment only on form:</b></p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> – The EREM should be FOC sexual health treatment (message code 0017, letter Y) or FOC contraceptives (message code 0010, letter X)</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – send to NHSBSA in the red separator.</p> <p><b>Free contraceptives AND chargeable items on script – No change:</b></p> <p><b>Patient NOT EXEMPT</b> - patient completes the amount paid for the chargeable items and signs form.</p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> - select charge paid</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> - send to NHSBSA in bundle</p> <p><b>Patient EXEMPT</b> – patient selects one exemption box, the category that entitles them to free NHS prescriptions. Patient signs the declaration.</p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> – select relevant exemption category e.g. Medical exemption 0006.</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – send to NHSBSA in bundle.</p>
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	<p><b>EPS NOT UPDATED:</b></p> <p>No change to procedures UNLESS a form contains FS endorsed items. Until the EPS is updated free-of-charge STI treatment can only be provided on a paper FP10.</p> <p>ALL Paper FP10 prescriptions containing items endorsed FS must be sent to NHSBSA in the red separator.</p>	<p><b>EPS NOT UPDATED:</b></p> <p>No change to procedures UNLESS a form contains FS endorsed items. Until the EPS is updated STI treatment can only be provided on a paper FP10.</p> <p>ALL Paper FP10 prescriptions containing items endorsed FS must be sent to NHSBSA in the red separator.</p>
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<b>STI's</b>	<b>CURRENT / OLD FORM</b> e.g. Version FP10SS0608	<b>NEW FORM</b> e.g. Version FP10SS1219
<b>PATIENT</b>	No action	No action
<b>PRESCRIBER</b>	<p>Endorse each free prescription item with FS and inform patient that treatment is supplied for free.</p> <p>If possible place items for free treatment for STIs on a separate script to those items that usually attract a charge.</p> <p><b>EPS UPDATED:</b></p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> - Select the FS endorsement on the prescribing system for each item. Where a prescription token is printed FS will be printed next to each item that has been endorsed.</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – hand endorse FS and sign against each item prescribed for free STI treatment.</p> <p><b>EPS NOT UPDATED:</b></p> <p>FS endorsement is not available on EPS. Electronic prescriptions for free STI treatment should not be sent via the EPS - ALL scripts that need to include FS endorsed items should be paper, with items hand endorsed.</p>	<p>Endorse each free prescription item with FS and inform patient that treatment is supplied for free.</p> <p>If possible place items for free treatment for STIs on a separate script to those items that usually attract a charge.</p> <p><b>EPS UPDATED:</b></p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> - Select the FS endorsement on the prescribing system for each item. Where a prescription token is printed FS will be printed next to each item that has been endorsed.</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – hand endorse FS and sign against each item prescribed for free STI treatment.</p> <p><b>EPS NOT UPDATED:</b></p> <p>FS endorsement is not available on EPS. Electronic prescriptions for free STI treatment should not be sent via the EPS - ALL scripts that need to include FS endorsed items should be paper, with items hand endorsed.</p>

