



Department for People

SERVICE SPECIFICATION FOR

**PROVISION OF CHLAMYDIA TREATMENT SERVICE
IN PHARMACIES
2023-2024**

V4 updated 16.11.2022

SUMMARY OF SERVICE PROVISION IN PHARMACIES

Pharmacies in South Gloucestershire offering this service are required to:

1. Provide doxycycline or azithromycin treatment (as directed by the Unity Chlamydia Screening Office) in accordance with the Patient Group Direction for this service as published at <https://avon.communitypharmacy.org.uk/our-area/south-gloucestershire-council/>
2. Ensure that, where a contact partner attends, without warning, with a patient referred for treatment by the Unity Chlamydia Screening Office that the pharmacist contacts the Unity Chlamydia Screening Office on 0117 342 9299 to establish whether an authorisation to treat can be provided for the contact partner before any treatment is supplied
3. Ensure patients aged 15 and under are assessed as 'Fraser competent' against the Fraser Guidelines
4. Offer free chlamydia screening kits to females aged 24 and under. Chlamydia screening kits can be ordered from csp.avon@uhbw.nhs.uk
5. Provide a condom supply pack to all patients attending for treatment, reminding them of the need to be compliant with their treatment, and the outcome of non-compliance. Condom supply packs can be ordered from PHResources@southglos.gov.uk
6. Ensure that clients who are excluded from treatment under the BNSSG PGD must be referred to the Unity Chlamydia Screening Office, or referred to their GP
7. Ensure that, in all consultations, regardless of whether a supply of chlamydia treatment is made, patients are given; information on all forms of contraception; basic sexual health advice (incl. the importance of using condoms and how to reduce the risk of STIs); information about specialist sexual health services provided by Unity Sexual Health; and information about services offered by GPs
8. Comply with the relevant National Institute for Health and Care Excellence guidance.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This service specification sets out the requirements for the provision of chlamydia treatment within a pharmacy, commissioned by South Gloucestershire Council. The focus of the service is to improve the accessibility and availability of chlamydia treatment, thus contributing to a reduction in the rate of infection amongst 15-24 year olds, and risk of onward transmission
- 1.2 This specification will apply until further notice. The views of customers, carers and providers will be considered in any review of the specification or service evaluation during that time, and their views will be welcomed at any time
- 1.3 Further information can be obtained from the South Gloucestershire Public Health and Wellbeing Division Publichealth-gpsandpharmacies@southglos.gov.uk

2 Service background

- 2.1 Community pharmacies are required to provide opportunistic sexual health advice as part of their essential services. This includes supporting Public Health campaigns, signposting patients to other specialist contraception and sexual health services and support for self-care. The purpose of this service specification is to build on this essential service provision

3 Service priorities

- 3.1 The key priorities for the South Gloucestershire chlamydia treatment service are;
 - a. To reduce rates of sexually transmitted infections amongst young people by improving the availability and accessibility of treatment for asymptomatic chlamydia infection
 - b. To increase diagnosis of chlamydia in females by offering screening kits to all females under 24.
 - c. To increase patients' access to condoms, and to improve their knowledge of the important role that condoms play in reducing the risk of STI transmission
 - d. To contribute to achieving outcomes indicated in 'A Framework for Sexual Health Improvement in England' (Department of Health 2013)

4 Service provision

- 4.1 The pharmacies in South Gloucestershire offering the chlamydia treatment service are required to:
 - a. Provide doxycycline or azithromycin treatment (as directed by the Unity Chlamydia Screening Office), to asymptomatic patients referred, or authorised, for treatment by the Unity Chlamydia Screening Office in accordance with the Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Patient Group Direction for this service. The Office will inform pharmacists directly of patients intending to attend for treatment following a positive test. The Office will check the pharmacist's availability, and provide details

of the patient's name, date of birth, and CSP number. These details should then be verified by the pharmacist when the patient arrives for treatment. Pharmacists must advise patients of the need for partner notification and inform them that this can be undertaken by trained staff at the local Chlamydia screening office

- b. Ensure that, where a contact partner attends, without warning, with a patient referred for treatment by the Unity Chlamydia Screening Office that the pharmacist contacts the Unity Chlamydia Screening Office on 0117 342 9299 to establish whether an authorisation to treat can be provided for the contact partner before any treatment is supplied. The contact partner would still need to meet the Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Patient Group Direction inclusion criteria before treatment could be supplied
- c. Ensure patients aged 15 and under are assessed as 'Fraser competent' against the Fraser Guidelines. A patient deemed not to be competent should be referred to the Unity Chlamydia Screening Office
- d. Ensure screening kits are supplied to **females aged 24 and under**. The pharmacist should ensure all patients understand how to complete the screening kits correctly and what will happen after a test is completed. Chlamydia screening kits can be ordered from csp.avon@uhbw.nhs.uk
- e. Provide a condom supply pack to all patients attending for treatment, reminding them of the need to be compliant with their treatment, and the outcome of non-compliance. More condom supply packs can be ordered from PHResources@southglos.gov.uk
- f. Ensure that clients who are excluded from treatment under the BNSSG PGD must be referred to the Unity Chlamydia Screening Office, or referred to their GP
- g. Ensure that, in all consultations, regardless of whether a supply of chlamydia treatment is made, patients are given; information on all forms of contraception; basic sexual health advice (incl. the importance of using condoms and how to reduce the risk of STIs); information about specialist sexual health services provided by Unity Sexual Health; and information about services offered by GPs
- h. Ensure that details of the patient's consultation are recorded using the appropriate patient consultation record on PharmOutcomes. The patient consultation record has been designed to guide the pharmacist through the safe supply of Azithromycin and Doxycycline

5 Accreditation

- 5.1 The mandatory requirements for the delivery of this service are set out within the PGD at <https://avon.communitypharmacy.org.uk/our-area/south-gloucestershire-council/> and on PharmOutcomes.
- 5.2 In order to provide the chlamydia treatment service pharmacists must enrol via PharmOutcomes and complete the Declaration of Competence criteria as listed on PharmOutcomes
- 5.3 Pharmacists can enrol on the service without having completed the Declaration of Competence criteria. From the day of enrolment, they will have 90 days to complete the outstanding requirements. If the outstanding requirements are not completed within 90

days, the pharmacist will be unable to provide the service specified, or paid, until such a time as these outstanding requirements are met

6 Review and audit

- 6.1 The service specified in this document will be subject to an annual clinical governance audit and ongoing service uptake monitoring through an analysis of data available to the Commissioner via PharmOutcomes and including discussion with relevant pharmacy staff
- 6.2 Any concerns will be raised with the pharmacy in a timely way by South Gloucestershire Public Health and Wellbeing Division
- 6.3 The pharmacy will have responsibility for the monitoring of their service and staff and maintaining sufficient records for this purpose.

7 Payment

- 7.1 A payment of £10 will be made for each chlamydia treatment consultation undertaken, regardless of whether the patient was eligible for the supply of Azithromycin or Doxycycline under the BNSSG PGD
- 7.2 The cost of the chlamydia treatment supplied will be reimbursed at drug tariff price