

Service Specification: Palliative Care Drugs in Community Pharmacy	
Period:	1 st April 2021 to 31 st March 2024 (Extended February 2023 to cover 2023/2024)
Date of Review:	Annual
Version Control:	V4.0 (Contains updated prices for 2023/2024)
Introduction:	
<p>This service specification outlines the service to be provided.</p> <p>The specification of this service is designed to cover enhanced aspects of clinical care of the patient, all of which are beyond the scope of essential services.</p> <p>No part of the specification by commission, omission or implication defines or redefines essential or additional services.</p> <p>The Provider providing the service must fully comply with the NHS Pharmaceutical Services regulations (2005) for the delivery of Essential Services and be registered with the GPhC.</p> <p>All staff working for the Provider must conform to the NHS code of practice on confidentiality and to the Data Protection Act.</p>	
Background:	
<p>Palliative care drugs are specialist medicines that may not be all routinely stocked in all community pharmacies; however there is a need to ensure availability of these drugs across strategically located pharmacies in Doncaster.</p> <p>The Out Of Hours Service in Doncaster do stock the drugs routinely but current legislation dictates that they can only issue out of hours and must issue prescriptions whilst there are community pharmacies open, in compliance with the Out Of Hours Medicines Policy and Securing Proper Access to Medicines in the Out Of Hours Period (Department of Health, 2004) .</p>	
Service Outline:	
<p>The Provider will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold a minimum specified stock drug list (Appendix A) mirroring both the Doncaster and Bassetlaw Palliative Care Formulary (2014) and the Doncaster and Bassetlaw Pre-emptive Prescribing Guidance (2019) and will dispense these in response to NHS prescriptions presented to them. • Identify minimum stock levels that the Provider must stock and maintain. The Provider will identify where supply constraint prevents compliance with this 	

requirement. The identified stock list and levels are in addition to any demand requirement arising from the Provider's normal within hours dispensing service.

- The Provider should operate to either of the below:
 - Opening hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm minimum
 - Operate 6 or more days a week.
- Maintain appropriate records on PharmOutcomes.
- Maintain Standard Operating Procedures to meet all of these service requirements and reflect changes in practice or guidelines and ensure that pharmacists and staff involved in the provision of the service are appropriately trained and can deliver the service for the full contracted or voluntarily extended opening hours period.

In the event where stock is unavailable providers are required to actively support the patient in obtaining the medication from another supplier or another provider or ask the patients GP to prescribe an alternative medication.

Quality Indicators:

The Provider will review its standard operating procedures and the referral pathways for the service on an annual basis.

The Provider can demonstrate that pharmacists and staff involved in the provision of the service have undertaken CPD relevant to this service.

The Provider will participate in an annual ICB organised audit of service provision as and when requested to do so.

The Provider must inform the ICB of any significant events that will affect service provision.

Payment:

- An initial set up / annual retainer fee of £106.34 will be paid to each Provider.
- Medicines costs at (NHS Dictionary of Medicines and Devices (dm+d) + VAT.)
- A dispensing fee of £3.19 will be paid per prescription. The prescription(s) is/are to be supplied in a 'Just in Case' package (£1.06) accompanied by the appropriate information leaflet(s).*
- Any of the minimum stock medicines, held for the purposes of delivering this service, which then expire will also be reimbursed (NHS Dictionary of Medicines and Devices (dm+d) + VAT.) To claim these costs providers must submit via PharmOutcomes details of the expired medication i.e. expiry date and batch number.

- This service will be operated through PharmOutcomes and payment will be paid monthly.
- A prescription charge should be collected unless the patient is exempt in accordance with the NHS charges for Drugs and Appliances Regulations. Any prescription charges collected from patients will be deducted from the sum payable to the Provider.

* 'Just in Case' packages can be obtained by pharmacies from Doncaster Local Pharmacy Committee (LPC).

Data Reporting:

Data for this will be reported monthly through the PharmOutcomes system <https://pharmoutcomes.org/pharmoutcomes/> or in periods where PharmOutcomes is unavailable, via email to: donccg.primarycare@nhs.net

Activity should be submitted within 14 days of month end for activity undertaken in the month. A three month grace period is allowed for data submission, at which point the activity is frozen, in line with the timetable below. Submissions outside of this window will not be considered.

Activity month	First submission	Activity lockdown
Apr-22	14/05/2022	14/07/2022
May-22	14/06/2022	14/08/2022
Jun-22	14/07/2022	14/09/2022
Jul-22	14/08/2022	14/10/2022
Aug-22	14/09/2022	14/11/2022
Sep-22	14/10/2022	14/12/2022
Oct-22	14/11/2022	14/01/2023
Nov-22	14/12/2022	14/02/2023
Dec-22	14/01/2023	14/03/2023
Jan-23	14/02/2023	14/04/2023
Feb-23	14/03/2023	14/05/2023
Mar-23	14/04/2023	14/06/2023
Apr-23	14/05/2023	14/07/2023
May-23	14/06/2023	14/08/2023
Jun-23	14/07/2023	14/09/2023
Jul-23	14/08/2023	14/10/2023
Aug-23	14/09/2023	14/11/2023
Sep-23	14/10/2023	14/12/2023
Oct-23	14/11/2023	14/01/2024
Nov-23	14/12/2023	14/02/2024
Dec-23	14/01/2024	14/03/2024
Jan-24	14/02/2024	14/04/2024

Feb-24	14/03/2024	14/05/2024
Mar-24	14/04/2024	14/06/2024

Quality Review Requirements:

As part of ongoing quality assurance and service development processes NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board uphold the right to contact pharmacies in relation to conducting quality reviews on the information provided.

The purpose of the audits will be to:

- Provide assurance of the evidence of Clinical competencies
- Triangulate finance with activity submissions
- Gain a better understanding of trends across Doncaster
- Garner and share best practice across Doncaster GP practices
- Discuss notable deviation from Doncaster average activity based upon data analysis from NHS South Yorkshire ICB's Performance and Intelligence Team
- Discuss notable lack of submissions / activity compared with previous months/years

Appendix A - Palliative Care Drugs minimum stock level

DRUG	PACK SIZE	MINIMUM QUANTITY
Alfentanil 500mcg injection	1x10	1x10
Cyclizine 50mg injection	1x5	1x5
Morphine 10mg injection	1x5	2x5
Morphine 30mg injection	1x5	2x5
Haloperidol 5mg injection	1x5	1x5
Hyoscine butylbromide 20mg/1ml Injection (bowel colic and respiratory secretions)	1x10	1x10
Levomepromazine 25mg/ml Injection	1x10	1x10
Midazolam 10mg/2ml Injection	1x10	1x10
Oxycodone 10mg/1l Injection	1x10	1x10