






	<p><b>Stay Clinically Updated</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep current with national guidelines and on best practices in contraception counselling and management (e.g. <a href="#">NICE</a>, <a href="#">Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health</a>).</li> <li>• Be familiar with eligibility criteria (<a href="#">UKMEC</a>), side effects, and interactions.</li> <li>• Understand bridging methods, emergency contraception options and LARC options.</li> <li>• Women requiring contraception should be given information about and offered a choice of all methods, including long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) methods.</li> <li>• Ensure that pharmacists delivering the service are appropriately trained and qualified.</li> <li>• Suitably trained and competent pharmacy technicians will also be able to provide the service once the service specification has been updated.</li> <li>• The FSRH is advising that individuals use contraception whilst using GLP-1 agonists, with additional advice for those using tirzepatide. The FSRH has also produced a resource for clinicians to share with patients and a patient leaflet. <a href="#">FSRH statement: Glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) agonists and oral contraception (Feb 2025)   FSRH</a></li> <li>• Example of a Combined Oral Contraception Decision Algorithm <a href="#">COC-Decision-Making-Algorithm-V1.2.pdf</a></li> <li>• Drospirenone will be added to enable the supply of this medicine under PGD as part of the PCS. This product will only be able to be supplied under the service once the PGDs have been updated.</li> <li>• Be Familiar with local prescribing formularies and local safeguarding protocols.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Contraception Service Consultation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure a confidential consultation area is used.</li> <li>• Make patients feel comfortable discussing sensitive topics.</li> <li>• Use inclusive, non-judgmental language and explain options clearly so that patients understand all available contraception methods including their effectiveness, side effects, and potential risks.</li> <li>• Offer written information or digital resources to support decision-making.</li> <li>• Tailor the advice and support to the individual's needs and circumstances, including those with complex needs or those who may have limited access to other services</li> <li>• Actively address common misconceptions and myths about contraception to ensure informed decision-making</li> <li>• Explore using remote consultations, including telephone or video links, to increase accessibility for those who prefer or need it.</li> <li>• Maintain appropriate confidentiality, especially with younger clients.</li> <li>• Be comprehensively trained to proactively identify safeguarding concerns and effectively follow local referral pathways.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Document and Follow-Up</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accurately record all consultations and decisions.</li> <li>• Provide clear safety-netting advice.</li> <li>• Where needed, schedule follow-up or refer appropriately.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Streamline Workflow</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrate the service into your daily routine (e.g., booking appointments or walk-ins).</li> <li>• Implement clear standard operating procedures (SOPs) for all aspects of the service, including consultations, referrals, and record-keeping and regularly review.</li> <li>• Use checklists or structured templates for consistency.</li> <li>• Delegate admin tasks where possible.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educate the entire pharmacy team on the service, including how to refer patients and gather relevant information.</li> <li>Where possible utilise a booking system so you can book patients in for next time when they receive their prescription. This helps secure their ongoing engagement and reduces the chance of them forgetting about the service later.</li> <li>Using the Hypertension Case-Finding service, ensure you <b>do not</b> claim for hypertension consultations as per CPE guidance when taking a patient's blood pressure during this service</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Promote the Service</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Display posters or leaflets in-store.</li> <li>Use social media or your pharmacy website to advertise.</li> <li>Utilise and inform local GPs, clinics, support groups that you offer the contraception service to help spread awareness.</li> <li>Communicate the service to existing patients, especially those already accessing other pharmacy services, potentially through SMS messages.</li> <li>Use your PMR drug reports to identify patients who could be eligible for the service and proactively reach out to them with appointment offers.</li> <li>Use stickers for key messages on prescriptions to remind staff to promote the service. Place them on prescription bags, medication packaging, or shelves to highlight services and prompt patients about available consultations.</li> <li>Use bag stuffers / information leaflets when dispensing a prescription for a contraceptive to inform patients about the service and potentially increase the numbers of patients coming to the pharmacy for it.</li> <li>If you have a booking system for the service promote it to patients. A simplified booking will help improve patient attendance and scheduling</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Promote Your Services with Local GPs and Sexual Health Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with your local GP practices and Sexual Health Services to promote services.</li> <li>Share information about available pharmacy services so they can refer patients to you, improving community health outcome</li> <li>Consider identifying a link person in GP surgeries who may be the prescribing lead or practice pharmacist.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Offer a Range of Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stock a variety of contraceptive methods where permitted (e.g., POP, condoms, EHC).</li> <li>Link with other services (e.g., STI testing, smoking cessation, weight management).</li> <li>Identify and signpost to other local services that provide LARC or termination of pregnancy</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Emergency Contraception service available.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the contraception service alongside regular EHC consultations. Linking these services can boost patient satisfaction and increase uptake.</li> <li>From 29<sup>th</sup> October 2025 the contraception service expanded to <b>include Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC)</b>, with a fee of <b>£20</b> per consultation, plus the cost of any EHC provided to the patient.</li> </ul>

## Resources

- [Gillick competence and Fraser guidelines](#)
- [UKMEC guidance](#)
- [NHS service specification](#)
- [Community Pharmacy England resources](#)
- [CPPE Contraception Training Resources](#)

Version Control: December 2025 Update