

**Appendix E:  
Service Changes: NHS prescriptions for medicines, treatments, food items and other items available to buy without prescription**

<b>Organisation</b>	East and North Hertfordshire CCG and Herts Valleys CCG
<b>Lead manager &amp; contact details</b>	Key contacts: Nuala Milbourn ( <a href="mailto:Nuala.Milbourn@enhertsccg.nhs.uk">Nuala.Milbourn@enhertsccg.nhs.uk</a> ) Juliet Rodgers ( <a href="mailto:Juliet.Rodgers@hertsvalleysccg.nhs.uk">Juliet.Rodgers@hertsvalleysccg.nhs.uk</a> )
<b>Description of service variation</b>	<p>Limiting the prescribing of over-the-counter medicines, products and foods for short term and intermittent illnesses that are available without a prescription from a high street pharmacy, a registered on-line pharmacy, supermarket or other shop.</p> <p>The CCGs are <b>not</b> proposing changes to the prescribing of medicines to treat long-term conditions such as regular pain relief for osteoarthritis or medicines that are only available on prescription such as antibiotics, statins and blood pressure and diabetes treatments.</p>
<b>Reasons for service variation i.e. Case for Change</b>	<p>The NHS spends valuable doctors' time and money prescribing medicines, treatments, products and food items that are available to buy without a prescription.</p> <p>We would expect to save around £1million across Herts if this proposal was implemented.</p> <p>We want people to take more responsibility for their own health and wellbeing</p>
<b>Impact on the Wider Community</b> ( <i>e.g. transport, accessibility</i> )	<p>Free up more clinician's time for patients with complex health needs</p> <p>Improve access for treating minor ailments from a community pharmacy – highly trained pharmacists are able to offer expert advice</p>
<b>Number of Patients/Carers Affected</b>	Patients that currently receive free prescriptions such as children, elderly and those

	on low incomes). If however, a GP or prescribing nurse is concerned for the welfare of a patient, a prescription would be issued.
<b>Changes in Methods of Service Delivery</b>	If the proposal is adopted, patients would need to go to local supermarkets and shops to buy medicines available over the counter for short term ailments.
<b>Impact on other Services</b> (e.g. health, social care, voluntary sector)	The proposed change may also affect patients presenting at emergency departments, dentists, midwives, health visitors, community nurses and allied health professionals.
<b>Impact on different communities</b> (e.g. age, gender, locality)	Please see equality assessment. Links to go live 8 July: <a href="http://www.healthierfuture.org.uk/nhsletstalk">www.healthierfuture.org.uk/nhsletstalk</a>
<b>Date due at Health &amp; Wellbeing Board</b>	Herts Valleys financial turnaround plans discussed at HWBB 19 May 2017 Programme as a whole presented at HWBB conference 30 June
<b>Proposed Engagement</b>	This is one of the proposals that form part of the major 'let's talk' consultation programme that both CCGs are conducting over the summer months.