

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) Position Statement for Smoking Cessation Prescribing

Practices are reminded that smoking cessation services are commissioned by Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council and different commissioning arrangements exist between the two local authorities. Accessing these services ensures patients receive behavioural support as well as pharmacotherapy. Quit attempts are more likely to be successful with behavioural support.

Nottingham City Place-Based Partnership (PBP):

Practices should **not** prescribe Nicotine Replacement Treatment (NRT), varenicline (Champix®), bupropion (Zyban®) or cytisine on FP10. Instead, smokers should be directed or referred to Thriving Nottingham (Thrive Tribe), where they will also get behavioural support.

Mid Nottinghamshire, South Nottinghamshire and Bassetlaw PBPs:

Practices should **not** prescribe Nicotine Replacement Treatment (NRT), varenicline (Champix®), bupropion (Zyban®) or cytisine on FP10. Instead, smokers should be directed or referred to [Your Health Notts \(ABL Health\)](#), where they will also get behavioural support.

We are aware that in some areas general practices are being asked to prescribe prescription-only smoking cessation medicines (varenicline (Champix®), bupropion (Zyban®) or cytisine) for patients already accessing local smoking cessation services. The ICB is concerned that asking general practices to prescribe a medicine when they are not involved in the intervention in any other way fragments the patient pathway and increases clinical risk for the prescriber. It also increases the workload for the practice by undertaking activity that is unnecessary as it has already been commissioned elsewhere.

The ICB position is clear that it would be inappropriate for GP practices to prescribe these medicines in these circumstances.