

Community Pharmacy across City & Hackney



Introduction

- There are 370 community pharmacies in NEL; 56 across City & Hackney
- Often open longer hours than other local healthcare services, including at weekends
- Highly skilled team led by a pharmacist; supporting easy access to a team of healthcare professionals



- Over 99% of people living in areas of highest deprivation are within 20 minutes walk of a pharmacy
- A trusted and accessible destination for healthcare needs

Essential Services

- These services must be provided by all community pharmacies
- **Repeat dispensing (eRD)** – improve convenience and access to repeat prescriptions
- **Discharge Medicines Service** – reduces readmissions to hospital and improves patient safety at transitions of care



- **Disposal of unwanted medicines** – pharmacies take back patients' unwanted medicines
- **Healthy living pharmacies** – health promotion interventions to improve health and wellbeing
- **Support for self care** – advice provision and, if appropriate, sale of medicines
- **Other Essential services** – dispensing appliances, signposting and public health (promotion of healthy lifestyles).



Nationally Enhanced Services

- Nationally specified service, locally commissioned to meet local population needs
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and Pertussis Vaccination Service – some pharmacies are taking part in this programme



Advanced Services

- Community pharmacies can choose to provide any of these services.
- **Pharmacy First** – provides access to consultations for seven common conditions. GPs and NHS 111 can refer for minor conditions. NHS 111 can also refer for urgent supply of repeat medicines
- **Pharmacy Contraception Service** – provides patients with greater choice and access for their contraception needs. This service also includes access to emergency contraception
- **From autumn 2026, community pharmacists will be able to prescribe for other conditions (TBC but currently looking at bacterial conjunctivitis, allergic conjunctivitis, oral thrush, skin infections, respiratory tract infections) and the contraception service.**

- **Hypertension Case-Finding Service** – aims to identify people aged 40 years or older, or at the discretion of pharmacy staff, people under the age of 40, with high blood pressure and to refer them to general practice to confirm diagnosis and for appropriate management
- **Seasonal Vaccination Service** – supports the administration of COVID-19 and adult flu vaccinations to patients at risk of developing more serious complications from these viruses
- **New Medicine Service** - provides support for people with long-term conditions newly prescribed a medicine to help improve medicines adherence; it is focused on specific patient groups and conditions
- **Other Advanced services** include Smoking Cessation Service and COVID-19 Lateral Flow Device Service



- **Meningococcal B (MenB) Vaccination service (Due to commence on 20th July 2026)** – Targeted to protect young people heading to universities or residential further education settings ahead of the start of term in autumn 2026
- Two doses in total at least 28 days apart

C&H Local Services

- These services are developed and commissioned locally and are designed to meet local health needs
- Due to the local variation in the needs of populations, services commissioned locally by local authorities and the Integrated Care Board may vary

Healthy Start
Vitamins

Needle and
Syringe Service

Naloxone



Supervised
consumption

STI testing

Smoking
Cessation



Future possibilities

- Community pharmacies are ideally placed to play a greater role in local care pathway re-design
- **Support with vaccinations** – we are ideally placed to deliver a range of adult and childhood vaccinations
- **Medication reviews** – Conditions could include respiratory, diabetes, hypertension, polypharmacy in the elderly
- **Independent prescriber (IP) clinics** – Examples of clinics include hypertension, respiratory and diabetes clinics. From 2026 all newly qualified pharmacists will also register as independent prescribers. This will provide increased opportunities to utilise prescribers further and to provide more clinics in community pharmacy.
From October there will be an independent prescribing services focused on the contraception and pharmacy first services
- **Health screening and blood tests** – Example include diabetes, HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, cholesterol testing, HbA1c testing

Community Pharmacy in the Neighbourhood Health Model

Community pharmacies are ideally positioned to support neighbourhood-level population health goals and the 10 Year Health Plan ambitions

Reducing health inequalities

Enhancing medicines safety

Easy access to support for acute conditions

Improving prevention and early diagnosis

Avoiding unnecessary hospital admissions

We help people stay well, get support early and deliver easily accessible, high-quality services

Managing long-term conditions

