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Spine Services (No. 2) Directions - Electronic Prescription Service (EPS)

Document management

Revision History

Version	Date	Summary of Changes
0.1	18/10/2021	Agreed text added to NHSD template
1.0	19/10/2021	Updated and finalised following review

Reviewers

This document must be reviewed by the following people:

Reviewer name	Title / Responsibility	Date	Version
Magi Nwolie	Associate DPO NHS	18/10/2021	0.1
	Digital	19/10/2021	1.0

Approved by

This document must be approved by the following people:

Name	Title	Date	Version
Ann Slee	Associate CCIO (Medicines) NHSX	19/10/2021	1.0
Robert Marsh	Head of Service Management, Live Services NHS Digital	19/10/2021	1.0

Glossary of Terms

Term / Abbreviation	What it stands for
Prescriber	a health care professional with authorisation to prescribe medication (medicines and devices)
Care Setting	includes (but is not limited to) primary care, secondary care, urgent care, homecare, dental care, health and justice settings and independent sector settings

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Purpose of document

This document for the Electronic Prescription Service should be read alongside the [Health and Social Care Information Centre \(Spine Services\) \(No. 2\) Directions 2014](#) issued by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care on 5^h December 2014 (**Spine Services (No.2) Directions**).

Introduction

The Spine Services (No.2) Directions direct NHS Digital to operate the [Electronic Prescription Service \(EPS\)](#) and to establish and operate such systems for the collection and analysis of information as is necessary to deliver EPS.

EPS allows prescribers to send prescriptions electronically to a dispenser (such as a pharmacy) of the patient's choice. This makes the prescribing and dispensing process more efficient and convenient for patients and staff.

EPS service users

This document amends Annex C of the Spine Services (No.2) Directions to reflect that EPS is now used across multiple prescribing care settings. The new wording for Annex C is:

- The EPS (also known as ETP, the Electronic Transfer of Prescriptions) supports prescribers across all care settings to generate and transmit electronic prescriptions using the prescriber's computer system for NHS and private prescription types.

The scope of EPS is therefore prescribing activity in care settings in England, which include (but are not limited to) primary care, secondary care, urgent care, homecare, dental care, [health and justice settings](#) and independent sector settings.

Change control process

Changes to this document will be managed by NHS Digital in conjunction with NHSX (on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Care) to ensure such changes are aligned with the Spine Services (No.2) Directions.