



This is part of a short series of comms covering a different Pharmacy First topic each time, and based on the feedback you gave us via the recent survey – thank you for this!

Today's Pharmacy First topic is: **ARE YOU PRESCRIBING DISALLOWED ITEMS?**



DID YOU KNOW...

A recent investigation by Community Pharmacy Scotland has found that about a **QUARTER** of all Pharmacy First prescribings of Dimethicone liquid preparations for headlice are being prescribed by **BRAND** instead of **GENERICALLY**, which increases the likelihood you **won't be paid for these!**

- Please remind staff to **prescribe generically** whenever possible as per the most recent Pharmacy First Approved List
- Note that not all brands listed in your PMR system may be available on the Pharmacy First service (depending on your PMR system some drug file names begin with the generic medicine name but will then have a brand written at the end too – please be cautious when choosing.)
- All Contractors are sent a monthly list of rejected items; however if you are part of a multiple then this might be going to your Head Office or Area Manager instead, so you should be able to ask them for a copy to check what's being rejected!



REMEMBER...

**GENERIC IS GOOD,
BEWARE OF BRANDS!**

For the full version of the current Pharmacy First Approved List (which was updated on **1st July 2022**), please visit the **Community Pharmacy Scotland** or the [NHS National Services Scotland - Pharmacy First](https://www.nhs.uk/national-services-scotland-pharmacy-first) websites.

Hope this helps! 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

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