

Section 6:

Non-commissioned services

Community pharmacies provide a range of services which are neither part of the core contract with the NHS, nor commissioned by local commissioners. These services are often very valuable for special patient groups, for example the housebound or elderly, but are provided at the discretion of the pharmacy owner. As these services are not reimbursed by the NHS, the decision to provide the service is often a commercial one and not aligned necessarily with need. These services will often increase a pharmacy operational costs whilst providing minimal return on investment. Non-commissioned services identified in the pharmaceutical needs assessment questionnaire are detailed in the table below.

Table 30: Number of pharmacies providing non-commissioned services

	Newcastle East	Newcastle North	Newcastle West	Newcastle TOTAL
Prescription collection service	20	16	29	65
Prescription delivery service	19	13	28	60
Pregnancy testing	3	1	10	14
Blood pressure checks	6	7	9	22
Blood glucose checks	4	3	7	14
Blood cholesterol checks	2	2	3	7
Weight management service	0	0	0	0
Erectile dysfunction service	1	2	2	5
Hairloss service	0	1	1	0
Travel clinic	0	3	3	6
SOURCE: Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Questionnaire, August 2014				