

# **PHARMACY CONTRACEPTION SERVICE UPDATE**



**ADEYINKA JOLAOSO**  
**Service Development Manager**  
**CPK**

# Background & policy

## Objectives:

- Model to initiate provision of OC, and to continue the provision of OC supplies initiated in primary care
- Establish an integrated pathway that provides greater choice and access

## Aims:

- Provide greater choice of access to contraception services
- Provide extra capacity in primary care and sexual health clinics (or equivalent) to support more complex assessments



# Service description

- Advanced service – expanded from 1st December 2023
- Involves **initiation, review and repeat supply of oral contraception**
- Pharmacies **need to provide both elements of the service**
- Supplies via PGD
- Currently consultation can only be provided by pharmacists
- Suitably trained and competent pharmacy staff can provide blood pressure and BMI measurement, where appropriate
- Remote provision where clinically appropriated and agreed between pharmacist and individual



# Pre-commencement activity

- Sign up via NHSBSA's MYS portal
- Recommend owners identify the hours and/or days of provision
- Update **NHS Profile Manager**
- Review and document local safeguarding teams contact details
- Confirm local process for referral for LARC



# Eligibility

## Inclusion criteria

- Seeking to be initiated; or
- Seeking a further supply of their ongoing OC:
  - Combined oral contraceptive (COC) – age from menarche up to and including 49 years of age
  - Progestogen only pill (POP) – age from menarche up to and including 54 years



# Eligibility

## Exclusion criteria

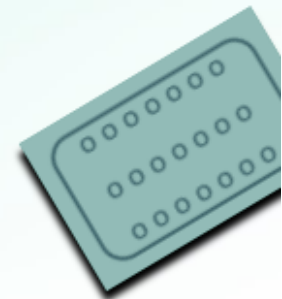
- Considered clinically unsuitable
- Excluded according to the PGD protocols, including, but not limited to:
  - Individuals under 16 years of age and assessed as not competent using Fraser Guidelines
  - Individuals 16 years of age and over and assessed as lacking capacity to consent
- Additional inclusion and exclusion criteria are listed in the PGDs



# Providing the service

## Outcomes

- **Criteria met – Supply can be made**
  - ✓ FSRH UK Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use (UKMEC) calculator available to support clinical decision on choice
  - ✓ Local ICB formularies/restrictions should be referred to
  - ✓ Quantity
    - Initiation – quantity **should not exceed 3 months**
    - Ongoing supplies of **up to 12 months** duration
  - ✓ Supply in labelled original packs
  - ✓ Record any advice or signposting



# Funding

- **£18 payment** per consultation
- Fee claimable irrespective of the outcome of the consultation
- Reimbursement of OC supplied in accordance with the Drug Tariff Determination + an allowance at the applicable VAT rate
- No prescription charges or patient declarations
- **Pharmacy set up costs of £900** per premises in instalments:
  - **£400 payment on signing up** to deliver the service via the NHSBSA MYS portal
  - **£250 payment after claiming the first 5 consultations**
  - **£250 payment after claiming a further 5 consultations** (i.e., 10 consultations completed)
- Where commissioned to provide a related service, cannot claim twice for same activity



# Claiming payment

- Claim data submitted from PCS IT systems, via API, to the NHSBSA MYS portal
- Pharmacy owner still need to verify claim
- Claims should be submitted monthly and no later than three months from claim period for the chargeable activity provided

# KEY TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- Use online resources to help support your patient in making informed decision (CPD).
- Collaborative working with your local GP.
- Understanding your local formulary and how to access them.