Community Pharmacy Locally Commissioned Service (PLCS N° 12)

Sexual Health and Contraceptive Service

1. Service outline

This service is intended to increase the number of pharmacists who can provide a knowledgeable, friendly and consistent sexual health service to young people (aged 25 years or younger).

1.1 To supply Emergency Hormonal Contraceptive (EHC) via Patient Group Directions (PGDs) to young women who have had unprotected sex or failed contraception.

1.2 To offer chlamydia/gonorrhoea self-testing services as part of the EHC consultation.

1.3 To provide chlamydia/gonorrhoea self-testing to young men.

1.4 When necessary, to treat patients with confirmed chlamydia infection using antibiotics supplied via a PGD (Appendix 1 to be confirmed at a later date)

1.5 To provide free condom packs to young people who present with a C-card.

1.6 To provide information and advice to young people on sexual health issues.

1.7 To signpost young people to other services for contraception, specialist advice and/or testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

2. Objectives

2.1 To improve the sexual health of young people in Brighton and Hove through access to emergency contraception, sexual health advice, condoms, chlamydia/gonorrhoea self-testing and chlamydia treatment (Appendix 1 to be added at a later date) in community pharmacy.

2.2 To increase young people’s knowledge of the risks of acquiring sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and how to avoid them.

2.3 To signpost young people who may be at risk of STIs to the integrated sexual health and contraception (SHAC) service or sexual health service in GP surgeries.

2.4 To strengthen the local network of contraceptive and sexual health services and to help ensure easy and swift access to advice for all young people who seek assistance.

2.5 To provide a young people friendly service incorporating the principles of ‘You’re Welcome’ criteria.
3. Service Description

3.1 Service model and approach

3.1.1 Pharmacies will offer a user-friendly, non-judgmental, client-centred and confidential service which links into existing networks for contraception and sexual health services for rapid referral.

3.1.2 Provision of EHC, chlamydia/gonorrhoea self-testing and chlamydia treatment, condom distribution following EHC or with a C-card. In addition information and advice should be offered in relation to sexual health and contraception issues.

3.1.3 Young people under the age of 16 should be assessed under the Fraser guidelines, records made as defined in the PGDs and a referral made to SHAC provided the young person gives informed consent.

3.1.4 Complex cases should be referred to SHAC for follow-up.

3.2 Emergency Hormonal Contraception

3.2.1 All eligible women presenting between 0 and 120 hours of unprotected sexual intercourse (UPSI) or within 5 days of expected ovulation should be offered referral into a GP surgery based service or SHAC for insertion of a copper bearing intrauterine device (Cu-IUD).

3.2.2 For women accepting the referral, levonorgestrel (LGN) or ulipristal (UPA) acetate will still be provided as per the locally agreed patient group directions (PGDs).

3.2.3 Pharmacists will supply levonorgestrel or ulipristal acetate emergency hormonal contraception (EHC) free of charge, when appropriate, to clients in line with the requirements of the PGD. (The age range specified in the PGD is women aged 25 or younger).

3.2.4 Except in exceptional circumstances, the women should take the dose of levonorgestrel or ulipristal acetate at the consultation (UPA and LGN are best taken with or after food to avoid nausea and vomiting).

3.2.5 Women excluded under the PGD criteria will be signposted to another local service that will be able to assist them as soon as possible, e.g. GP, Locally Commissioned Service (LCS) for young people’s sexual health or the SHAC service, or will be invited to purchase the pharmacy medicine product if the exclusion from supply under via the PGD is only due to an administrative matter, e.g. age range determined by the commissioner.
3.3 *Chlamydia/Gonorrhoea testing and treatment*

3.3.1 The contractor should offer a (self-testing) chlamydia/gonorrhoea test to all young people (aged 25 or younger) as part of the provision of EHC as well as to young people requesting condoms or a pregnancy test.

3.3.2 The contractor on presentation of a young person with a positive chlamydia test result should provide treatment in accordance with the relevant PGD (*Appendix 1 to be confirmed at a later date*) provide appropriate advice and record the supply.

3.4 *Condom distribution*

3.4.1 The pharmacy team must supply a condom pack to young women as part of the provision of EHC as well as to young people presenting with a C-card. Condoms can also be provided to young people requesting a chlamydia/gonorrhoea test or receiving treatment for chlamydia.

3.5 *Sexual health information and advice*

3.5.1 The pharmacy will ensure that young people accessing the service are provided with the latest, up to date information and advice on avoiding STIs and unintended pregnancy. This will include the adoption of safer sex practices and the correct and consistent use of condoms. Information will also be provided on the range of contraceptive methods that are available, particularly long acting reversible (LARC) methods, and signposting to the services that provide them as well as for testing and treatment for STIs.

4. **Terms and Conditions**

*For the Pharmacy*

4.1 The pharmacy contractor will ensure that the service is available for at least 90% of the pharmacy opening hours.

4.2 Materials promoting the availability of the service will be displayed within the pharmacy.

4.3 The pharmacy contractor will ensure that pharmacists and counter staff involved in the provision of the service have relevant up to date knowledge, maintain patient confidentiality, offer a user-friendly and non-judgemental service and are appropriately trained in the operation of the service, including sensitive, client centred communication skills.

