LPC has updated its website to include an extensive section dedicated to EPS. The aim of the website is to:

* inform our pharmacy contractors of resources available for EPS
* To highlight key issues and developments with the deployment of EPS.

Please click on the link below to access resources and guidance on EPS:<http://www.hertslpc.org.uk/information-technology/etp/>

**Electronic Prescription Service**

The Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) is an NHS service. It is an opportunity for GP practices to send prescriptions electronically to a selected pharmacy/dispensing doctor chosen by the patient. There is a significant amount of work involved in setting up the EPS service. Therefore the LPC plays a significant role in coordinating EPS business change meetings. Business change meetings are scheduled, before the EPS go live date, between pharmacies and GP practices to consider current processes and how this will be affected by the change to EPS. Business change meetings are a good opportunity for pharmacists and GPs to raise any issues and to work together to find solutions to these issues at a local level before EPS is live.

**Benefits to patients**

* If you collect your repeat prescriptions from your GP you will not have to visit your GP practice to pick up your paper prescription. Instead, your GP will send it electronically to the place you choose, saving you time.
* You will have more choice about where to get your medicines because they can be collected from a pharmacy near to where you live, work or shop.
* You may not have to wait as long at the pharmacy as there will be time for your repeat prescriptions to be ready before you arrive.

**Benefits to GP practices**

* Time saving system for GP practices as doctors do not have to sign individual prescriptions and prescriptions no longer need to be printed.
* Notes can be added to electronic prescriptions for patients and the pharmacist. GPs are able to communicate with pharmacies in a speedily and accurate way leading to improved safety outcomes for patients.
* GPs are able to recall or amend electronic prescriptions at any time for example if the patient’s medication is changed.



**Outcome of successful EPS stories**

“The EPS service offers a direct communication between the pharmacy and the GP practice. In general I think the EPS system offers a more efficient prescribing and dispensing process thereby creating a simpler patient journey.” Raj, Woods Pharmacy, Hemel Hempstead