

This workplan is updated monthly and includes topics in active development. Find the most recent version [on our website](#)

- To suggest a topic or enquire about anything on this workplan, please email us at [nuth.nyrdtc.rxsupp@nhs.net](mailto:nuth.nyrdtc.rxsupp@nhs.net).
- To view a list of recently published items, visit the [recent publications](#) page of our website.
- See the end of the workplan for descriptions of each type of publication, and anticipated publication frequency.

## Regular publications

A wide range of regular publications are produced on a frequent basis, as outlined below. They are available to staff at NHS stakeholder organisations via the [RDTC website](#) (login required).

Title	Publication anticipated (financial quarter)
<a href="#">Monthly financial headlines</a> Monitor budget performance based on total prescribing at sub-ICB and PCN level for the financial year to date	Monthly, approx. 7 working days after ePACT2 data published
<a href="#">Monthly formulary amendments</a> Summary of issues impacting local formularies, including NICE guidance, RMOC outputs, Drug Safety Updates, and NPSA alerts	Monthly, before the 10 <sup>th</sup> of the month
<a href="#">Monthly horizon scanning report</a> Summary of new products and licenses, significant new guidance, and decisions from recognised national and regional bodies	Monthly, before the 16 <sup>th</sup> of the month
<b>Therapeutic reports</b> Examine prescribing trends in a specific therapeutic area, at ICB and SICBL levels. Prescribing data is weighted with QoF registers, and uses HES data where possible to measure prescribing and outcomes.	Quarterly or six-monthly. Next publication date:
<a href="#">Antimicrobial drugs</a>	Q2 (Jul-Sept)
<a href="#">Cardiovascular system</a>	Q2 (Jul-Sept)
<a href="#">Drugs used in diabetes</a>	Q2 (Jul-Sept)
<a href="#">Drugs for dementia</a>	Q2 (Jul-Sept)
<a href="#">Respiratory</a>	Q2 (Jul-Sept)
<a href="#">Pain management</a>	Q1 (Apr-Jun)

Title	Publication anticipated (financial quarter)
<a href="#">RDTC newsletter</a> Update on RDTC activities, to help tailor local work plans and highlight topical issues in prescribing or medicines management.	Every two months Next edition: June 2023
<a href="#">Cost comparison charts</a> Cost charts, organised by BNF classification, showing comparative costs at the NHS basic price.	Quarterly Next edition: Q2 (Jul-Sept)
<a href="#">Price concession bulletin</a> Predicted cost impact of drug price changes, both through the Price Concessions list and monthly Drug Tariff cost variations	Monthly Next edition: Q1 (Apr-Jun)
<a href="#">Top 50 BNF sections and drugs</a> Top 50 BNF sections and drugs in terms of spend at SICBL level for the financial year to date, with a focus on growth	Quarterly Next edition: Q1 (Apr-Jun)
<a href="#">Growth contrast tool</a> Identify important local effects on prescribing costs by comparing growth with national patterns	Quarterly Next edition: Q1 (Apr-Jun)
<a href="#">Drug tariff monitor</a> Predicted cost impact of Drug Tariff category A, M and C price changes on primary care spending	Quarterly Next edition: Q1 (Apr-Jun)

## Forthcoming publications

To feedback on new or updated publications or take part as an external commentator, please email us at [nuth.nyrdtc.rxsupp@nhs.net](mailto:nuth.nyrdtc.rxsupp@nhs.net). Regular publications are produced on a regular schedule, as outline below. They are available to all staff at NHS stakeholder organisations via the [RDTC website](#) (login required).

Title	Type	Topic	Publication anticipated (financial quarter)
<a href="#">Inhaler carbon impact assessment tool (update)</a>	<a href="#">Prescribing data report</a>	<a href="#">Respiratory</a>	Q1 (Apr-Jun)
<b>Defining the diabetic population drug combinations;</b> a first step to understanding the impact of pathway choices	<a href="#">Strategic insights</a>	<a href="#">Diabetes and endocrine</a>	Q1 (Apr-Jun)
<b>Social prescribing:</b> impact on medicines prescribing and other outcomes	<a href="#">Strategic insights</a>	<a href="#">Medicines value</a>	Q1 (Apr-Jun)
<b>Teriparatide outside of NICE guidance</b>	<a href="#">Evaluation report</a>	<a href="#">Musculoskeletal</a>	Q2 (Jul-Sept)

