

**COMMUNITY PHARMACY SERVICE:  
Over the Counter (OTC) Codeine Brief  
Intervention & Referral Pilot Service**

**CONTRACT**

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**Period of contract**

The service is time limited and will initially operate during the period 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 to 13<sup>th</sup> September 2026. **The service is dependent on available funding. Therefore, the service may be paused or withdrawn if funding is no longer available.** If an extension is agreed, the contract may continue to apply for the extended period, subject to available funding.

This contract may be terminated by either the purchaser (DoH Strategic Planning & Performance Group (SPPG)) or provider (Community Pharmacy Contractor) by giving notice of one week.

**Please note:**

Contractors must ensure that the **Over the Counter (OTC) Codeine Brief Intervention & Referral Pilot Service** is provided in accordance with the Service Specification and operated in accordance with all relevant Acts of Parliament, statutory regulations or other laws. Contractors are expected to comply with guidance that has been formulated in consultation with Community Pharmacy Northern Ireland (CPNI).

**Indemnities**

The provider hereby agrees to indemnify the purchaser against any claims for damages for loss, damage, injury (including death), plus all associated costs arising out of the acts or omissions of the provider, his servants or agents.

## Remuneration

Remuneration for the Over the Counter (OTC) Codeine Brief Intervention & Referral Pilot is provided by the Public Health Agency.

The payment for service delivery consists of the following components:

- A one-off set up fee of £200 per Pharmacy Contractor
- A fee of £20 per completed Brief intervention and Risk Assessment form
- A fee of £10 per completed referral to the NHSCT Community Addiction Service

The Risk Assessment forms will be used for remuneration purposes and should be submitted via [MS Forms](#) in a timely manner to ensure payment. Any Risk Assessment forms not submitted via MS Forms will not receive payment. It is imperative that all Risk Assessment forms are submitted on MS Forms by 5<sup>th</sup> of each month to allow for BSO to process claims that month.

Any queries in relation to payments should be directed to [substanceuse@hscni.net](mailto:substanceuse@hscni.net) using the email subject title "OTC Codeine pilot payment query."

## Service Monitoring

- SPPG and PHA will be monitoring compliance with the requirements of this contract.
- The Pharmacy Contractor is required to co-operate on a timely basis in respect of any review or investigation being undertaken by SPPG/BSO regarding the service.
- In the event where SPPG cannot assure claims relating to the provision of the service recovery of the payment will be sought.

## Premise and Training Requirements

The Pharmacy Contractor must ensure that both the location from which the service will be provided and all individuals providing the service meet the requirements outlined in the Service Specification.

**The Pharmacy Contractor/Responsible Pharmacist is responsible for ensuring that the service is delivered in line with the Service Specification by suitably trained and competent staff.**

**Completion of the Agreement:**

Completion of the Microsoft form comprises the agreement between the Strategic Performance and Planning Group (purchaser) and the Pharmacy Contractor (provider). The pharmacy agrees to participate in the above service and provide the service in line with the Service Specification and guidance. Details of participation in this pilot service will be shared with CPNI.

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