

Which budgets are the costs of the NHS pharmacy service re-charged to?

The funding for the community pharmacy contractual framework is negotiated nationally and distributed to NHS pharmacy contractors through a mix of fees, allowances and retained margins from the purchase of medicines.

Once NHS Prescription Services have calculated the funding due to a pharmacy contractor, NHS Prescription Services pay the pharmacy contractor and re-charge the costs to the relevant budget.

Prior to 1st April 2010, there were two key funding sources, central funding (commonly known as the 'global sum') and funding recharged to PCTs. On the 1st April 2010 the Global Sum was devolved from the Department of Health to PCTs and a number of changes made to the way in which PCTs were re-charged for certain reimbursement and remuneration costs.

The table below give a summary of where various aspects of pharmacy funding are re-charged to:

Reimbursement

Costs	Paid from (before April 2010)	Paid from (April 2010 onwards)
Drugs / Appliances (including the retained buying profit element of the pharmacy contract funding)	PCT budget of GP / prescriber	PCT budget of GP / prescriber
Out of pockets expense claims	Fair shared	Fair shared*
Container Allowance	PCT budget of GP/prescriber	PCT budget of GP/Prescriber

Remuneration

Fee	Paid from (before April 2010)	Paid from (April 2010 onwards)
Professional and additional Dispensing fees (including limited stability, additional container, expensive item, Controlled drug, measured and fitted, extemporaneously dispensed, home delivery)	Centrally held funding	PCT budget of GP / prescriber
Practice Payment	PCT where pharmacy is located	Fair shared
Establishment payment	Centrally held funding	PCT where pharmacy is located
Transitional payment	Centrally held funding	Fair shared
MUR Fee	PCT where the pharmacy is located	Fair shared #

AUR Fee	N/A	Fair shared #
Stoma Appliance Customisation Service	N/A	PCT budget of GP/Prescriber
EPS monthly allowance	PCT where the pharmacy is located	PCT where the pharmacy is located
Repeat dispensing allowance	Centrally held funding	Fair shared
Pre-Registration training grants	Centrally held funding	Fair shared

*"Fair shared" refers to the allocation of cost across all PCTs in the proportion to the total of professional fees attributable to each PCT.

Fair shared for AUR and MUR fees is in the proportion to the total MUR or AUR fees, as appropriate attributable to each PCT.