Title	Type	Topic	Publication anticipated (financial quarter)
Prescribing non-branded levetiracetam	<a href="#">Safer medication use</a>	<a href="#">Medicines safety</a>	Q2 (Jul-Sept)
Incorporating primary and secondary care prescribing data to better understand the ICS	<a href="#">Prescribing for population health</a>	<a href="#">Medicines value</a>	Q2 (Jul-Sept)
Disposal of inhalers	<a href="#">Prescribing bulletin</a>	<a href="#">Medicines value</a>	Q3 (Oct-Dec)
<a href="#">Antimicrobial prescribing</a>	<a href="#">Prescribing for population health</a>	<a href="#">Antimicrobial</a>	Q3 (Oct-Dec)
<b>Electronic repeat dispensing:</b> implementation, clinical considerations, and thresholds	<a href="#">Strategic insights</a>	<a href="#">Medicines value</a>	Q3 (Oct-Dec)
<b>Polypharmacy:</b> opioids in urgent and emergency care	<a href="#">Strategic insights</a>	<a href="#">Medicines safety</a>	Q3 (Oct-Dec)

## Who we are and what we do

We are an NHS organisation hosted by an NHS Foundation Trust. The unit is a multidisciplinary group of senior pharmacists, a medicines evaluation team, and data analysts and statistician. We work closely with many NHS organisations to support collaborative working across systems and sectors.

Below is a list of outputs, with a summary of their content and frequency. If you identify a topic that fits into one or more of these categories and would benefit your team or work streams, please get in touch at [nuth.nyrdtc.rxsupp@nhs.net](mailto:nuth.nyrdtc.rxsupp@nhs.net) to discuss. See our website for a list of [recent publications](#).

Type	Description	Frequency
<b>Evidence evaluation and medicines optimisation</b>		
Intended audience: medicines optimisation teams, formulary and prescribing committees, and prescribers		
<b>New drug evaluation</b>	Concise, structured reviews of new drugs recently launched within the NHS. These documents seek to provide a brief overview of the efficacy, safety and cost of new drugs.	6-12 annually
<b>Medicines in practice</b>	Evidence-based publications designed to support medicines optimisation activities. The series aims to maximise health gains through the optimum use of medicines, by influencing and changing prescribing behaviour.	
<b>Evaluation reports</b>	Evidence-based publications specifically designed to support stakeholder medicines optimisation services. The series aims to maximise health gains through the optimum use of medicines, by influencing and changing prescribing behaviour.	
<b>Prescriber support tools</b>	Tools to support medicines management teams and prescribers in clinical decision-making, such as comparison tables for a therapeutic class to highlight clinical similarities and differences.	
<b>Safer medication use</b>	Bulletin series jointly produced with the Yellow Card Centre Northern and Yorkshire, discussing specific drug related safety problems. Provides guidance to ensure safe, appropriate prescribing and raises awareness of adverse drug reaction detection and reporting.	
<b>Formulary assessment tool</b>	Templates to support local decision-making, pre-populated with information required to make a formulary decision on the specific product. Intended to reduce duplication of effort, with space for the addition of local information as appropriate.	10-12 annually
<b>Newsletter</b>	Informs readers of RDTc activities, to help tailor local work plans and highlight topical issues in prescribing or medicines management.	Every two months

