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**Newsletter**

**20th June 2025**

**Week 26**

This newsletter contains important information for Pharmacy Owners and Staffs in Kent & Medway



- [Independent Prescribing Funding](#)
- [NHS Discharge Medicines Service](#)
- [Access to Tirzepatide \(Mounjaro\) in Primary Care](#)

- [Data Security and Protection Toolkit](#)

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### **Independent Prescribing Funding**

Applications for NHS England-funded independent prescribing courses are open.

Courses are available up to March 2026, with several universities offering multiple dates for cohort intakes. Please check with the universities of your choice to confirm the start date.

Pharmacists who meet the eligibility criteria will be able to apply for independent prescribing courses at a variety of universities across England:

1. Community pharmacists (including locum pharmacists)

Eligible pharmacists may apply only to those universities as listed on the [here](#). They will need to demonstrate (as a minimum):

- The support of an identified designated prescribing practitioner (DPP).

- An appropriate practice-based learning environment in a prescribing setting that can offer appropriate clinical support.
- Evidence that you meet the course provider eligibility criteria (applicants will be subject to their chosen university's enrolment processes).
- Commitment to use the skill within your area of competence and expertise, for the delivery of NHS clinical services as they emerge.

Independent Prescribing training is available to pharmacists who meet the eligibility criteria. Tuition fees are fully funded by NHS England. Pharmacists that are successful in applying to one of the approved universities will be allocated a fully funded place directly by the university. They do not need to apply to NHS England for funding separately.

**For any further enquiries, please contact [england.pharmacyteam@nhs.net](mailto:england.pharmacyteam@nhs.net)**

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### **Shortened Manual Claim Journey for MYS NHS Discharge Medicines Service (NHS DMS)**

Following feedback from Community Pharmacy England, NHS England and the NHS Business Authority (NHSBSA) will be introducing a significantly streamlined process for making claims for NHS DMS via the Manage Your Service (MYS) portal. This new shortened MYS claims journey for NHS DMS is designed to be more user-friendly and efficient, reducing the time and effort required for community pharmacy teams to make and submit their claims.

The new shortened MYS journey will go live on **6 July 2025**. As a result, the old journey will no longer accept claims from **23:59 on 5 July 2025**.

The new MYS process will allow contractors to make and submit claims for the

three stages of NHS DMS. Please note contractors can still do all three stages of the service or a combination of stages 1, 2 or 3 depending on the needs of the patient; contractors should only submit claims for payment once all the stages they are able to do are completed.

### **What action should contractors take?**

#### **Claims up to and including 30 June 2025**

All DMS activity up until 30 June 2025 and within the 3 months claim period that has been completed should be claimed and submitted using the NHSBSA's existing NHS DMS journey via the MYS portal. The current journey will be retired at 23:59 on 5 July 2025.

Any NHS DMS data of activity started on or before 30 June 2025 **but not completed** should be entered into the new shortened MYS journey from 6 July 2025.

#### **Claims from 1 July 2025**

Contractors should use the new shortened MYS journey to claim for any activity for the service that will be completed from the 1 July 2025. The new MYS journey will be available from 6 July 2025.



#### **Access to tirzepatide (Mounjaro) through primary care**

As you will be aware, NHS England is making tirzepatide (Mounjaro) available in a phased approach over the next few years. NICE guidelines say that in order to gain access to tirzepatide (Mounjaro) on the NHS, patients **must** also be referred on to a diet and exercise support programme.

Although it has been announced that it will become available in primary care settings from Monday, 23 June (for a specific patient cohort) arrangements are being made to mobilise a provider of the necessary Behavioural Support for Obesity Prescribing (BSOP) that is specified in the NICE guidelines.

**Until this service is in place in Kent and Medway, it is not possible to prescribe tirzepatide (Mounjaro) in primary care.**

Please also note there is no provider of tirzepatide (Mounjaro) available under right to choose.

We are aware that this situation may be difficult for practices to explain to patients. If you are approached, NHS England has produced answers to some [frequently asked questions](#) for patients.

We will provide further information when it is available.



#### **Data Security and Protection Toolkit – Deadline 30th June 2025**

The deadline for community pharmacy contractors to complete the Data Security and Protection Toolkit 2025 is 30th June 2025. Click this link for more information [Data Security and Protection Toolkit - Deadline 30th June 2025 - Community Pharmacy England](#)

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- [NHSE Primary Care Bulletin](#)
- [Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board](#)

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