

Pharmacy and appliance contractor opening hours over the Christmas and New Year period 2011/2

Please see the accompanying notes on page 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 19 Normal opening hours	20 Normal opening hours	21 Normal opening hours	22 Normal opening hours	23 Normal opening hours	24 Normal opening hours	25 Christmas day. Treated as open.
26 Boxing Day. Bank holiday. Treated as open.	27 Bank holiday. Treated as open.	28 Normal opening hours	29 Normal opening hours	30 Normal opening hours	31 Normal opening hours	January 1 Normal opening hours
2 Bank holiday in lieu of Sunday 1 st . Treated as open.	3 Normal opening hours	4 Normal opening hours	5 Normal opening hours	6 Normal opening hours	7 Normal opening hours	8 Normal opening hours

Notes

1. Pharmacy and dispensing appliance contractors (DACs) are deemed to be open on bank holidays for the purposes of calculating their core opening hours (paragraph 22(11), Schedule 1 and paragraph 10(9), Schedule 3 respectively). They are therefore not required to open on such days but may choose to do so and PCTs may direct them to do so (paragraph 24, Schedule 1 for pharmacies or paragraph 12, Schedule 3 for DACs). They are encouraged to declare whether they intend to open on such days but are not required to do so as part of their Terms of Service. PCTs are therefore advised to request this information in plenty of time.
2. If a pharmacy or DAC wishes to vary its core hours (whether 40, 100 or not less than 30) then it must apply to the PCT at least 90 days in advance. The PCT may request such information as is required to demonstrate that the needs of people within the neighbourhood, or other likely users of the pharmacy or DAC, have changed so as to necessitate a change in core opening hours.
3. If a 100 hour pharmacy wishes to change its core opening hours, then it must still provide 100 hours in that week. It is for the PCT and the contractor to agree the beginning and end of the working week however it is common practice that the working week runs Monday to Sunday. PCTs can not allow such pharmacies to provide fewer than 100 hours per week.
4. If a pharmacy contractor wishes to change its supplementary hours, then they can notify the PCT of this change giving at least three months notice. PCTs are not required to determine such a notification but should as a minimum acknowledge receipt.
5. DACs are required to be open for not less than 30 core hours per week. As with pharmacy contractors they may open for more than 30 hours per week and may change these. They are required to notify the PCT of such a change, but are not required to give a minimum notice period.
6. Pharmacies and DACs are deemed to be open on public holidays for the purposes of calculating their core opening hours (paragraph 22(11), Schedule 1 and paragraph 10(9), Schedule 3 respectively) and so are not required to open on Christmas Day unless directed to do so by the PCT under paragraph 24, Schedule 1 or paragraph 12, Schedule 3 respectively.
7. Monday 26 and Tuesday 27 December 2011 are bank holidays by virtue of Schedule 1 of the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971. Monday 2 January 2012 is to be proclaimed a bank holiday in lieu of Sunday 1 January 2012. PCTs and contractors should therefore plan accordingly and the earlier table reflects the intended position for these two days.