

# COMMUNITY PHARMACY

## The basics



Community pharmacists are the most accessible healthcare professionals. Every day they ensure thousands of people receive the medicines and advice they need, but here are some facts you might not have known about pharmacy.

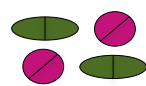
There are



**11,646**

community pharmacies in  
England

**MORE THAN**



**1 billion**

prescription items are  
dispensed in community  
pharmacies each year

**EVERY DAY**



**1.6m people**



visit a community  
pharmacy in England



**89.2%**

of the  
population

can walk to a community  
pharmacy in **20 minutes**



**MORE THAN**

**485,000**

flu vaccinations were  
given in pharmacies in  
the last flu season

Pharmacies delivered  
more than

**3.17 million**

medicines use reviews in  
2014/15 to help improve  
adherence to medicines

# COMMUNITY PHARMACY

## Value in dispensing



Community pharmacies dispense over a billion prescription items annually. They do this safely and efficiently, offering accessibility for patients and best value for the NHS. Community pharmacy medicines purchasing saves billions of pounds.

### Since 2005

effective medicines purchasing helped save the NHS

**£10bn** 

UK pharmaceutical expenditure per capita is only

**78%** of some economically developed countries

In the UK, prescribing cost per item spend has

 **decreased**

UK average prescriptions costs are consistently **lower than** the US, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa

## And pharmacies do a lot more...

THROUGH  
OVER **850**

local services pharmacies improve public health and support communities

**750,000** 

patients starting new medicines are helped to get the most out of them

# THE FUTURE FOR THE NHS

## Extraordinary challenges ahead




The health service is expected to have a shortfall of **£30 billion** by 2020/21

Emergency deficit funding of  **c. £1 billion** may be required this year

The NHS has been tasked with increasing its efficiency by **4%** a year

The community pharmacy network is ideally placed to help.

**84%** of adults visit a pharmacy every year 

– they are the most commonly accessed healthcare locations

Pharmacy is highly efficient, dispensing more than

**1 billion**

prescriptions annually and keeping medicines costs low

**The NHS must use this accessibility and regular patient contact to build services to help it meet the ongoing financial and demand challenges.**

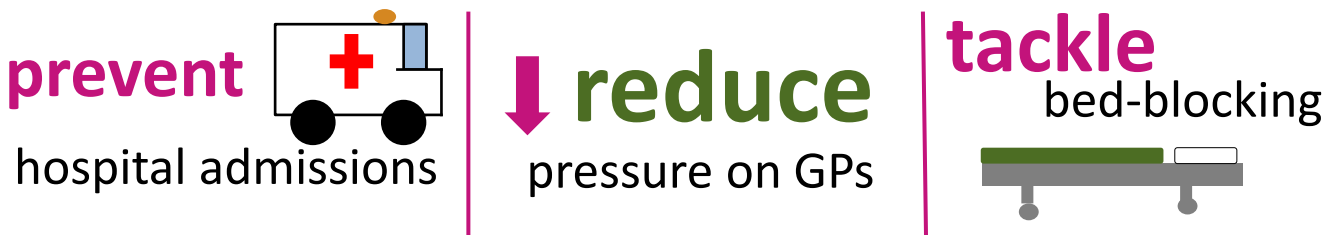
# COMMUNITY PHARMACY

## A plan to protect the NHS



Community pharmacies are well used and trusted by their local communities. Clinical services that support the medicines supply function of these pharmacies can offer more convenient care for patients and better value for the NHS.

### DEVELOPING PHARMACY SERVICES COULD:



### TO ACHIEVE THIS NHS ENGLAND SHOULD COMMISSION COMMUNITY PHARMACIES TO:

1. Offer a care package for patients focused on their medicines, and making routine use of electronic repeat dispensing.
2. Carry out inhaler technique checks and give coaching sessions to patients prescribed inhalers.
3. Record prescription interventions using a standard classification system with data collated centrally.
4. Routinely offer people medicines reviews when they are discharged from hospital.
5. Offer a Pharmacy First service, including giving people advice on minor ailments and making emergency supplies of prescription medicines.
6. Take part in up to six nationally agreed public health campaigns each year.