<b>Prescribing data reports and analysis</b>		
Intended audience: medicines optimisation teams, medicines commissioning and finance teams		
<b>Monthly financial headlines</b>	Monitors budget performance based on total prescribing for the whole BNF at SICBL and PCN level for the financial year to date with particular focus on cost and item growth compared to the same period from the previous financial year.	Monthly
<b>Therapeutic reports</b>	Therapeutic reports examine prescribing trends in a specific therapeutic area, at SICBL and ICB levels. Prescribing data is weighted with QoF registers, and uses HES data where possible to measure prescribing and outcomes.	Quarterly or six monthly, depending on topic
<b>Cost comparison charts</b>	Over 80 charts, organised by BNF classification, showing comparative costs at the NHS basic price. Charts generally show annual costs at the indicated doses.	Quarterly
<b>Drug tariff monitor</b>	Predicted cost impact of Drug Tariff category A, M and C price changes on primary care spending, calculated by matching the ePACT2 prescribing data for the latest month available to the current prices listed in the Drug Tariff.	Quarterly
<b>Price concession bulletin</b>	Predicted cost impact of drug price changes, both through the Price Concessions list and monthly Drug Tariff cost variations. The data is calculated by matching the ePACT2 prescribing data for the latest month available to the current prices listed in the Drug Tariff.	Monthly
<b>Top 50 BNF sections &amp; drugs</b>	Top 50 BNF sections and drugs in terms of spend at SICBL level for the financial year to date, with a focus on cost growth and item growth.	Quarterly
<b>Growth contrast</b>	Identify important local effects on prescribing costs. Figures derived by comparing growth in prescribing costs and items in selected SICBLs with what might have happened if national growth patterns had applied.	Quarterly
<b>Strategic and planning resources</b>		
Intended audience: strategic medicines optimisation and commissioning teams and committees		
<b>Annual horizon scanning</b>	A Key Considerations document and cost calculator, covering medicines and indications expected to launch in the coming 12-15 months. Includes current prescribing budget position, and suggesting proposed uplifts to prescribing budgets for the next financial year.	Annual
<b>Prescribing bulletins</b>	Bulletins covering focused medicines optimisation issues such as the implementation of national guidelines. Estimates potential financial and commissioning impacts and signposts to useful resources.	Quarterly
<b>Inhaler carbon impact assessment tool</b>	Tool intended for use at a commissioning level to estimate the impact of respiratory pathway choices made following a clinical decision-making process.	Six monthly

<b>Prescribing for population health</b>	Bulletins intended to support ICSs to improve the health of the populations they serve, using prescribing data, biomedical literature and other data sources to provide new insights.	Four per year
<b>Financial impact and outcome assessments</b>	Assessment of the financial impact and health outcomes associated with implementing a health technology, clinical pathway or guideline, using a multidisciplinary approach including biomedical evidence, prescribing analysis, and health economics methodology.	Two per year
<b>Professional secretarial services and functions</b>		
Intended user: medicines optimisation groups, e.g. <a href="#">GMMMG</a> , <a href="#">NTAG</a>		
<b>Professional secretarial services</b>	Running of a group, including agenda setting, minute taking, governance (including ToR prep), annual report, decision summaries, newsletters, membership maintenance, and maintaining a DOI register.	As required. Contact the Centre using the details below to discuss options in full.
<b>Enquiry answering</b>	Answering or redirecting enquiries specifically related to the group and its decisions	
<b>Sharing of group decisions</b>	Uploading of decisions to a formulary platform or website (does not include provision of platform or website by RDTC)	
<b>Provision and maintenance of a group website</b>	Provision of a platform or website, and maintenance of content such as group decisions, pathways and guidelines, and meeting minutes.	
<b>Consultation management</b>	The management of a consultation process to include preparing consultation questions, uploading documents, collating responses, and passing to document author(s) for action.	
<b>Formulary maintenance</b>		
Intended audience: local or regional formulary committees		
<b>Formulary maintenance</b>	Assessment of formulary applications, full and regular reviews of formulary, and routine amendments to reflect national guidance and safety alerts.	As required. Contact the Centre using the details below to discuss options in full.
<b>Pathways and guidelines support</b>		
Intended audience: local, regional or national clinical networks and medicines optimisation groups		
<b>Clinical pathway checking or revision</b>	Clinical checking or revision of clinical guidelines, pathways, or shared care protocols, to provide assurance on clinical appropriateness and safety.	As required. Contact the Centre using the details below to discuss options in full.
<b>Clinical pathway development</b>	Development of clinical guidelines, pathways, or shared care protocols, using robust and transparent processes to ensure high quality.	
<b>Working group support</b>	Running a clinical working group, decision group, or task and finish group to support production or revision of clinical guidelines and pathways.	

<b>Basic financial and commissioning impact</b>	Determining the basic impacts of a pathway or guideline, including impact on commissioned services	
<b>Strategic support</b> Intended audience: local or regional strategic medicines groups		
<b>Medicines plan development</b>	Development of an integrated care system medicines plan produced annually and revised bi-annually. Accompanied by a monitoring and assurance schedule.	As required. Contact the Centre using the details below to discuss options in full.
<b>Group attendance</b>	Attendance at a regular committee or group meeting, in an advisory capacity, to provide strategic input.	