

58 Church Street  
Weybridge  
Surrey  
KT13 8DP  
0300 5611 555

[www.surreyheartlandsccg.nhs.uk](http://www.surreyheartlandsccg.nhs.uk)

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**To:** all community pharmacies / dispensing practices who supply dressings ordered via Online Non-prescription Ordering Service (ONPOS) to designated bases within Surrey Heartlands CCG

**Re: Surrey Heartlands CCG review of systems and process with regards to the supply of dressings**

Dear Colleagues

I am writing to inform you that Surrey Heartlands CCG have started a review of the systems in place with regards to the supply of dressings. Surrey Heartlands CCG currently utilises an on-line ordering system (ONPOS) for wound management products and dressings for use in all primary care settings for patients receiving nursing care (tissue viability nurses, community nurses, practice nurses and nursing homes). FP10 prescribing of dressings should only be used for a small number of patients (e.g. if a dressing is unavailable on ONPOS and is recommended by a specialist nurse or if a patient has chronic wounds and is not receiving nursing care). FP10 prescribing is not specifically included as part of this review. As a community pharmacy / dispensing practice supplier of orders submitted via ONPOS I am writing to inform you that the Surrey Heartlands executive team have agreed for this review to be undertaken with a requested completion date prior to the end of the calendar year.

The opportunity to transform the procurement and management of appliances, devices and products not classed as medicines has been identified across Surrey Heartlands CCG and strongly endorsed by the executive team. The agreed first element of this project is in relation to wound management and work has already begun with Healthcare Partners Ltd (HPL), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Royal Surrey NHS Foundation Trust who specialise in procurement. The expected benefits to be realised from this project include:

- Centralisation of a complex and person dependent model
- Resilience of a dedicated team
- Long term cost savings to the NHS
- One point of access for problem solving

It is anticipated that this will lead to a different supply route for non-FP10 prescribed dressings from current arrangements. As such I would like to thank you for your help and involvement in the supply of these dressings over the years.

I will keep you informed as the project progresses. We are planning on holding a specific engagement event to provide further details and take feedback from community pharmacies / dispensing practices, details will follow shortly. A copy of this letter has been sent to the Surrey Local Pharmaceutical Committee and the Local Medical Committee. Please do contact me with any thoughts you have at this initial stage.

Kind regards

Linda Honey  
Interim Director of Pharmacy, Surrey Heartlands  
[linda.honey1@nhs.net](mailto:linda.honey1@nhs.net)