

Cheshire and Merseyside

Position statement on cross-charging for specialist sexual health services

APPROVED (Version 1.1) - March 2021

1 Introduction

- a. The nine local authorities of Cheshire and Merseyside (see Table 1) have agreed this position statement to inform the management of invoices from non-contracted providers of sexual and reproductive healthcare.

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Cheshire West and Chester | Sefton |
| Cheshire East | St Helens |
| Halton | Warrington |
| Knowsley | Wirral |
| Liverpool | |

- b. This position statement describes and explains a common approach to cross-charging for attendances at specialist sexual and reproductive services within Cheshire and Merseyside. It has been developed with reference to the Department of Health and Social Care (2018) 'Sexual health services: key principles for cross-charging'¹
- c. Commissioners have developed this position statement in recognition of the need to agree a clear and consistent approach to cross-charging for non-contracted sexual and reproductive healthcare provision.
- d. The Directors of Public Health for Cheshire and Merseyside ratified this statement on 12th March 2021 and it will take effect on 1st July 2021.

2 Principles

- a. The local authorities of Cheshire and Merseyside have agreed the following principles:
1. Non-contracted providers of specialist sexual and reproductive health services will be reimbursed for attendances for STI-related care (GUM) at a rate up to but not exceeding the tariff prices detailed in Table 2.
 2. Non-contracted providers of specialist sexual and reproductive health services will be reimbursed for attendances for PrEP-related care at a rate up to but not exceeding the tariff prices detailed in Table 3

¹ DHSC (2018) [Sexual Health Services: Key Principles for Cross Charging Updated guidance for commissioners and providers of sexual and reproductive health services in England](#).

3. Non-contracted providers of specialist sexual and reproductive health services will be reimbursed for providing telephone consultations if offered as an alternative to a face-to-face appointment at a rate up to but not exceeding the tariff prices detailed in Table 4.
- b. The local authorities of Cheshire and Merseyside have also agreed:
1. Non-contracted providers of sexual and reproductive health services will not be reimbursed for attendances for contraception unless this has been agreed with the relevant commissioner² in advance.
 2. Non-contracted providers of sexual and reproductive health services will not be reimbursed if STI-related care that can be viewed as discretionary is provided for a patient attending for contraception – for example, provision of a pack of condoms or provision of an opportunistic test for chlamydia (T1/T2) – unless such practice has been agreed with the relevant commissioner in advance³.
 3. Non-contracted providers of sexual and reproductive health services will not be reimbursed for providing a remote service (e.g. fulfilment of an order for an STI self-sampling kit) offered on an open access basis.⁴
- c. The local authorities will, during 2021/22, consider the appropriateness of developing an additional tariff for online / remote consultations for introduction in 2022/23. Non-contracted providers wishing to bill for online / remote consultations offered as an alternative to a face-to-face appointment during 2021/22 should check billing arrangements for billing with the relevant commissioner. See Appendix 2 for contact details.
- d. The local authorities of Cheshire and Merseyside confirm that providers of specialist sexual and reproductive health services in Cheshire and Merseyside⁵ are not required to bill out-of-area commissioners for attendances for contraception⁶ This includes if STI-related care is provided as an additional intervention on a discretionary basis (see 2.b.2)
- e. Furthermore, the local authorities have confirmed that invoices including the following will not be accepted:

² Sefton Council has transferred to their provider the responsibility for cross-charging for non-contracted sexual and reproductive healthcare

³ Providers can seek reimbursement if there is a clinical need for providing STI-related care – e.g. a full sexual health screen – for a patient attending for contraception.

⁴ Commissioners accept that provision of a remote service – e.g. remote prescribing of treatment for chlamydia - can be an acceptable alternative to a follow-up clinic attendance.

⁵ See 2 above

⁶ Exceptions have been agreed within Cheshire and Merseyside for specialist care – e.g for removal of deep implants

1. HIV treatment and care⁷
2. MFF (Market Forces Factor) cannot be applied to tariff prices.
3. CQUINS will not be paid

3 Tariff prices

- a. The local authorities of Cheshire and Merseyside will reimburse non-contracted providers of specialist sexual and reproductive services up to but not exceeding the tariff prices detailed below. Invoicing should be in line with the principles set out in section 2 above.
- b. Non-contracted providers can bill for a first or follow-up attendance for STI-related care or a first or follow-up attendance for PrEP-related care but not both.
- c. Invoices should be submitted as soon as possible following the date of provision, and within a period of three (3) months where possible.
- d. Non-contracted providers are required to submit backing data with their invoice. See Appendix 1

| Table 2: Tariff for attendances for STI-related care | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| | First face-to-face attendance | | Follow-up attendance |
| | Single professional | Multi-professional | |
| 2021/22 | £138 | £142 | £108 |

| Table 3: Tariff for attendances for PrEP-related care | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| | First face-to-face attendance | | Follow-up attendance |
| | Single professional | Multi-professional | |
| 2021/22 | £188 | £198 | £148 |

| Table 4: Tariff for telephone / video consultations | | |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Telephone / video consultations | |
| | First telephone consultation | Follow-up telephone consultation |
| 2021/22 | £25 | £25 |

- e. Non-contracted providers wishing to bill for online / remote consultations offered as an alternative to a face-to-face appointment should check arrangements for billing with the relevant commissioner.

⁷ NHS England / NHS Improvement is the commissioner of HIV treatment and care.

4 Review

- a. The local authorities of Cheshire and Merseyside will review this position statement including the tariff prices on an annual basis.
- b. The annual review will take place following confirmation of the financial settlement for local authorities (often published in December).
- c. Providers will be notified of the tariff prices that the local authorities of Cheshire and Merseyside will accept for attendances for STI-related care or attendances for PrEP-related care in advance of the start of each financial year.

**March 2021
Version 1.1**

Appendix 1
Backing data template

| Backing data for invoices from non-contracted providers for the provision of sexual healthcare | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------|------------------------------|
| From: | | | | | | | | | | (Provider organisation) |
| To: | | | | | | | | | | (Commissioning organisation) |
| Invoice period: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Date of attendance | Patient ID | Local authority of patient residence | LSOA of patient area of residence | Consultation speciality | Consultation medium | Consultation type | Clinical codes: SHAPPT or SNOMED | Tariff | Charge | |
| | | | | | | | | | £ | |
| | | | | | | | | | £ | |
| | | | | | | | | Total | £ | |

Notes:

- Residence: Local authority of patient residence
 Lower super output area (LSOA) code of patient residence
- Consultation Speciality: 01: STI care and contraception 02: STI care 03: Contraception
- Consultation Medium: 01: Face-to-face consultation 02: Telephone consultation 07: Online consultation
- Consultation Type: 01: New 02: Follow-up
- Tariff: A: STI B: PrEP C: TEL
- Clinical codes: Please submit all clinical codes for this episode of care
- Charge: Correct tariff for first or follow-up attendance (see tariff prices in section 4)

Note: Providers can invoice for telephone or video consultations offered in place of and equivalent to a face-to-face consultation in accordance with the requirements described above. Providers should not bill for telephone triage.

Appendix 2
Invoicing arrangements

Please see separate document