



*This is the third in a short series of comms covering different Pharmacy First topics.*

This month's Pharmacy First topic is: **CONFUSED ABOUT PF EXCLUSION CRITERIA?**

1) **Who's EXCLUDED from the NHS Pharmacy First service?**



**Visitors to Scotland!**

This means someone who **is away from their normal place of residence** (outside of Scotland) and who **intends to stay in Scotland for less than 3 months**.

A person who is registered with a GP Practice in Scotland on a temporary basis and who is a visitor to Scotland under the 2020 PCA Directions is **NOT eligible**.

Everyone else is immediately ELIGIBLE for Pharmacy First including travelling communities living in Scotland, refugees just arrived in Scotland, Scottish residents who aren't registered with GPs, and Armed Forces staff living in Scotland.

**NOTE:** near the Scotland/England border, some English residents are registered with Scottish GPs because of where the country boundary falls – they are also ELIGIBLE.

2) **What are the Ailments' EXCLUSION CRITERIA?**



**The best way to think about it is:**

- ✚ Use your knowledge of the usual exclusion criteria you've learned about for OTC and P products
- ✚ Look out for any of the usual 'alarm bell' symptoms you've observed, or which the patient has mentioned
- ✚ PGD exclusion criteria are included in each Pharmacy First PGD, all of which are stored on our website section below

For additional useful info, we've attached the most recent copy of the **GP Signposting Guidance** document (2020) which GP Reception teams use to triage patients and decide whether they're suitable for directing to community pharmacy. The inclusion/exclusion criteria are detailed on **pages 6-15** – you could keep a copy in your pharmacy for quick reference. Note this document is pretty detailed and may change over time – also use your clinical judgement!

You can also find this document on the NHS Lothian section of the NHS Community Pharmacy website here:

<https://www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk/nhs-boards/nhs-lothian/nhs-pharmacy-first/>

This info is also attached as a PDF to make it easy to print off and keep handy in the pharmacy.

Kind regards,

**The Community Pharmacy Development Team & NHS Lothian Community Pharmacy Champions**

[www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.communitypharmacy.scot.nhs.uk)

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