<p><b>DISPENSER</b></p>	<p><b>EPS UPDATED:</b></p> <p><b>ONLY free STI treatment on form:</b></p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> - the Electronic Reimbursement Endorsement Message (EREM) should be FOC sexual health medication (message code 0017, letter Y).</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – send to NHSBSA in the red separator.</p> <p><b>Free STI treatment and Contraceptives only on form:</b></p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> – EREM should be FOC sexual health medication (message code 0017, letter Y) or FOC contraceptive (message code 0010, letter X)</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – send to NHSBSA in the red separator.</p> <p><b>Free STI treatment AND chargeable items on script:</b></p> <p><b>Patient NOT EXEMPT</b> - patient completes the amount paid for the chargeable items and signs form.</p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> - select charge paid</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> - Send to NHSBSA as charge paid in the red separator.</p>	<p><b>EPS UPDATED:</b></p> <p><b>ONLY free STI treatment on form:</b></p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> - the EREM should be FOC sexual health medication (message code 0017, letter Y).</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – send to NHSBSA in the red separator.</p> <p><b>Free STI treatment and Contraceptives only on form:</b></p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> – EREM should be FOC sexual health medication (message code 0017, letter Y) or FOC contraceptive (message code 0010, letter X)</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – send to NHSBSA in the red separator.</p> <p><b>Free STI treatment AND chargeable items on script:</b></p> <p><b>Patient NOT EXEMPT</b> - patient completes the amount paid for the chargeable items and signs form.</p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> - select charge paid</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> - Send to NHSBSA as charge paid in the red separator.</p>
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<p><b>Patient EXEMPT</b> – patient selects one exemption box, the category that entitles them to free NHS prescriptions. Patient signs the declaration.</p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> – select relevant exemption category e.g. Medical exemption (message code 0006).</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – Send to NHSBSA in the red separator.</p> <p><b>EPS NOT UPDATED:</b></p> <p>FS endorsement is not available on EPS. Electronic prescriptions for free STI treatment should not be sent via the EPS - ALL scripts should be paper, and hand endorsed.</p> <hr/> <p>NOTE: To avoid a prescription charge being deducted from the contractor's reimbursement, ALL paper prescriptions endorsed with FS must be sent to NHSBSA in the red separator.</p>	<p><b>Patient EXEMPT</b> – patient selects one exemption box, the category that entitles them to free NHS prescriptions. Patient signs the declaration.</p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> – select relevant exemption category e.g. Universal credit (message code 0016).</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – Send to NHSBSA in the red separator.</p> <p><b>EPS NOT UPDATED:</b></p> <p>FS endorsement is not available on EPS. Electronic prescriptions for free STI treatment should not be sent via the EPS - ALL scripts should be paper, and hand endorsed.</p> <hr/> <p>NOTE: To avoid a prescription charge being deducted from the contractor's reimbursement, ALL paper prescriptions endorsed with FS must be sent to NHSBSA in the red separator.</p>
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<b>War Pensioner</b>	<b>CURRENT / OLD FORM</b> e.g. Version FP10SS0608	<b>NEW FORM</b> e.g. Version FP10SS1219
<b>PATIENT</b>	Select box G 'has a valid War Pension exemption certificate'.	Select Box G 'Prescription Exemption Certificate issued by the Ministry of Defence'.
<b>PRESCRIBER</b>	No change.  Items prescribed for the accepted disablement should be issued on a separate form from those that are not.	No change.  Items prescribed for the accepted disablement should be issued on a separate form from those that are not.
<b>DISPENSER</b>	No change.  Electronic Reimbursement Endorsement Message (EREM) code 0008.	No change.  EREM 0008.

<b>Aged 60 and over or under 16</b>	<b>CURRENT / OLD FORM</b> e.g. Version FP10SS0608	<b>NEW FORM</b> e.g. Version FP10SS1219
<b>PATIENT</b>	<p>No change.</p> <p>Prescriptions with a computer-generated Date of Birth (DOB) do not require proof of age and the patient is not required to complete or sign the form if the patient is either</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aged 60 or over, or</li> <li>• Under 16 years of age</li> </ul>	<p>No change.</p> <p>Prescriptions with a computer-generated Date of Birth (DOB) do not require proof of age and the patient is not required to complete or sign the form if the patient is either</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aged 60 or over, or</li> <li>• Under 16 years of age</li> </ul>
<b>PRESCRIBER</b>	No action	No action
<b>DISPENSER</b>	<p>No change</p> <p><b>EPS UDATED:</b></p> <p><b>Computer-generated DOB on form:</b></p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> – ensure EREM code 0002, box A, is 60 years of age or over or is under 16 years of age is selected</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – computer-generated DOB on form – no action</p> <p><b>Computer-generated DOB NOT on form</b> - ask patient or representative to tick box A or box C and provide evidence (e.g. driving licence, passport).</p>	<p><b>EPS UDATED:</b></p> <p><b>Computer-generated DOB on form:</b></p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> – ensure EREM code 0002, box A is 60 years of age or over or is under 16 years of age is selected</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – computer-generated DOB on form – no action</p> <p><b>Computer-generated DOB NOT on form</b> - ask patient or representative to tick box A and ask patient for evidence (e.g. driving licence, passport).</p>

	<p><b>EPS NOT UPDATED:</b></p> <p>No change</p> <p><b>Computer-generated DOB on form:</b></p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> - No change, select either EREM 0002 (under 16) or 0004 (aged 60+)</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – computer-generated DOB on form – no action</p> <p><b>Computer-generated DOB NOT on form</b> - ask patient or representative to tick box A or box C and ask patient for evidence (e.g. driving licence, passport).</p>	<p><b>EPS NOT UPDATED:</b></p> <p><b>Computer-generated DOB on form:</b></p> <p><i>Electronic prescription</i> - No change, select either EREM 0002 (under 16) or 0004 (aged 60+)</p> <p><i>Paper FP10 prescription</i> – computer-generated DOB on form – no action</p> <p><b>Computer-generated DOB NOT on form</b> - ask patient or representative to tick box A and ask patient for evidence (e.g. driving licence, passport).</p>
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# Annex E - Free Contraceptives

Part IXA-Appliances - Issue: October 2019

## CONTRACEPTIVE DEVICES

### Intrauterine Contraceptive Device

Ancora 375 Cu

Copper T380 A

Flexi-T 300

Flexi-T+380

GyneFix intrauterine contraceptive implant

IUB Ballerine MIDI

Load 375

Mini TT380 Slimline

Multiload CU 375

Multi-Safe 375

Neo-Safe T380

Nova-T 380

Novaplug T 380 Ag (Normal, Mini)

Novaplug T 380 Cu (Normal, Mini)

Optima TCu380A

Steriload

T-Safe 380A QL

TT380 Slimline

UT380 Short

UT380 Standard

### Vaginal Contraceptive Caps (Pessaries)

Silicone

CE Marked

FemCap

Soft Silicone Cap

## **Part XVI - Notes on Charges**

### **10. CONTRACEPTIVE SERVICES**

No charge is payable for contraceptive substances and listed contraceptive appliances for women prescribed on FP10 or any of its variants.

