

Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) - a new way to get your medicines and appliances

What does this mean for you?

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.

The Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) is an NHS service. It gives you the chance to change how your GP sends your prescription to the place you choose to get your medicines or appliances from.

You will have more choice about where to get your medicines from 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.

Is this service right for you?

Yes, if you have a stable condition and you:

- ✓ don't want to go to your GP practice every time to collect your repeat prescription.
- ✓ collect your medicines from the same place most of the time or use a prescription collection service now.

It may not be if you:

- ✗ don't get prescriptions very often.
- ✗ pick up your medicines from different places.

How can you use EPS?

You need to choose a place for your GP practice to electronically send your prescription to.

This is called nomination. You can choose:

- ✓ a pharmacy.
- ✓ a dispensing appliance contractor (if you use one).

Ask any pharmacy or dispensing appliance contractor that offers EPS or your GP practice to add your nomination for you. You don't need a computer to do this.

Your tear off slip to reorder your next prescription will be provided by the pharmacy when you collect your medication – please ask them if they have not provided this for you”
Can I change my nomination or cancel it and get a paper prescription?

Yes you can. If you don't want your prescription to be sent electronically tell your GP.

If you want to change or cancel your nomination speak to any pharmacist or dispensing appliance contractor that offers EPS, or your GP practice. **Please remember that it is important to tell them before your next prescription is due or your prescription may be sent to the wrong place.**

Is EPS reliable, confidential and secure?

Yes. Your electronic prescription will be seen by the same people as always - in GP practices, pharmacies and NHS prescription payment and fraud agencies that see your paper prescription now.

Sometimes dispensers may see that you have nominated another dispenser. For example, if you forget who you have nominated and ask them to check or, if you have nominated more than one dispenser.

Dispensers will also see all the items on your reorder slip if you are on repeat prescriptions.

Items not dispensed

If your nominated pharmacy cannot dispense your medication as it is out of stock, for example, then the pharmacy should offer you a “token” (representing your prescription)

You can then take this to an alternative pharmacy that has the item (s) in stock.

If you are unhappy with your experience of nomination

You can complain to the pharmacy, dispensing appliance contractor (DAC) or GP practice.

You can also complain to NHS England or their local NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) if your complaint cannot be resolved www.england.nhs.uk/contact-us/complaint/

For more information visit

www.hscic.gov.uk/epspatients

your pharmacy or GP practice