4.4 The pharmacy contractor will ensure that pharmacists and other staff are aware of and operate within the terms of the LCS and PGDs.
4.5 The pharmacy contractor will ensure that the part of the pharmacy used for provision of the service provides a sufficient level of privacy (i.e. at the level required for the provision of the Medicines Use Review service) and safety.

4.6 The pharmacist will assess the need and suitability of a client to receive EHC, in line with the PGDs, and when appropriate, a supply will be made. If a supply of EHC is not appropriate, advice and referral to another source of assistance will be provided. Clients who have exceeded the time limit for EHC will be informed about the possibility of the use of a CU-IUD and should be referred to a local service as soon as possible. Appropriate records should be made as detailed in the PGD.

4.7 The service will be provided in compliance with Fraser guidance and Department of Health guidance on confidential sexual health advice and treatment for young people aged 16 years or under.

4.8 Pharmacists are required to act according to local Child Protection or Safeguarding procedures when advising young people on sexual health matters. (Contact information was provided as part of the EHC handbook and is also available from the Brighton and Hove City Council website http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/)

4.9 Verbal and written advice on the avoidance of STIs and the use of regular contraceptive methods, including advice on the use of condoms, should be provided to the client.

4.10 The pharmacy must maintain appropriate records to ensure effective ongoing service delivery and audit. Records will be confidential and should be stored securely for a length of time in line with local NHS record retention policies, as defined in the PGDs.

4.11 The pharmacy manages the stock of the various products required to deliver this service and trained staff will hand out such products as and when required. For free condoms, under the c-card scheme, young people should provide their registration card and staff should mark it accordingly to confirm a supply has been made.

4.12 Pharmacists may need to share relevant information with other health care professionals and agencies, in line with locally determined confidentiality and information sharing arrangements, including, where appropriate, the need to obtain permission of the client to share the information.

4.13 The pharmacy will participate in any audits of the service as required by the commissioners.

4.14 The pharmacy will review its Standard Operating Procedures and the referral pathways for the service on an annual basis.
4.15 Pharmacists must be registered with the General Pharmaceutical Council or Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland and have completed a Declaration of Competence for the EHC service in Brighton and Hove (Appendix 2). The pharmacist authorisation form (Page 4) must be sent to the service commissioner before starting to deliver the service.

4.16 Pharmacists must be employed within a pharmacy contracted to supply EHC as a LCS

4.17 Pharmacists must have up-to-date knowledge relating to the clinical condition covered by the PGDs, the medicine and its use for the indications specified in the PGDs. Pharmacists must also participate in Continuing Professional Development (CPD) as defined by the General Pharmaceutical Council.

For Brighton & Hove City Council

4.18 BHCC will provide a data capture system and framework for the recording of relevant service information for the purposes of audit and claiming payment.

4.19 BHCC will ensure that pharmacies have up to date details of primary care and specialist sexual health and contraception services to support the signposting and referral of service users who require it. BHCC will also ensure that pharmacists have access to a directory of services, including locations and opening times via the sexual health service website: www.brightonsexualhealth.com

4.20 The integrated sexual health and contraception (SHAC) service will provide chlamydia test kits and condoms/lube and will be available to support pharmacists in the establishment and delivery of the chlamydia screening programme and c-card provision.

4.21 BHCC will be responsible for the promotion of the service locally, including the development of publicity materials that pharmacies can use to promote the service.

4.22 SHAC will be responsible for the provision of health promotion materials, including leaflets on EHC, long-term contraception and STIs to pharmacies.

4.23 SHAC will provide a referral pathway for clients requiring treatment for chlamydia after notification of a positive test result.
Termination and change requirements

Termination can be made earlier by either party at 3 months’ written notice or on failure to provide activity data as stated in section 4.18

5 Payments for the service

5.1 The training, accreditation requirements and data collection are reflected in the fee structure.

5.2 Supply of EHC under a PGD £15.00

5.3 Cost of LGN £ 6.20
   Cost of UPA £16.90

5.5 Supply of Azithromycin or Doxycycline under a PGD £ tbc
   Cost of Azithromycin £ tbc
   Cost of Doxycycline £ tbc

5.6 Payment will be made quarterly on receipt of appropriate documentation and completion of data capture system templates submitted to BHC
Appendix 1

Chlamydia Treatment Pathway TBC
Appendix 2

Declaration of Competence for EHC for Brighton and Hove

Locally Commissioned Emergency Hormonal Contraception Service in Community Pharmacy

1. The Declaration of Competence (DoC) system has been given national support after a series of pilots in England. The purpose of the DoC is to review pharmacists’ and pharmacy technicians’ competence to deliver a locally commissioned service and to assure commissioners, they have the appropriate knowledge, skills and behaviours to deliver a high-quality, consistent service. The new criteria detailed below will now replace the previous primary care trust (PCT) accreditation system. The DoC has been endorsed by NHS England, Health Education England and Public Health England. The Declaration of Competence guidance for the community pharmacy emergency hormonal contraceptive (EHC) services is available to download from the CPPE website using the link below:

https://www.cppe.ac.uk/services/declaration-of-competence

2. Each locally commissioned service has a framework that sets out the core professional competences for that service. The framework allows self-assessment of competence and outlines the recommended learning to enable self-declaration.

