

FMD: What you need to know & do

Issue 2: Choosing a FMD IT supplier



About the Falsified Medicines Directive (FMD)

7th November 2018

- FMD comes into effect across the UK and the rest of Europe on 9th February 2019.
- Medicines placed on the market from 9th February will feature an Anti-Tampering Device (ATD) and a Unique Identifier (UI). (Manufacturers will have six months from the date of approval of variation to exhaust their 'old' stock and have 'new' stock ready for the market with the ADT and UI.)
- Community pharmacies need to be compliant with the new rules – this means registering with SecurMed UK, checking your IT systems are compliant, and changing SOPs and processes.

**13 weeks
to go!**

Choosing a FMD IT supplier

Pharmacies may need new IT hardware/software to meet the requirements of the Falsified Medicines Directive (FMD). You will need IT that enables you to scan the Unique Identifier – a barcode unique to each medicine package/bottle – and connect to SecurMed UK (the UK's national medicines verification system) to verify that the medicine can be dispensed and then 'decommission' it from the system when you supply it to the patient.

There are two types of FMD IT supplier:

- Standalone options – these are separate from your PMR
- Integrated options – some PMR suppliers are offering FMD solutions integrated with their PMR

There are pros and cons to both, so the best thing is to speak to a range of providers and decide what is best for your pharmacy.

Useful tips & guidance

Don't rush into a decision. Although you need to choose a system before you can register with SecurMed UK, you still have time to explore your options carefully so there is no need to panic.

Avoid signing long-term contracts if possible. Pharmacies do need to comply with FMD by 9th February 2019, regardless of Brexit, but it is less clear whether things will change in future years although it is likely the UK will continue to have some form of medicines verification system.

Use the information & guidance available. The FMD Source website has a [list of suppliers](#). The NPA has published a [comparison of several standalone FMD suppliers](#). The [NPA website](#) features a recorded webinar and information about two standalone options: FMD IT Limited and Tracelink.

FMD Briefing and Q&A Event: Thursday 22nd November, 6.30pm-9.30pm

Join us at the **AJ Bell Stadium**, M30 7EY for this event with **Raj Patel, Chair of the UK FMD Working Group for Community Pharmacy**. <https://psnc.org.uk/greater-manchester-lpc/our-events/fmd-quality-payments-ig-everything-you-need-to-know/> **Send questions for Raj to enquiries@gmlpc.org.uk**.

***Note: This is just a summary. Please visit <https://fmdsource.co.uk> for the full official guidance**