

Gluten Free Policy Statement

From 1 April 2017

NHS Mansfield & Ashfield and NHS Newark & Sherwood Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) do not support the supply of Gluten Free Foods on NHS prescription

In January 2017 the CCGs carried out a survey of the general public for comments about plans to Stop NHS prescriptions of gluten free foods for people who live in Mansfield and Ashfield and Newark & Sherwood areas.

At its meeting on the 16 February 2017, the joint Governing Body reviewed these comments and agreed to **stop** NHS prescriptions for Gluten Free foods, **for all patients**, unless there are special circumstances.

Where there are no special circumstances, prescribers are directed NOT to prescribe Gluten Free Foods.

Date of Implementation

This policy will be implemented:-

- From 1 March 2017 for all patients who receive a diagnosis of coeliac disease or dermatitis herpetiformis from that date.
- From 1 April 2017 for all existing patients diagnosed with coeliac disease or dermatitis herpetiformis, where there are no special circumstances.

Patient information

If you have been diagnosed with coeliac disease then it's important to talk to your doctor about what this means. Ask him or her to refer you to a Registered Dietitian for advice on what you can and can't eat. Information to help you learn more about how best to manage your diet and health is also available on NHS Choices website and the Coeliac UK website www.nhs.uk/conditions/coeliac-disease and <https://www.coeliac.org.uk/home/>

This policy applies to all patients. However, special cases will be considered on an individual patient basis. Where a patient's GP considers that a patient would receive additional benefit from NHS treatment when compared to other patients with the same clinical condition, they will be able to refer into a central CCG panel for the case to be considered.

Any queries about this policy should be directed to the CCGs Patient Engagement Team on 0800 028 3693; email NSHCCG.Pet-North@nhs.net or in writing to Patient Experience Team, NHS Newark and Sherwood Clinical Commissioning Group, Balderton Primary Care Centre, Lowfield Lane, Balderton, Nottinghamshire NG24 3HJ