

Pharmacy First Referrals S1 BaRS

Pharmacy First referrals can now be made directly through SystmOne using the Booking and Referral Standard (BaRS) referral option. This method has been used successfully in other systems. This provides an efficient integrated way to refer patients to the Pharmacy First service, which is not time consuming.

In Dorset, currently we have two methods of referral:

1. Pharmrefer – for practices currently using this method please plan to implement changing to using the integrated S1 BaRS solution by end of February 2026 as the current Pharmrefer licence will be expiring and is not being renewed.
2. Ardens template via NHS mail – please consider moving to the S1 BaRS option as this is fully integrated and will reduce the time currently taken to make referrals.

Please continue to refer patients to the pharmacy of their choice, to ensure everyone is working within the national specification which states:

‘The referring organisation will refer appropriate patients, who are presenting with low acuity minor illness conditions, or a request for an urgent supply of repeat medicines, to a community pharmacy of the patient's choice.

The referring organisation will offer patients a choice of pharmacies which are participating in Pharmacy First. The referring organisation should use the Directory of Services (DoS) to offer patients a choice of pharmacies for the service, based on location and availability at that time. If the DoS is not available, then a choice of pharmacies must be offered to the patient by the referring organisation that includes the list of local pharmacies offering the service.’

When you are ready to go live using S1 BaRS to make Pharmacy First referrals please can you communicate this to your local community pharmacies. The quarterly PCN GP/CP meetings are also a good opportunity to discuss this, if you would like to attend and aren't receiving invites, please contact admin@dorsetlpc.org.uk.

It would be really helpful to know how many practices have gone live with the S1 BaRS method for making digital Pharmacy First referrals for Clinical Pathways and Minor Illness, if you can email fiona.arnold@nhsdorset.nhs.uk this would be really appreciated. If you require additional support for implementation, please contact SAIL@dorsetlpc.org.uk.

BaRS – integrated referral method on SystmOne

S1 training is available on the TPP training site (TPP login required): <https://training.tpp-uk.com/BARS-referrals-to-pharmacies>.

If you don't have access to the S1 training, there's also a short overview video at: [BaRs - Referrals to Pharmacies on Vimeo](#), which doesn't require a login.

Top tips:

1 – When it shows the pharmacy status as green this information is not based on anything. Pharmacies do not change their status on DoS and therefore all pharmacies whether they are busy or not will show as green.

Select Pharmacy

Service: Pharmacy First: Minor illness

Postcode: NW11 6HE

☒ Include closed pharmacies ☒ Include pharmacies closing in the next 15 minutes

Search

Distance	Opening Hours	Open Now	Phone	Capacity
5.7 miles	Thursday: Open all day Friday: Open all day Saturday: Open all day Sunday: Open all day Monday: Open all day Tuesday: Open all day Wednesday: Open all day	Open		
5.7 miles	Thursday: Open all day Friday: Open all day Saturday: Open all day Sunday: Open all day Monday: Open all day Tuesday: Open all day Wednesday: Open all day	Open		
8.7 miles	Thursday: 09:00 - 19:00 Friday: 09:00 - 19:00 Saturday: 09:00 - 16:00 Sunday: Closed Monday: 09:00 - 19:00 Tuesday: 09:00 - 19:00 Wednesday: 09:00 - 19:00	Open	020 8874 1636	

Ok Cancel

2 – On the referral screen it is not mandatory to complete all three boxes. To keep the process as simple as possible just use the 3-word description of the condition in the first box e.g. UTI, Sore throat, headache, hay fever etc and then just put N/A in the other 2 boxes as they need something in them for the form to send. Additional information can be added if the care navigator feels this is appropriate.

BARS Referral Details

Other Details... Exact date & time Tue 25 Nov 2025 11:23

Changing the consultation date will affect all other data entered. To avoid this, cancel and press the 'Next' button [Hide Warning](#)

Pharmacy Details

Pharmacy: Service ID: 2000039220

Address:

Status: Pending

Patient Contact Details

*Contact Number: *Contact Type: Known Telecoms

Referral Details

*Condition: Sore throat Presets

*Narrative: NA Presets

*Instruction: NA Presets

Ok Cancel