

Registered pharmacy inspection report

Pharmacy name: Hobbs Pharmacy

Address: Herts & Essex Hospital, Cavell Drive, BISHOP'S STORTFORD, Hertfordshire, CM23 5JH

Pharmacy reference: 1111445

Type of pharmacy: Community

Date of inspection: 25/06/2025

Pharmacy context and inspection background

This community pharmacy is located within the site of Herts & Essex Hospital. It dispenses NHS and private prescriptions. And it sells medicines over the counter. The pharmacy dispenses medicines into multi-compartment compliance packs for some people to help them take their medicines safely. It offers some NHS services such as Pharmacy First and a seasonal flu vaccination service. And the pharmacy provides a prescription delivery service to people who cannot get to the pharmacy.

This was a full routine inspection of the pharmacy. The pharmacy was last inspected in January 2016.

Overall outcome: Standards not all met

Required Action: Improvement Action Plan

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

Standards not met

Standard 1.1

- The pharmacy has some written standard operating procedures (SOPs) but these are not well organised and it cannot always demonstrate clearly which versions are in current use. Also, the

pharmacy cannot show that all team members have read the SOPs they should be following in the pharmacy. This means team members may not be working in the most safe and efficient way.

Standard 2.2

- A pharmacy team member has not been enrolled on or completed an accredited training course relevant to their role. This means they are carrying out tasks for which they are not appropriately trained or doing the right training.

Standard 4.3

- The pharmacy does not store all medicines requiring refrigeration appropriately. And it does not keep complete records of fridge temperatures so cannot show that medicines requiring cold storage are always stored at the right temperature.

Standards that were met with areas for improvement

Standard 3.1

- The pharmacy has sufficient workbench space. However, some areas are cluttered with prescription bags awaiting collection and baskets containing prescriptions awaiting a final check. This means team members may not always have space to work in the most safe and efficient way.

Standard 4.2

- The pharmacy appears to have enough team members to provide its services safely. However, there is a backlog in dispensing workload. This may indicate an opportunity for workload in the pharmacy to be better managed.

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

Summary outcome: Standards not all 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	Not met	
1.2 - The safety and quality of pharmacy services are regularly reviewed and monitored	Met	
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	Met	
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	
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 not all 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	Not 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	Met	
2.5 - Staff are empowered to provide feedback and raise concerns about meeting these standards and other aspects of pharmacy services	Met	
2.6 - Incentives or targets do not compromise the health, safety or wellbeing of patients and the public, or the professional judgement of staff	Met	

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	Area for improvement
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	Met	
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	Met	

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 not all 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	Area for improvement
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	Not met	
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	Met	
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	Met	

What do the summary outcomes for each principle mean?

Finding	Meaning
✓ Excellent practice	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.
✓ Good practice	The pharmacy performs well against most of the standards and can demonstrate positive outcomes for patients from the way it delivers pharmacy services.
✓ Standards met	The pharmacy meets all the standards.
Standards not all met	The pharmacy has not met one or more standards.