

NHSGGC Position Statement
Authority to Supply NHS-Funded Prescribed
Non-Medicine Items

Position Statement from NHSGGC Non-Medicine Utilisation Subcommittee of ADTC

NHSGGC Non-Medicine Utilisation Subcommittee of ADTC's position is that, due to the legal and contractual framework governing NHS prescribing and NHS reimbursement, suppliers have no authority to provide NHS-funded prescribed non-medicine items without prior authorisation from an appropriate prescriber.

Accordingly, prescribers are not required, and should not be expected, to retrospectively authorise GP10 prescriptions for items supplied without their prior agreement.

This position applies to all prescribed non-medicine items, including (but not limited to):

- appliances and dressings
- stoma products
- urology products
- nutritional products and supplements

Legal and Contractual Context

NHS supply is contingent on a prescription issued by an authorised prescriber.

Items supplied without prior prescriber authorisation are not eligible for NHS reimbursement and cannot routinely be retrospectively authorised. Circumstances may permit retrospective authorisation at the prescriber's discretion.

While some non-medicine items may be legally sold without a prescription, there is no authority to provide these items on the NHS without prescriber approval in advance.