



“Promoting the interests of Dispensing Doctors and the excellence of doctor dispensing for the benefit of patients”

Agenda

- BMA/GPC
- DDA Call to Action
- Remuneration

BMA/GPC

- New Executive
- Chair Katie Bramall-Stainer
- Dispensing lead Julius Parker
- Dispensing Negotiations?

Dispensing Doctors' Association (DDA) Call to Action

The Dispensing Doctors' Association is adding its voice to the BMA's 'Call to Action' to highlight the ongoing challenges in dispensing practice.

The DDA is strongly supportive of a BMA 'Call to Action' that promotes successful and sustainable dispensing practice based on three core principles:

That dispensing practice is always:

✓ Right for the patient

✓ Right for NHS

AND

✓ Right for practice

DDA members are encouraged to share this document with their LMC

The problems...

... for patients:

Nine million patients (13 per cent) of the UK population who are served by dispensing practices are regularly failed by Government and NHS policy that does not recognise the vital role of dispensing practice in local health service delivery.

Key take-away: The rights of dispensing patients must always be respected equally when considering access to pharmaceutical services in rural areas

... for the NHS:

Developments such as the Electronic Prescription Service secure significant operational efficiencies throughout the NHS and for patients. However, around 1,200 dispensing practices across the UK are yet to secure NHS funding to implement this vital technology in their practices.

Key take-away: Dispensing practice policy and funding should be reviewed urgently to encourage and protect innovation in dispensing practice

for the dispensing doctor practice:

- ✓ The dispensing practice discount abatement mechanism ('clawback') is now 25 years old and requires immediate and regular review. It no longer reflects current discount rates: hundreds of branded medicines and appliances are supplied with no discount available, financially penalising **every practice, every time** that they dispense these items
- ✓ The dispensing fees envelope has not been updated in line with DDRB annual inflationary GP staff pay uplifts since 2019. has devalued the fee by 20 per cent, putting immense pressure on dispensing practice operating costs. This requires urgent review.

Key take away: Dispensing practices should never be expected to operate and dispense at a loss

The DDA is offering to support the BMA across the UK and regionally **to establish a dispensing doctor lead in policy negotiations.**

Together, we can create national and regional GP policy that always takes into account the unique needs of dispensing GPs
- for the benefit of the patient, the NHS and the practice.

Fees

- New Fee Scale in October
- Changes to smooth out the 'yo-yoing'
- Completely new Fee Scale needed

Pharmacy

- More services
- What is happening to rural patients?

Reimbursement

- Why have there not been any changes?

EPS

- Wales
- Titan
- Problems with amending the body of scripts
- Outpatient discharge prescriptions



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