Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) to under 25s and Chlamydia screening for Community Pharmacies

1. Introduction
This service is for the provision of free Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC), pregnancy testing, condom provision under the ‘C’ card scheme and chlamydia screening kits the demand for which may be urgent and/or unpredictable.

This service covers:
- Assessing and dispensing, under local Patient Group Direction (PGD), free emergency hormonal contraception to East Sussex residents aged 25 and under.
- Provision of free pregnancy testing to East Sussex residents aged 25 and under
- Provision of free chlamydia screening tests to all under 25s who request a service and opportunistically for any under 25 year old who uses the premises.
- Provision of free chlamydia screening postal kits for those aged over 25.

In addition the service is expected to provide the C Card service specification and distribute condoms as per the C Card service specification.

Compliance with all aspects of this specification is mandatory for Practitioners providing EHC and chlamydia tests under the Local Service Agreement to ensure a satisfactory service standard. Only provision performed in line with this specification will be reimbursed and evidence of accreditation will be required before any payments are made.

2. Background/Evidence Base
This service will contribute to a reduction in the number of unplanned pregnancies and terminations by reducing the barriers to access EHC and provision of sexual health advice and referral to sexual health services as appropriate. It will also contribute to a reduction in the rate of chlamydia in young people aged under 25. The East Sussex Comprehensive Sexual Health Needs Assessment (2013) carried out focus groups with under 25s which indicated that the majority of participants were happy/very happy to use a pharmacy for contraceptive services and chlamydia screening. Results indicated that pharmacies can provide flexible and convenient services with longer opening times in some pharmacies, in comparison to other services, this meant that sexual health services in pharmacy were available in evenings and over the weekend when other services were closed.

The cost of buying EHC, at approximately £25 per course, excludes many clients from accessing EHC via the community pharmacy. The product licence for over the counter sale further restricts access of this target group, as sales are restricted to those 16 years of age or over and only currently to Levonelle, excluding ellaOne. It has been estimated that only 50% of pregnancies are
planned, with 16% unplanned and 29% ambivalent. Unplanned and ambivalent pregnancies can have a major impact on individuals, families and wider society. Emergency contraception is effective and will prevent most pregnancies when taken after intercourse. Emergency contraception can be used following unprotected intercourse, contraceptive failure, incorrect use of contraceptives, or in cases of sexual assault.

There are two methods of emergency contraception: copper-bearing intrauterine devices (IUDs) and oral emergency hormonal contraceptive (EHC). When inserted within five days of unprotected intercourse, a copper-bearing IUD is the most effective form of emergency contraception available. There are two different emergency contraceptive pill regimes licensed in the UK. The first emergency contraceptive pill regime is one oral dose of Levonorgestrel 1.5mg, taken within 72 hours of unprotected sexual intercourse. In the UK this is called Levonelle. A second emergency contraceptive pill regime is called Ella One and is one oral dose of Ulipristal acetate 130mg, taken within five days (120 hours) of unprotected intercourse.

Rates of Chlamydia in young people aged 15-24 are much higher than other age groups and there is a new Public Health Outcomes Framework Indicator (2013-2016) to achieve a diagnostic rate of 2,300 per 100,000 young people aged 15-24. Chlamydia screening self test kits are effective in identifying chlamydia and supporting people to access treatment.

National Policy Drivers:
- A Framework for Sexual Health Improvement in England (DH 2013)
- Working together to Safeguard Children and Young People (2013)
- Emergency Contraception Guidance (FSRH 2011)
- Healthy Lives, Healthy People white paper (2010)
- You’re Welcome Quality Criteria (2007)
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Recommended Standards for sexual health services (MedFASH 2005)
- National Service Framework for children, young people and maternity services

This service specification and related training will support community pharmacies to work towards the Access Standards contained in the Department of Health’s ‘You’re welcome’ criteria and link the pharmacists into the whole system approach to provision of sexual health service across East Sussex for East Sussex residents. This will include awareness of patient pathways between specialist and none specialist medical services and thus enhance information and advice to those attending pharmacies for services.

3. Aims and Outcomes
- to increase chlamydia/gonorrhoea testing rates within pharmacies;
- to increase chlamydia detection rates in East Sussex;
- to improve young people’s access to, and choice of, EHC;
- to increase young people’s knowledge and understanding of sexual health and contraception including emergency contraception.
- to reduce East Sussex unintended pregnancy rates; and
- to reduce prevalence of Chlamydia within East Sussex.

