

Gluten Free Prescriptions and Products

We are no longer able to prescribe gluten free foods. Our local NHS needs to ensure that all patients in Morecambe Bay received equitable services from their GP Practice and other NHS providers. They also need to ensure that all the funding allocated to it is spent in the most cost effective way. In our area, Morecambe Bay Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is responsible for making decisions about which treatments are available locally through the NHS.

Morecambe Bay CCG has recently approved a policy that requires the Practice to stop supplying prescription for gluten free foods. This will release significant savings that will be used locally for other high priority NHS services.

The CCG's decision follows a review of gluten free prescribing that considered comment from local public engagement and the national guidance recently issues by NHS England. The CCG also took account of the following points in making the decision to stop providing gluten free food:

- A wider range of gluten free products are now available at supermarkets, health food shops and online.
- Many carbohydrates foods are naturally gluten free, such as potatoes, rice and some noodles. These products can be bought from supermarkets.
- Gluten free products are significantly more expensive when prescribed on the NHS, than the retail price in the shops and online.
- Food items are generally not available on prescription for other conditions.

Individuals who require advice and support can continue to receive this from their dietician and dietetics service. Patients are urged to attend annual review appointments when they are offered.

As the Practice is required to implement the Morecambe Bay CCG gluten free food policy, we will no longer be able to prescribe gluten free items.

If you have any queries relating to this change, please contact us on 01524 843333. If you remain unhappy with the Morecambe Bay CCG gluten free food policy, you should contact Morecambe Bay CCG directly:

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