

Regional Health and Social Care Information Sharing Agreement

Information Governance Steering Group 8th August 2023

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Policy – Membership of the Regional ISA for Community Pharmacies

The policy for Community Pharmacy organisations joining the Regional Health and Social Care Information Sharing Agreement is as follows:

1. Potential Community Pharmacy members are nominated by one of more existing Regional ISA member organisations;
2. Where potential Community Pharmacy sites are part of a chain (e.g. Boots, Lloyds, Superdrug) it is the legal entity operating the chain that applies for membership of the Regional ISA framework;
3. Community Pharmacy organisations are classified as “Independent sector health care providers”;
4. For Community Pharmacy organisations it is recognised that the legitimate care relationship extends to areas not directly commissioned by the NHS and where a record for the patient exists in the jointly controlled information asset the record can be made accessible to the Community Pharmacy. Examples of these areas include pharmacists:
 - a. Dispensing against private prescriptions
 - b. Dispensing “pharmacy only” items (items that, although they do not require a prescription, can only be dispensed by a pharmacist due to potential complications arising from their use)
 - c. Providing private services (for example, administering private vaccinations);
5. Potential Community Pharmacy member organisations need to be able to assert their compliance with the Regional ISA Qualifying Standard (Schedule B) including being able to evidence compliance with the Regional ISA Acceptable DSPT Status Policy;
6. The Regional ISA Administrator notifies IGSG of any new Community Pharmacy members joining the agreement at the IGSG meeting following the signing of the Regional ISA master agreement by the Community Pharmacy member organisation; and
7. Where Community Pharmacy membership involves a Community Pharmacy member organisation being provided with access to a jointly controlled information asset (for example TVS, Connected Care or EMISweb) the lead controller for the jointly controlled information asset ensures that:
 - a. training for Community Pharmacy staff includes specific information governance requirements regarding the lawful use of the information asset concerned
 - b. auditing arrangements are in place (carried out by the Community Pharmacy or the lead controller) to ensure that any misuse of the jointly controlled information asset can be detected early.

This policy takes effect from 8th August and expires on the 30th April 2028.

Version 2 (final).