

# Providing Services as a Distance Selling Pharmacy (DSP)



A Distance Selling Pharmacy (DSP) may provide Advanced and Enhanced (locally commissioned) services on the premises, as long as any Essential service which forms part of the Advanced or Enhanced service is not provided to persons present at the premises.

## Essential services include:

- Dispensing medicines
- Disposal of unwanted medications
- Healthy living pharmacies
- Public health (promotion of healthy lifestyles)
- Repeat dispensing

Cannot be provided on the premises and cannot include face to face contact

## Advanced services include:

- Community pharmacy consultation service (CPCS)
- Flu vaccination service
- Hepatitis C testing service
- Hypertension case-finding service
- New medicine service (NMS)
- Smoking cessation service

Can be provided on the premises

## Locally commissioned services (Enhanced services)

This can include any service that is commissioned by Local Authorities, CCGs and NHS England. Examples include:

- MAS
- Chlamydia screening
- EHC
- Healthy Start Vitamins.

Can be provided on the premises providing this is permitted in the service specification

Check our [locality services](#) pages for services commissioned in your area.

All pharmacies including distance selling pharmacies are required to provide DMS

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**Below is an example scenario detailing how a DSP can provide an Advanced service:**

A DSP receives a prescription and dispenses it the next day, sending it via post with a consent form and explanatory leaflet about the New Medicine Service (NMS), inviting the patient to contact the pharmacy. The patient lives locally and so makes arrangements to visit the pharmacy, to complete the NMS. The pharmacy would need to be very careful not to provide or offer to provide any of the Essential services whilst the patient is at the pharmacy.

For example patient cannot bring unwanted medicine back to the pharmacy, as accepting the waste at the pharmacy would breach the conditions. A patient is also not able to pick up a prescription while in the pharmacy. This would have to be delivered to them.

For more information about the rules and regulations relating to DSPs visit our [dedicated webpage](#)

## Delivering the Minor Ailments Scheme (MAS)

In the case of Distance Selling Pharmacies (DSPs), the service should routinely be delivered remotely, unless in the pharmacist's professional judgement a face to face consultation is required. To participate in the service the DSP must have an appropriate consultation room available for patient consultations if required. DSPs must ensure if a face to face consultation is required that no NHS essential pharmaceutical services are delivered at the pharmacy premises or within the vicinity of the premises.