4. Service Outline/Standards
The pharmacy will provide EHC Levonelle 1500® or ellaOne® (Ulpristan Acetate) free of charge to clients in line with the terms and conditions of ESCC PGD (see Accreditation section number 8)

for the Supply of Levonelle 1500® and ellaOne® through Community pharmacies to young people aged 25 years and under. All EHC should be dispensed for consumption on the premises only.

This service specification is intended to provide free of charge EHC to young people aged 25 years and under who are most likely to experience unintended pregnancies and for whom purchasing EHC over the counter would be a significant barrier.

From time to time patients aged over 25 years or over may experience significant barriers to accessing EHC within the available time frame. In circumstances where patients aged over 25 years would not be able to access EHC through other means, or who may have significant barriers to access through other means, pharmacies may use their clinical judgement to dispense EHC under this service specification to this group.

Chlamydia/Gonorrhoea postal kits as an opt out test, to all young people who request pregnancy tests, EHC tests or condoms. Test kits will be supplied to pharmacies via the chlamydia screening programme. The Pharmacy should order sufficient supplies of condoms and chlamydia screening kits.

- A free pregnancy test and appropriate referral advice to women aged 25 years and under only.
- Free condoms following the current C Card scheme guidance.
- Accurate and up to date information and advice on sexual health issues, and referral to other sources of support e.g. specialist centres, support groups or other health and social care professionals as appropriate.

The pharmacy will be responsible for the promotion of the services outlined in this service specification. The Pharmacy will put on view a display board indicating the available services listed under this specification.

Specific service standards and responsibilities of the provider regarding young people

- All advice and information given to young people should be in line with East Sussex County Council’s policies for the provision of contraception and sexual health advice services for young people
- All staff providing this service to young will assess and demonstrate in records that the young people are Fraser Competent.
- All staff working with young people will ensure young people are aware of the limits of confidentiality in line with Sussex Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures.
- All staff working with young people are expected to be responsive to the needs of individual young people regarding age, learning ability, culture, religion, ethnicity, sexuality and gender.
- All staff should have a current working knowledge of community provision offering sexual health and contraceptive services (including young person specific and outreach services).

Availability
The expectation is that a pharmacy delivering EHC will have an accredited pharmacist(s) available for at least 80% of core opening hours. On a case by case basis, restricted availability may be agreed by the Commissioner.

Pharmacies must notify the Commissioner of any changes to service provision.

Clinical Governance
As part of good clinical governance pharmacies are required to develop, implement, monitor and review the clinical quality of the service that they undertake. All service providers will:

- Undertake a risk assessment to ensure adequate facilities and equipment are in place to deliver the service and identify the resources available to support the service.
- Develop appropriate systems for record keeping including patient assessment, follow-up/recall and an appropriate clinical record.
DBS Check requirement

The table below sets out the factors considered when determining the need for DBS checks for all/some staff to delivering all/parts of the service. It is a requirement that DBS checks are refreshed every three years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Sexual Health (Pharmacy) covers Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC), pregnancy testing, condom provision (C-card), chlamydia screening kits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Specified Place</td>
<td>Pharmacy setting, for sexual health apart from C Card all consultations that are one to one would be done by pharmacists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency, Intensity</td>
<td>More than 4 times a week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervised</td>
<td>Unsupervised.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care / Regulated Activity?</td>
<td>Sexual health assessment of all ages including under 16s, pregnancy testing, provision of EHC and chlamydia screening postal kits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DBS type</td>
<td>Enhanced (post 2012) Check for Regulated Activity (Adults). This check involves a check of the police national computer, police information and the adults barred list.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required for the following staff</td>
<td>Pharmacists – professional DBS rule applies to pharmacist but not all pharmacy staff. Only pharmacists will be seeing clients on a one to one basis.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Referrals & Eligibility
Eligibility for EHC includes any woman aged 25 or under who is a resident of East Sussex following clinical assessment and presentation of full choice of EHC method, taking into account clinical appropriateness of method and contraindications and exclusions.

Complex contraception issues should be referred through to the East Sussex Specialist Sexual Health Team.

Men and women of any age are eligible to access chlamydia screening postal kits.

6. Equipment & Premises
The Pharmacy should ensure that a confidential consultation space is available within the pharmacy. Where a separate consultation room is not available in the pharmacy, providers should ensure that client confidentiality is maintained at all times and that the premises allow appropriate consultation and advice to be provided to the patient in a way that is acceptable to them. Cups and water should be available as the EHC dose is for administration within the pharmacy only NOT to take away.