The great majority of family planning prescriptions will be for contraceptive devices (See Part IXA) spermicidal gels, creams, films, pessaries and aerosols; or those systemic drugs promoted as contraceptives which are listed below: prescriptions for those products will not be specially marked and a prescription charge should not be levied.

Prescriptions for other drugs - If the prescription is for contraceptive purposes the prescriber should mark the item with the symbol PPA Symbol 3 (or endorse the item in another way which makes it clear that the prescription is for contraceptive purposes) and a prescription charge should not be levied for any items so marked. In the absence of such an endorsement by the prescriber, the normal prescription charge will apply to that item.

Where a dispensing doctor paid on the Drug Tariff basis supplies for contraceptive purposes a drug which is not on the list he should mark the item with the symbol PPA Symbol 3 (or endorse the item in another way which makes it clear that the prescription is for contraceptive purposes) on the prescription form before it is submitted for pricing.

#### **List of Contraceptive Drugs to be Dispensed Free of Charge:**

Aidulan 20

Aidulan 30

Aizea

Alenini

Alenvona

Bimizza 150microgram/20microgram tablets

Brevinor

Cerazette

Cerelle

Cilest

Cilique 250microgram/35microgram tablets

Cimizt

Daylette 0.02mg/3mg tablets

Depo-Provera 150mg/ml

Desogestrel Tablets 75microgram  
Desomono 75microgram tablets  
Desorex  
Dretine  
Elevin  
Ellaone  
Eloine 0.02mg/3mg tablets  
Emerres 1.5mg tablets  
Emerres Una 1.5mg tablets  
Erlibelle  
Ethinylestradiol 20microgram / Desogestrel 150microgram tablets  
Ethinylestradiol 30microgram / Desogestrel 150microgram tablets  
Ethinylestradiol 20microgram / Drospirenone 3mg tablets  
Ethinylestradiol 30microgram / Drospirenone 3mg tablets  
Ethinylestradiol 20microgram / Gestodene 75microgram tablets  
Ethinylestradiol 30microgram / Gestodene 75microgram tablets  
Ethinylestradiol 20microgram / Norethisterone acetate 1mg tablets  
Ethinylestradiol 30microgram / Norethisterone acetate 1.5mg tablets  
Ethinylestradiol 35microgram / Norethisterone 500microgram tablets  
Ethinylestradiol 35microgram / Norgestimate 250microgram tablets  
Etonogestrel 68mg implant  
Evra  
Ezinelle 1.5mg tablets  
Feanolla  
Femodene  
Femodene ED  
Femodette  
Gedarel 20microgram/150microgram tablets

Gedarel 30microgram/150microgram tablets

Isteranda

Jaydess 13.5mg intrauterine device

Juliperla 75microgram/20microgram tablets

Katya

Leandra 30microgram/150microgram tablets

Levest 150/30 tablets

Levonelle 1500

Levonelle One-Step

Levonorgestrel 13.5mg intrauterine device

Levonorgestrel Tablets 1.5mg

Levonorgestrel 20micrograms/24hours intrauterine device

Levosert 20micrograms/24hours intrauterine device

Lizinna 250microgram/35microgram tablets

Loestrin 20

Loestrin 30

Logynon

Logynon ED

Lucette tablets

Maexeni

Marvelon

Medroxyprogesterone Acetate Injection (Aqueous Suspension) 150mg/5ml

Mercilon

Microgynon 30

Microgynon 30 ED

Micronor

Millinette 20microgram/75microgram tablets

Millinette 30microgram/75microgram tablets

Mirena System  
Munalea 20  
Munalea 30  
Nexplanon  
Norgeston  
Noriday  
Norimin  
Norinyl-1  
Noristerat Injection  
Nuvaring  
Ovranette  
Qlaira  
Rigevidon tablets  
Sayana Press Injection  
Sofiperla 75microgram/30microgram tablets  
Sunya  
Synphase  
Triadene  
TriRegol tablets  
Upostelle tablets  
Yacella 0.03mg/3mg tablets  
Yasmin  
Yiznell 0.03mg/3mg tablets  
Zelleta 75microgram tablets  
Zoely

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