

## Travel Health Service Frequently Asked Questions

This Travel Health Service Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document has been produced to assist community pharmacies in NHS Grampian.

If you feel there is additional information which should be added to this FAQ document, please email: [gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.pharmaceuticalcareservices@nhs.scot).

Question	Answer
Were the contractors committee aware of the change to Travel?	The chair of the contractors committee was made aware by telephone on Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> September, when details were finalised.
How have the allocated activity been decided?	Purely on the basis of delivering financial balance with a pro-rata allocation across contractors.
Will vaccination service costs be reimbursed fully for the month of September?	This was made clear in the letter. All activity up to the 19 <sup>th</sup> of September will be reimbursed. Activity from 20 <sup>th</sup> September is subject to the paid activity limits laid out in the letter so any bookings beyond that will not receive NHS funding.
Why has the budget been overspent and cannot be recovered?	Activity levels this year has spent 170% of last year's spend for the comparative period. This combined with higher levels of fees negotiated by the contractors committee against a fixed budget has led to a tight budgetary envelope. Normally even where such as this the budget sits outside the contractors budget, such overspends in year would be managed across the contractors budget. Unfortunately there is no slack in the contractors budget for 2024/25 as all monies, including the contingency within the budget, is used to meet contractors demands for uplift of the substance use budget.
What communication assets will be made available?	We will seek a communication package from Public Health – see letter sent 26/9/2024.
What do I do about future appointments?	The limits to NHS activity apply, so anything above that will need to be cancelled.
What is the alternative provision for those who cannot get an NHS funded travel vaccination?	NHS provision will continue at participating community pharmacies, albeit at a lower level of activity. Currently, if someone presents too late for the NHS service, or if there are no NHS appointments available within the requested time frame, individuals should be directed to a private service.
Will NHS provision of BLS training continue?	Given the cessation of the service in January 2025, there will not be provision of BLS training from NHS Grampian and providers will need to satisfy themselves that they comply with the SLA requirements or professional requirements for private provision.
Will NHSG PGDs be available to support private provision?	NHS PGDs will be available until they expire. After that where a need for an NHS PGD continues for example for nursing then community pharmacists will be included which can be used for private clinic provision.

When does the SLA now expire fully?	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2025.
What happens to stock that is held and goes out of date?	The ongoing provision of NHS appointments under the SLA, albeit in a limited manner, should utilise the normal levels of stockholding held under the SLA. It is not felt there is a need for reimbursement of out of date stock given the ongoing activity offered.
What happens to the consultations I have already undertaken, but not done the administration appointment yet? Some of these administration appointments are after the 20 <sup>th</sup> September – but the consultation/NHS script already done – just nothing on VMT until complete.	<p>Consultations done up to and including the 19<sup>th</sup> September, can be completed – even if the administration of the vaccinations has not yet happened. The patient has begun the process under the NHS, so this can be completed – please make this clear when submitting claims, as these patients/claims will be over and above the allowed number of 4 consultations/8 vaccinations.</p> <p><b>**Important- please keep a note of these numbers/patient details- so this can be accounted for when submitting monthly claims.</b></p> <p><b>PCCT have requested that you please add a note onto your claim form with these numbers.</b></p>
What happens to patients who have had their first dose of Hepatitis A or Cholera with us- are they now included in these restricted numbers?	<p>No, these patients can receive their second dose from you if requested before the end of this service (up to and including 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025). They will not be counted into the restriction of 4 consultations/8 vaccinations – please keep a note of these patients and provide explanation along with your monthly claim form.</p> <p><b>**Important: please keep a note of these numbers/patient details, so this can be accounted for when submitting monthly claims.</b></p> <p><b>PCCT have requested that you please add a note onto your claim form with these numbers.</b></p>