
DIRECTIONS

THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT 2006

The Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (Further Amendments) (No. 3) (England) Directions 2023

The Secretary of State gives the following Directions in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 127, 128, 272(7) and (8) and 273(1) of the National Health Service Act 2006(a).

Citation, commencement, extent, application and interpretation

1.—(1) These Directions may be cited as the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (Further Amendments) (No. 3) (England) Directions 2023.

(2) These Directions come into force on 1st December 2023.

(3) These Directions extend to England and Wales but apply only to England.

(4) In these Directions, “the 2013 Directions” means the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) Directions 2013(b).

(a) 2006 c. 41. Section 127 has been amended by: the Health and Social Care Act 2012 (c. 7) (“the 2012 Act”), Schedule 4, paragraph 64; and the Health and Care Act 2022 (c. 31) (“the 2022 Act”), Schedule 1, paragraph 1. Section 128 has been amended by the 2012 Act, Schedule 4, paragraph 65, and the 2022 Act, Schedule 1, paragraph 1.

(b) Signed on 12th March 2013, and amended by: the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) Directions 2013, signed on 16th September 2013; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) (No. 2) Directions 2013, signed on 6th December 2013, which also revoked the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) Directions 2013; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) Directions 2014, signed on 12th March 2014; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) (No. 2) Directions 2014, signed on 5th December 2014; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) Directions 2015, signed on 15th September 2015; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) Directions 2016, signed on 30th August 2016; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) (No.2) Directions 2016, signed on 30th November 2016; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) Directions 2017, signed on 29th August 2017; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) Directions 2018, signed on 8th March 2018; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) (No. 2) Directions 2018, signed on 31st August 2018; and the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) Directions 2019, signed on 13th March 2019; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) (No. 2) Directions 2019, signed on 22nd August 2019; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) (No. 3) Directions 2019, signed on 11th September 2019, the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) (No. 4) Directions 2019, signed on 24th October 2019; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) Directions 2020, signed on 6th March 2020; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services and Emergency Declaration) Directions 2020, signed on 27th March 2020; and the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services and Emergency Declaration) (Amendment) (England) Directions 2020, signed on 30th June 2020; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services and Emergency Declaration) (England) (Amendment) (No.2) Directions 2020, signed on 28th August 2020; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services and Emergency Declaration) (England) (Amendment) Directions 2021, signed on 29th March 2021; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services and Emergency Declaration) (Amendment) (England) Directions 2021, signed on 29th June 2021; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) Directions 2021, signed on 1st September 2021; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services and Emergency Declaration) (Further Amendments) (England) Directions 2021, signed on 30th September 2021; the Pharmaceutical Services (Smoking Cessation Service) (England) Directions 2022, signed on 9th March 2022; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (Further Amendment) Directions 2022, signed on 5th April 2022; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (England) (Further Amendments) Directions 2022, signed on 24th August 2022, the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (Amendment) (England) Directions; signed on 28th March 2023; the Pharmaceutical Services (NHS Pharmacy Contraception Service and Other Amendments) (England) Directions 2023, signed on 17th April 2023; the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (Further Amendments) (England) Directions 2023, signed on

Amendment of direction 2 of the 2013 Directions

2.—(1) Direction 2 of the 2013 Directions (interpretation) is amended as follows.

(2) In for the definition of “NHSPCS service specification” substitute—

““NHSPCS service specification” means the community pharmacy advanced service specification for the NHS Pharmacy Contraception Service produced by NHS England and published on 22 November 2023(a);”.

Amendment of direction 7BK of the 2013 Directions

3.—(1) Direction 7BK (NHS Pharmacy Contraception Service: general matters and preconditions to making arrangements)(b) is amended as follows.

(2) In paragraph (2)—

(a) omit “as regards Tier 1 of the NHSPCS”; and

(b) in paragraph (a), after “community pharmacy teams to” insert “initiate the provision of oral contraceptive supplies or to”.

(3) After paragraph (2) insert—

“(2A) P must be prepared to offer consultations for both the initiation of the provision of oral contraceptive supplies and for the continuation of the provision of oral contraceptive supplies.”.

(4) In paragraph (5), for “section” substitute “sections 3.7 and”.

Amendment of direction 7BL of the 2013 Directions

4.—(1) Direction 7BL (NHS Pharmacy Contraception Service: ongoing conditions of arrangements)(c) is amended as follows.

(2) In paragraph (2)—

(a) in sub-paragraph (d), at the end of paragraph (iv) omit “and” and after that paragraph insert—

“(iva) if the provision of oral contraceptive supplies is to be initiated, the choice of product, and”; and

(b) after sub-paragraph (f) insert—

“(fa) where a patient attends the pharmacy to access a supply of Emergency Contraception (EC), highlighting the service to them to consider their ongoing contraception requirements;”.

(3) After paragraph (2) insert—

“(2A) P must offer consultations for both the initiation of the provision of oral contraceptive supplies and for the continuation of the provision of oral contraceptive supplies.

(2B) The responsible pharmacist for P’s pharmacy must ensure that all delegated tasks undertaken as part of the service are undertaken safely by competent pharmacy staff.”.

(4) In paragraph (4), for “section” substitute “sections 3.7 and”.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

29th August 2023; and the Pharmaceutical Services (Advanced and Enhanced Services) (Further Amendments) (No. 2) (England) Directions 2023, signed on 3rd November 2023.

(a) The service specification is published on www.england.nhs.uk and has the NHS England Publication Approval Reference: PRN00751.

(b) Direction 7BK was inserted by the Pharmaceutical Services (NHS Pharmacy Contraception Service and Other Amendments) (England) Directions 2023, signed on 17th April 2023.

(c) Direction 7BL was inserted by the Pharmaceutical Services (NHS Pharmacy Contraception Service and Other Amendments) (England) Directions 2023, signed on 17th April 2023.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Alette Addison" followed by a horizontal flourish.

Alette Addison
Deputy Director Pharmacy, Eye Care and Controlled Drugs
Department of Health and Social Care

30 November 2023