

The Pharmacy First Service Digest

The Pharmacy First Service will be commissioned from **1st January 2024** (subject to IT systems being in place).

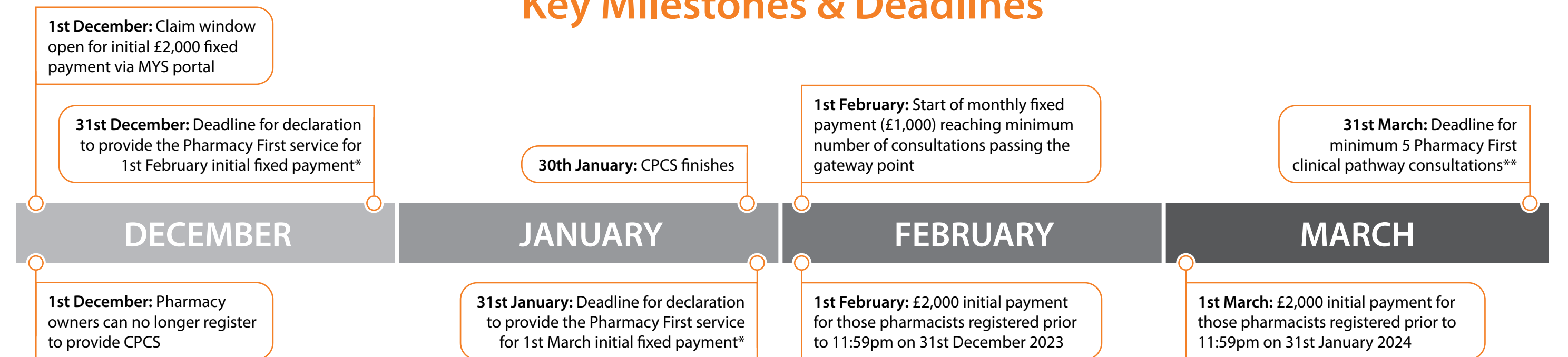
There is a lot of information available which can be difficult to navigate through. We created a summary of the key points and deadlines to help us communicate the changes which we thought may be of use to you:



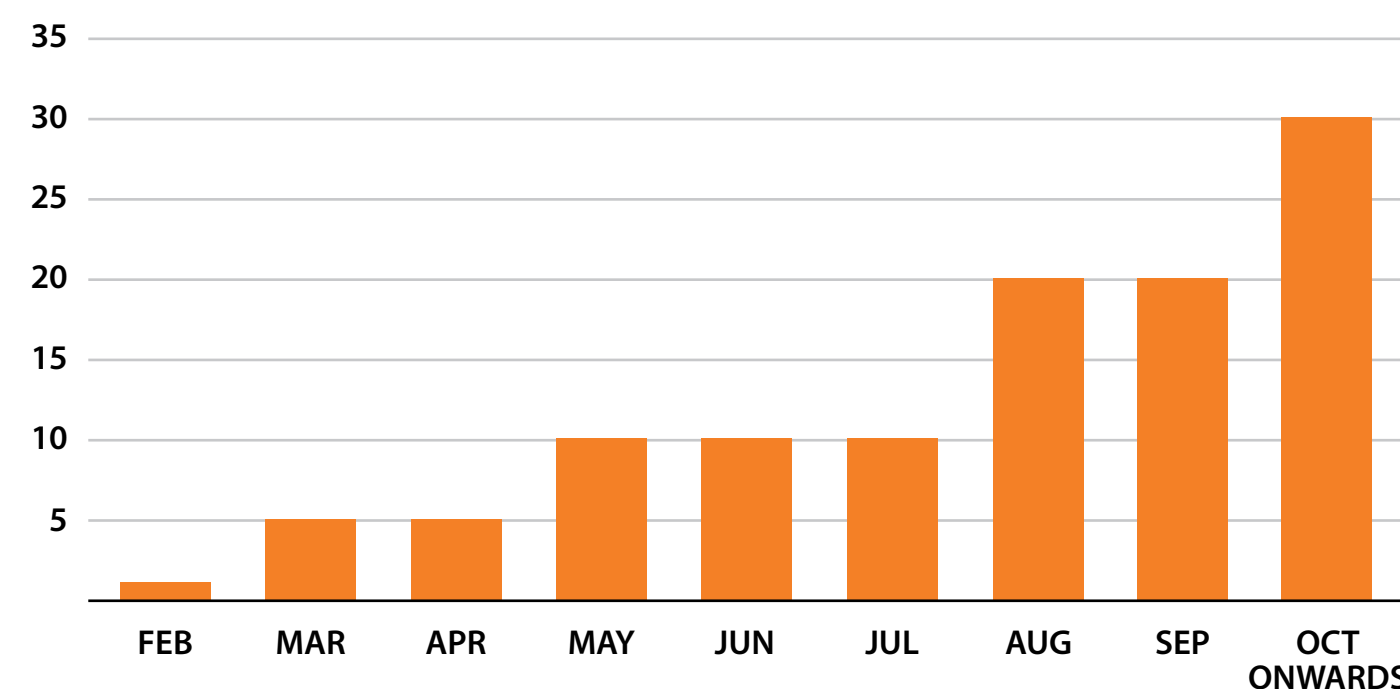
Overview of The Pharmacy First Service

- Pharmacists will offer advice and NHS-funded treatment for **7 common conditions**: Sinusitis, sore throat, acute otitis media (earache), infected insect bite, impetigo, shingles and uncomplicated UTIs in women.
- Patients can access these services through referrals from NHS 111, GPs, authorised healthcare providers, or through self-referral.
- Pharmacist will follow a **clinical pathway** to determine appropriate treatment, providing advice and NHS-funded medicines when necessary.
- A POM treatment can be dispensed under a **Patient Group Direction (PGD)** or an OTC medicine, all at NHS expense.
- These services can be delivered face-to-face in a consultation room or remotely (only remotely for distance selling pharmacies (DSP). Acute otitis media consultations must be provided face-to-face as a pharmacist needs to use an otoscope as part of the examination.
- Pharmacists must provide **all parts** of the service (apart from DSP who cannot provide Acute otitis media pathway).
- There must be a SOP in place for this service and all pharmacy staff involved must be familiar and adhere to the SOP.
- Pharmacy contractors payment includes a **block payment, consultation fee** and **reimbursement** for NHS medicines supplied. Pharmacies will be paid **£15 per completed consultation** and, from February 2024, a **monthly fixed payment of £1,000** will be paid to pharmacy owners who meet a **minimum activity threshold** of clinical pathways consultation.

Key Milestones & Deadlines



Minimum number of consultations passing the gateway point to receive monthly £1,000 payment



*Pharmacy owners who do not register by 11.59pm on 31st January 2024, will still be able to sign up for the Pharmacy First service after this date, but they will not be entitled to the £2,000 initial fixed payment.

** If the minimum 5 consultations are not completed by 31st March, the initial £2,000 fixed payment will be recovered



<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/PRN00936-i-Community-pharmacy-advanced-service-specification-NHS-pharmacy-first-service-November-2023.pdf>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pharmacy-first-contractual-framework-2023-to-2025/pharmacy-first-letter-to-contractors>
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