

From Pharmacy Lead, SPPG
Kathryn Turner



By email to:
All Community Pharmacy Contractors
(to be shared with all community pharmacists
and locums)

Strategic Planning and Performance
Group
2 Franklin Street
BELFAST
BT2 8DQ

Tel: 028 9536 3683
Email: kathryn.turner@hscni.net

10th October 2022

Dear Colleague

PHARMACY FIRST SERVICE: EMERGENCY HORMONAL CONTRACEPTION (EHC)- IMPORTANT UPDATE

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with an update on the Pharmacy First Service for EHC. Since its launch in the summer the service is now being offered from 391 pharmacies across NI. An updated providers list is available on the [BSO](#) website and the Primary Care Intranet ([PCI](#)). If your pharmacy has not yet signed up to provide the service and would like to do so, please send a signed [contract](#) to your local integrated care office.

Service activity

There has been a very positive start to the service with over 1,000 women and young people, to date, having benefited from the service. A summary of the patient demographics and the type of EHC provided is detailed in the table below.

Patient demographics	
Age	Number
13	1
15	2
16	4
>16	1,014
Total	1,021

Medicine supplied	
EHC	
Ulipristal acetate (UPA)	917
Levonorgestrel (LNG)	99
Bridging contraception (POP)	
Desogestrel only	7
Desogestrel + EHC	80

Feedback from service users

It is important that we understand the experiences of the women and young people who have used the service and use their feedback to help inform service improvement. An

on-line survey for service users has been developed and is available on Citizen Space from now until the end of January 2023. A flyer with a QR code to the survey is provided in Appendix 1.

Please ask service users to scan the QR code at the end of their EHC consultation and complete the confidential survey.

Service promotion

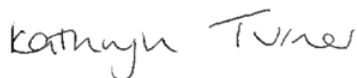
Pharmacies are asked to use the Instagram and Twitter promotional materials available on the [PCI](#) and [BSO](#) websites to promote the service on their social media platforms.

Other important reminders

- Fully completed monthly claim forms should be emailed to local integrated care offices for processing and payment.
- Pharmacy Vouchers and IP prescriptions should be sent to BSO for reimbursement of the medicines supplied.
- Further supplies of printed Know Your Options (KYO) booklets are available from local integrated care offices. Please place an order by email, giving an idea of the quantity required.
- Please refer to the FAQs (Appendix 2) for further service information and clarification.

Thank you again for providing this important service. If you have any queries please contact your local pharmacy adviser.

Yours sincerely,



Kathryn Turner
Pharmacy Lead
Strategic Planning and Performance Group

<i>Contact Details for Local Integrated Care Offices:</i>				
Belfast	South Eastern	Southern	Northern	Western
12-22 Linenhall Street Belfast BT2 8BS	12-22 Linenhall Street Belfast BT2 8BS	Tower Hill Armagh. BT61 9DR	County Hall 182 Galgorm Road Ballymena BT42 1QB	Gransha Park House 15 Gransha Park Clooney Road Londonderry BT47 6FN
Tel: 028 9536 3926	Tel: 028 9536 3926	Tel: 028 9536 2104	Tel: 028 9536 2812	Tel: 028 9536 1082
pharmacyservicesbelfast@hscni.net	pharmacyservicesse@hscni.net	pharmacyservicessouth@hscni.net	pharmacyservicesnorth@hscni.net	pharmacyserviceswest@hscni.net

Appendix 1 – Service flyer with QR code to the service user on-line survey

Appendix 2 – FAQs