

About the Falsified Medicines Directive (FMD)

19th December 2018

- FMD comes into effect across the UK and the rest of Europe on 9th February 2019. Pharmacies will need to **verify** medicines are legitimate by scanning and checking them against the medicines verification system (**SecurMed UK**) and then **decommission** them (removing them from the system) when they are supplied to the patient.
- FMD aims to prevent the supply of falsified medicines – i.e. medicines that may contain the wrong active ingredients, or the wrong amount of the correct active ingredients.
- 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 ATD 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.

**7 weeks
to go!**

NHS Digital Toolkit to help you comply with FMD

NHS Digital has produced a toolkit to help community pharmacies prepare for, and comply with, the Falsified Medicines Directive (FMD). You can access the draft version of the toolkit here:

<https://developer.nhs.uk/learn/fmd-community-pharmacy-toolkit-2/>

How the toolkit can help you:

1. You can use the toolkit with your team to help you identify the best place and time to verify medicines and decommission them in your pharmacy – i.e. **how to implement FMD most effectively in your pharmacy**. It does this by highlighting all the possible places and times that you could verify medicines are legitimate by scanning and checking them against the national medicines verification system (SecurMed UK), and then decommission them to remove them from the system when they are supplied to the patient. You can then choose the best times/places to do this in your pharmacy.
2. The toolkit helps you **prepare and train staff** so they understand what FMD requires and how your systems/processes will be changing as you verify and decommission medicines at the point of supply to the patient. Working through the toolkit with your team will help you make sure staff understand what FMD requires, and how you are implementing it in your pharmacy. It will also help you make sure staff feel involved and that they ‘buy into’ the process.
3. It includes links to **other useful FMD resources**, including a list of suppliers and the SecurMed UK website where you will need to register your pharmacy.

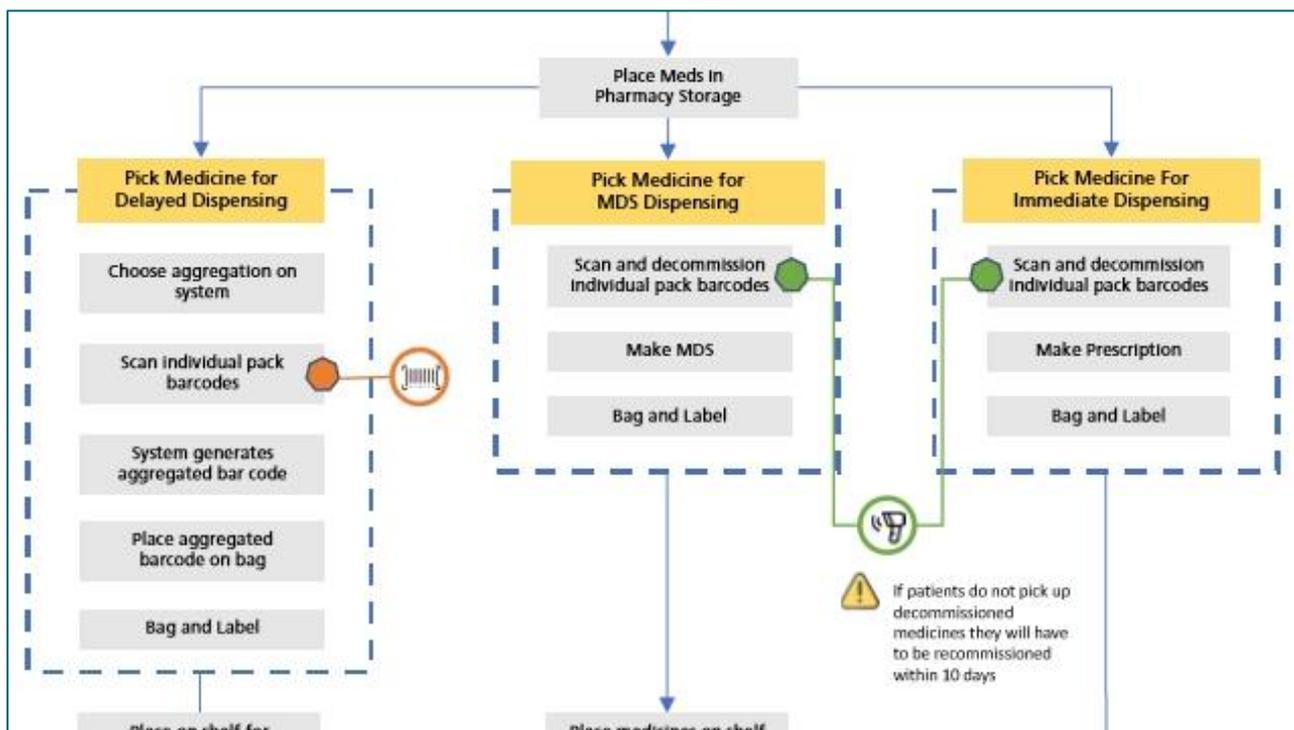
*Note: This is just a summary. Please visit <https://fmdsource.co.uk> for the full official guidance

FMD: What you need to know & do

Issue 4: NHS Digital FMD Toolkits & Process

Visual guide to FMD in community pharmacy:

The toolkit includes this fantastic [visual guide](#) to all the potential timepoints and places that community pharmacies can verify and decommission medicines. It includes options for creating aggregated barcodes that enable you to verify/decommission a whole prescription bag. The picture below shows part of the visual guide.



Join the FMD community and/or be an early adopter

If you have a NHSmail address, you can join NHS Digital's FMD Google+ community – just email FMD@nhs.net to request an invite. You can also register interest in working with NHS Digital as an early adopter by emailing FMD@nhs.net.

[View the slides from our FMD Briefing and Q&A Event](#)

You can now view all the slides from our FMD briefing with Raj Patel – Chair of the UK FMD Working Group for Community Pharmacy – on our website. [Find out more & view the slides.](#)

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