

September 2024: DDA Board Meeting update



Dispensary Sustainability: The DDA will launch the Rural Access to Medicines and Pharmacy Services Under Pressure (RAMP UP) campaign at the 2024 DDA conference, supported by social media posts. Dispensing GP teams are encouraged to write to local politicians in support of the campaign.

The DDA is also investigating a mutually beneficial relationship with the Institute for [General Practice Management \(IGPM\)](#)

The DDA continues to meet with GPC to discuss reimbursement and remuneration, specifically on the fee scale and how the DDRB award (6%) will be transferred to dispensers.

Scotland:

Challenges to dispensing: The DDA was informed of challenges, in particular: supply shortages, price variance, the cost of staff pay, heat and light, as well as increasing demand for dosette boxes. As pharmacies close, dispensing volumes are expected to increase.

Ongoing workstreams: The DDA heard there has been no progress on workstreams such as the Dispensing Working Group, GP IT reprovisioning and the Digital Prescribing and Dispensing Pathway (DPDP) programme.

Wales:

- **System Supplier Choice and Transition Costs:** The DDA has written to DHCW/SCRG to stress that the costs of EMIS dispensary module training should not be passed to practices.
- **EPS funding:** Discussions continue to achieve central funding for dispensary EPS functionality

- **Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) for Wales.** The DDA has also submitted a [response](#) highlighting the need to protect pharmaceutical services provided by dispensing GPs.