

28/09/2018

Dear NUMSAS provider,

Thank you for your involvement with the NHS Urgent Medicine Supply Advanced Service (NUMSAS). This month's update focuses on the service extension and changes that have been made as part of this extension.

The NHS Urgent Medicine Supply Advanced Service (NUMSAS), funded by the NHS England Pharmacy Integration Fund, has been extended until to 31st March 2019. The Directions reflecting this extension will be included in the Drug Tariff from October 2018¹.

The Service Specification² published on the NHS England website has been updated to reflect the extension. A notable change relates to the mandatory requirement to check and use the patient's Summary Care Record unless there is a good reason not to. Relevant points in the updated Service Specification related to this change are highlighted below:

3.2 Telephone call between the patient and pharmacist

3.2.4. With the patient's consent, the patient's NHS Summary Care Record (SCR) must be checked by the pharmacist unless there is a good reason not to. This reason should be recorded. Checking the SCR will help to confirm the previous prescription history and whether a prescription for the requested medicine or appliance has recently been issued by the patient's general practice. The pharmacist must also check the SCR for any additional information that may be relevant. Where the requested medicine or appliance has recently been issued by the patient's general practice, the prescription may still be available on the NHS Spine.

3.3 Pharmacy Consultation

3.3.2. If the pharmacist did not check the SCR during the telephone call with the patient, then, with the patient's consent, it must be checked at this stage unless there is a good reason not to. This reason should be recorded. Checking the SCR will help to confirm the previous prescription history and whether a prescription for the requested item has recently been issued by the patient's general practice. The pharmacist must also check the SCR for any additional information that may be relevant. Where the requested item has recently been issued by the patient's general practice, the prescription may still be available on the NHS Spine.

Please note that service provision will continue without any break and it is not necessary to re-register to keep providing the NUMSAS service.

¹ <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/drug-tariff>

² <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/nhs-urgent-medicine-supply-advanced-service-pilot-community-pharmacy-service-specification-november-2016/>

An update to the NUMSAS Toolkit³ for service providers is being planned and further information will be provided once it has been published.

Thank you for your participation in this service, and for the time and effort you have spent helping patients when they need an urgent supply of medication.

Feedback on NUMSAS is welcome at england.pharmacyintegration@nhs.net – please include the name and address of your pharmacy so the appropriate Regional Pharmacy Integration Lead can respond.

Pharmacy Integration Programme
NHS England
england.pharmacyintegration@nhs.net

³ <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/nhs-urgent-medicine-supply-advanced-service-pilot-toolkit-for-pharmacy-staff/>