8. Accreditation & Training
Emergency contraception may only be supplied by a pharmacist accredited under the accompanying PGD. Medicine counter staff must be trained to refer each request for EHC.

The pharmacist must have completed the Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) training detailed below:
- CPPE Emergency Contraception Open Learning Programme (3 Hours)
- CPPE Contraception Open Learning Programme (12 Hours)
- CPPE Child Protection Open Learning Programme (1.5 Hours)
- Attended a workshop on EHC every three years organised or designated by the ESCC public health department
- Complete the CPPE competency self-assessment for provision of EHC under PGD.

• The employee undertaking c card provision must have completed C Card training; contact ccard.publichealth.eastsussex.gov.uk

For CPPE accreditations the pharmacist must allow ‘see all’ on the CPPE website to enable audit training accreditation. Group pharmacies will have contracts and accreditation managed by their group managers.

8.1 Amnesty period for those holding up to date documents provided by other training organisations

Some pharmacists may have certificates that are current but relate to previous training organisations, or have been acquired in other areas. Providing these documents are still up to date pharmacists can provide this service subject to a review of documentation by the ESCC sexual health commissioner. Documents should be sent to the Public Health Business Manager (see Contacts). Within six months of signing up to deliver these services the Pharmacist must complete the CPPE accredited requirements www.cppe.ac.uk.

East Sussex Public Health authorise the supply of following items under PGD
• Supply of levonelle® under PGD
• Supply ellaOne® under PGD

A Patient Group Direction has been agreed for the supply of EHC by pharmacies in East Sussex. Through completion of the required training and subsequent paperwork pharmacists sign up to the terms and conditions for the supply of EHC under PGD.

The commissioner will:
• ensure that an up to date PGD is available via the EHC section of the designated IT pharmacy system;
• ensure that the EHC template, also available via the designated IT pharmacy system, reflects clinical changes and guidance;
• conduct an annual review of pharmacies supplying this service to determine whether the needs of the local population are being met;
• arrange at least one contractor meeting per year to promote service development and update the knowledge of pharmacy staff;
• provide details of relevant referral points which pharmacy staff may use to signpost service users who require further assistance;
• disseminate information on the service to other pharmacies and health care professionals in order that they may signpost patients to the service; and
• provide necessary condom supplies in a timely manner.

9. Payment/Cost
The Council will remunerate Pharmacies participating in this service as shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consultation fee</td>
<td>£21.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note this fee only applies to supply of EHC NOT condoms, pregnancy test only and chlamydia screening</td>
<td>£21.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply of Levonelle®</td>
<td>£5.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply Of ellaOne®</td>
<td>£16.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipt by chlamydia screening programme of correctly completed Chlamydia/Gonorrhoea NAATS self-test</td>
<td>£5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of condoms – this is claimed via the C Card specification</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision and undertaking a pregnancy test</td>
<td>£3.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Claims will be submitted monthly via the ESCC designated IT system.
10. Monitoring, Audit and Reporting
The pharmacy will maintain appropriate records and complete all monitoring paperwork using the ESCC designated IT system to ensure effective ongoing service delivery and audit.

Quality Indicators
The Pharmacy will review its standard operating procedures and the referral pathways for the service on an annual basis. The Pharmacy will demonstrate that pharmacists and staff involved in the provision of the service have undertaken CPD relevant to this service. The Pharmacy will participate in an annual ESCC organised audit of service provision. The Pharmacy will co-operate with any locally agreed needs assessment and/or research requirements.

11. Contacts
East Sussex Specialist Sexual Health Services

Josephine Percival, East Sussex Specialist level three Contraceptive lead
(based at the two specialist service addresses shown below)
Josephine.percival@esht.nhs.uk

| 1st floor, Station Plaza Health Centre, Station Approach, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1BA | Avenue House, The Avenue, Eastbourne East Sussex BN21 3XY |
| 01424 464750 | 01323 416100 |

Chlamydia screening NAATs kits request from
http://www.eastsussexsexualhealth.co.uk/order-a-chlamydia-screening-kit.html
01323 462762

Condoms and lubrication: ccard.publichealth@eastsussex.gov.uk

Tony Proom, Strategic Commissioning Manager for Clinical Sexual Health, Public Health
Tony.proom@eastsussex.gov.uk

Tracey Houston, Business Manager, Public Health
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