

# Registered pharmacy inspection report

## Pharmacy name: Cohens Chemist

**Address:** 407 Queens Road, MANCHESTER, Lancashire, M40 8RL

**Pharmacy reference:** 1085468

**Type of pharmacy:** Community

**Date of inspection:** 20/01/2026

### Pharmacy context and inspection background

This is a traditional community pharmacy in a suburban residential area, serving the local population. It mainly prepares NHS prescription medicines. A large number of people also receive their medicines in weekly multi-compartment compliance packs to help make sure they take them safely. The pharmacy provides other NHS services including the New Medicine Service (NMS), Pharmacy First, influenza vaccinations, hypertension case finding, substance misuse treatments, and oral contraception. It also has a home delivery service.

This was a routine inspection of the pharmacy which focused on the core Standards relating to patient safety. Not all the Standards were inspected on this occasion. The pharmacy was last inspected in October 2015.

**Overall outcome:** Standards met

**Required Action:** None

Follow this link to [find out what the inspections possible outcomes mean](#)

### Standards that were met with areas for improvement

#### Standard 1.2

- The dispenser or checker did not always initial dispensing labels, which may create difficulties

clarifying who was responsible for each prescription medication supplied and could limit their opportunities to learn and improve.

- The pharmacy team discuss and document mistakes it identifies when preparing medicines at the time they happen. The team also review these records regularly. However, these records do not always include why each mistake had happened. So, the pharmacy could be missing additional opportunities to identify patterns and mitigate risks in the dispensing process.

### **Standard 1.6**

- The pharmacy keeps an electronic record of the responsible pharmacist (RP). However, the RP does not always document when they ceased working in this role. So, the pharmacy may have difficulties identifying the RP if needed.

### **Standard 4.2**

- The pharmacy has written procedures for dispensing high risk medicines. But the procedure for dispensing valproate does not include all the recommended checks. So, there is a risk that at risk patients may not receive all the relevant advice.

### **Standard 4.3**

- The pharmacy regularly checks medicine stock expiry dates. But it does not always retain the records of these checks. So, the pharmacy may have difficulties verifying these checks in the event of a query.

## Principle 1: The governance arrangements safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 1: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 1

Standard	Outcome of individual standard	Area for improvement/ Area of good or excellent practice
1.1 - The risks associated with providing pharmacy services are identified and managed	Met	
1.2 - The safety and quality of pharmacy services are regularly reviewed and monitored	Met	<b>Area for improvement</b>
1.3 - Pharmacy services are provided by staff with clearly defined roles and clear lines of accountability	Met	
1.4 - Feedback and concerns about the pharmacy, services and staff can be raised by individuals and organisations, and these are taken into account and action taken where appropriate	Standard not inspected	
1.5 - Appropriate indemnity or insurance arrangements are in place for the pharmacy services provided	Met	
1.6 - All necessary records for the safe provision of pharmacy services are kept and maintained	Met	<b>Area for improvement</b>
1.7 - Information is managed to protect the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of patients and the public who receive pharmacy services	Met	
1.8 - Children and vulnerable adults are safeguarded	Met	

## Principle 2: Staff are empowered and competent to safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 2: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 2

Standard	Outcome of individual standard	Area for improvement/ Area of good or excellent practice
2.1 - There are enough staff, suitably qualified and skilled, for the safe and effective provision of the pharmacy services provided	Met	
2.2 - Staff have the appropriate skills, qualifications and competence for their role and the tasks they carry out, or are working under the supervision of another person while they are in training	Met	
2.3 - Staff can comply with their own professional and legal obligations and are empowered to exercise their professional judgement in the best interests of patients and the public	Met	
2.4 - There is a culture of openness, honesty and learning	Standard not inspected	
2.5 - Staff are empowered to provide feedback and raise concerns about meeting these standards and other aspects of pharmacy services	Standard not inspected	
2.6 - Incentives or targets do not compromise the health, safety or wellbeing of patients and the public, or the professional judgement of staff	Standard not inspected	

### Principle 3: The environment and condition of the premises from which pharmacy services are provided, and any associated premises, safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 3: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 3

Standard	Outcome of individual standard	Area for improvement/ Area of good or excellent practice
3.1 - Premises are safe, clean, properly maintained and suitable for the pharmacy services provided	Met	
3.2 - Premises protect the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of patients and the public who receive pharmacy services	Met	
3.3 - Premises are maintained to a level of hygiene appropriate to the pharmacy services provided	Standard not inspected	
3.4 - Premises are secure and safeguarded from unauthorized access	Met	
3.5 - Pharmacy services are provided in an environment that is appropriate for the provision of healthcare	Standard not inspected	

## Principle 4: The way in which pharmacy services, including management of medicines and medical devices, are delivered safeguards the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 4: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 4

Standard	Outcome of individual standard	Area for improvement/ Area of good or excellent practice
4.1 - The pharmacy services provided are accessible to patients and the public	Met	
4.2 - Pharmacy services are managed and delivered safely and effectively	Met	<b>Area for improvement</b>
4.3 - Medicines and medical devices are: obtained from a reputable source; safe and fit for purpose; stored securely; safeguarded from unauthorized access; supplied to the patient safely; and disposed of safely and securely	Met	<b>Area for improvement</b>
4.4 - Concerns are raised when medicines or medical devices are not fit for purpose	Met	

## Principle 5: The equipment and facilities used in the provision of pharmacy services safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

### Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 5: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 5

Standard	Outcome of individual standard	Area for improvement/ Area of good or excellent practice
5.1 - Equipment and facilities needed to provide pharmacy services are readily available	Met	
5.2 - Equipment and facilities are: obtained from a reputable source; safe and fit for purpose; stored securely; safeguarded from unauthorized access; and appropriately maintained	Standard not inspected	
5.3 - Equipment and facilities are used in a way that protects the privacy and dignity of the patients and the public who receive pharmacy services	Standard not inspected	

### What do the summary outcomes for each principle mean?

Finding	Meaning
✓ <b>Excellent practice</b>	The pharmacy demonstrates innovation in the way it delivers pharmacy services which benefit the health needs of the local community, as well as performing well against the standards.
✓ <b>Good practice</b>	The pharmacy performs well against most of the standards and can demonstrate positive outcomes for patients from the way it delivers pharmacy services.
✓ <b>Standards met</b>	The pharmacy meets all the standards.
<b>Standards not all met</b>	The pharmacy has not met one or more standards.