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Things have been extremely tough for pharmacy owners and we've seen a recent wave of consolidations and closures across the sector. In this atmosphere it can be really hard to be optimistic about the future, but Janet highlights some glimmers of hope on the horizon, such as the most significant investment in community pharmacy for well over a decade.  But however welcome this investment, it is not the panacea for all the funding woes. It's clear that many are pharmacies struggling to stay afloat – and that we need a significant increase to the core funding contract. Janet believes that Pharmacy First will help to strengthen the sector's case, and the imperative for, sustainable funding in future. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |  | | --- | | [**Read Janet's blog**](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=d7e6cc61ca&e=d19e9fd41c) | | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | January 2024 Category M prices The Drug Tariff Category M pricelist for January 2024 has been published by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) on the [NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) website](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=c80017a25e&e=d19e9fd41c).  Based on our analysis, Community Pharmacy England estimates the overall impact of the new Category M list will be a reimbursement reduction of approximately £38m per quarter, equivalent to a reduction in AIV of around -14p per item. (Note, the actual impact is subject to variation.)  **Mike Dent, Community Pharmacy England Director of Pharmacy Funding**, said:  "The reductions to the January Drug Tariff come at an awful time and we continue to warn Government and NHS that prolonging the current financial squeeze on pharmacies will be catastrophic for yet more businesses and their patients.  "We implore the DHSC and NHS to engage with us about the unsustainable pressure being faced by pharmacy businesses, as well as a desperately needed revision to the pharmacy reimbursement system. We have coordinated a letter to the new pharmacy Minister from numerous MPs supporting this ask, and we will continue to work to make it happen."  [Learn more, and read our statement](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=0a9e1759c6&e=d19e9fd41c) | | | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Newly launched FreeStyle Libre 3 Sensors enter the Drug Tariff and DND list from January 2024 The new FreeStyle Libre 3 Sensors recently launched by Abbott Diabetes Care Ltd have been added to Part IXA of the January 2024 Drug Tariff.  As the sensors can only be ordered directly from the manufacturer without any discount, Community Pharmacy England successfully applied for this appliance to be exempt from discount deduction. FreeStyle Libre 3 Sensors have therefore been included in the Drugs for which Discount is Not Deducted (DND) list (Part II of the Drug Tariff).  [Find out more](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=f172d0ff1d&e=d19e9fd41c) | | | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | National Patient Safety Alert: Shortage of GLP-1 RAs Update DHSC has issued a National Patient Safety Alert to update healthcare professionals on the shortage of glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1 RAs). The update confirms that the supply of GLP-1 RAs continues to be limited, and is not expected to return to normal until at least the end of 2024.  [Learn more](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=ff86511123&e=d19e9fd41c) | | | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | CPhO writes to sector about Pharmacy First service In case you missed it, the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer (CPhO) for England, David Webb, wrote to the community pharmacy sector about the Pharmacy First service in an end of year letter. The CPhO noted that this was a "pivotal moment" for the sector and encouraged pharmacy owners to sign up to provide the service for the benefit of their patients.  [Read the CPhO's letter](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=b749b3d6ea&e=d19e9fd41c) | | | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |  | | --- | | [Community Pharmacy England banner](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=ec89627444&e=d19e9fd41c) | | | |  | | --- | |  | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [Twitter](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=954c7b3d6a&e=d19e9fd41c) | | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [Facebook](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=4bfb257ada&e=d19e9fd41c) | | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [LinkedIn](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=2b53573341&e=d19e9fd41c) | | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [Website](https://cpe.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=98fc168452&e=d19e9fd41c) | | | | | | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Community Pharmacy England** Address: 14 Hosier Lane, London EC1A 9LQ Tel: 0203 1220 810 | Email: [comms.team@cpe.org.uk](mailto:comms.team@cpe.org.uk)  Copyright © 2024 Community Pharmacy England, All rights reserved.  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