3. The training requirements to meet the competencies in the DoC and enable self-certification, to deliver the EHC locally commissioned service in Brighton and Hove are listed below. Pharmacists may already be familiar with the learning, have sufficient knowledge or have recently passed the assessments to be able to self-declare that they are competent, without doing any further learning. The timings suggested for the learning will vary depending on existing knowledge.

Learning and assessments

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults knowledge (1 hour)
- Complete the CPPE Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults e-learning.
- Pass the safeguarding e-assessment.

Consultation skills for pharmacy practice (3 hours)
- Complete the CPPE Consultation Skills e-learning or distance learning.
- Pass the consultation skills e-assessment.

Emergency hormonal contraception knowledge (3 hours)
- Complete the CPPE emergency hormonal contraception e-learning.
- Pass the emergency contraception e-assessment.
- Read section 7.3 Contraceptives in a current BNF encompassing missed pill advice and information on long-term reversible contraceptives (LARC). The section contents are listed below:
7.3.1 Combined hormonal contraceptives
7.3.2 Progestogen-only contraceptives
7.3.3 Spermicidal contraceptives
7.3.4 Contraceptive devices
7.3.5 Emergency contraception

Chlamydia and Gonorrhea Screening. (1 hour)
- Read the document National Chlamydia Screening Programme (NCSP): An Overview available NCSP website using the following link.
  www.chlamydiascreening.nhs.uk/ps/overview.asp

- Read the documents Chlamydia: Looking after your sexual health and Gonorrhea: Looking after your sexual health available to download as a PDF from the Family Planning Association (FPA) website using the following links.
  www.fpa.org.uk/sexually-transmitted-infections-stis-help/chlamydia

Please note section 5.1 of the BNF provides a Summary of antibacterial therapy Table 1. The section titled Genital system details the antibiotics regimes for the treatment of chlamydial infection and other sexually transmitted infections.

4. Brighton and Hove City Council free training courses are available for pharmacists who may wish to undertake further continuing professional development (CPD). Details are available from the BHCC website using the following link
  https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/health/health-and-wellbeing/health-promotion-training
Standard Operating Procedures for Self-Certification

1. Access the declaration of competence guidance from the CPPE website using the link below:
   https://www.cppe.ac.uk/services/declaration-of-competence
2. Download and complete the declaration of competence (DoC) self-assessment tool for EHC.
3. Review the DoC self-assessment tool to identify any learning needs and refer to the training requirements for guidance.
4. Complete any necessary training, ensuring completion of the mandatory CPPE Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults e-learning.
5. Print and sign the declaration of competence and qualifications certificate and add to EHC folder for auditing requirements.
6. Send a copy of the following signed documentation to the service commissioner, Stephen Nicholson, Sexual Health Services Commissioner, Public Health, Kings House, Grand Avenue, BN3 2LS or E mail to Ellie.Katsourides@brighton-hove.gov.uk.
   - Completed Pharmacist Authorisation checklist

The service commissioner will issue a letter/email of authorisation to enable provision of the service on receipt of the completed Pharmacist Authorisation checklist. The authorisation will be valid for three years after such time. If however there have been major changes to the service specification pharmacists will be expected to revisit the declaration of competence and resubmit it. As a guide, the CPPE e-assessments should be passed every three years, or you may choose to attend a course to revise your knowledge, skills and behaviours.
Pharmacist Authorisation checklist

Please read the checklist below, tick the boxes and sign to confirm your competence.

☐ I am a new provider of the service and have completed the training requirements to enable self-certification/ I have been providing the service on an ongoing basis and can demonstrate competencies (delete as appropriate) as stated in the Declaration of Competence guidance for the Emergency Hormonal Contraception service and have provided the evidence requested.

☐ The Safeguarding contact information in the pharmacy where I work is kept up to date with the relevant contact names and telephone numbers.

☐ I have read and understood the service specification for the Emergency Hormonal Contraceptive Locally Commissioned Service as detailed in the EHC service handbook.

☐ I have read, understood and signed the relevant Patient Group Directions for this service and agree to only supply Levonorgestrel 1.5mg and Ulipristal 30mg in accordance with the authorised PGDs at all times.

☐ I have completed a successful DBS check

☐ I have read and understood the Fraser Guidelines and I am able to assess young people under the age of 16 years for Gillick Competence.

☐ I have up to date sign-posting information for referrals to other sexual health services when appropriate.

☐ I have read the ‘You’re Welcome’ criteria for communicating with young people.

☐ I acknowledge that the service will be audited at least annually and will provide all relevant information detailed in the service specification.

☐ I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to update my knowledge and skills on an ongoing basis and to formally renew my Declaration of Competence for this service every 3 years.

Signed …………………………………………… Date …………………

Please print name …………………………………………………
Name and Address of Pharmacy ………………………………………

Email address …………………………………………………

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