

A is for Access

Local Enhanced Service Specification

Extended Hours 2012-13

Introduction

1. All practices are expected to provide essential services and those additional services they are contracted to provide to all their patients under the GMS contract. The specification of this service therefore outlines the general and more specialised service to be provided that is beyond the scope of essential services. No part of the specification by commission, omission or implication defines or redefines essential or additional services.

Background

2. Practices are resourced under the GMS Contract for the provision of General Medical Services during the core hours of 8.00am – 6.30pm.
3. The Extended Hours LES enables practices to provide a more flexible range of GP/Nurse appointments to meet patients' requirements, particularly for those patients who work outside the practice catchment area and who may have difficulty in accessing daytime appointments.
4. Only those Practices meeting the requirements of A is Access – 5 standards will be eligible for this LES.
5. The Extended Hours LES further supports the "A" is For Access scheme and recognises those practices that have achieved the optimum level of access "in hours". Subject to available funding and Health Board approval, practices attaining 5 "A" status, in year, will become eligible for this LES (offered in the order that they attain the maximum rating).

Aims

6. To provide extended hours outside of "core hours", to deliver a flexible range of GP/Nurse appointments.

Service Outline

7. Practices will be required to submit plans for the proposed extended opening to be agreed by the Health Board.
8. The service will be based on sessional payments, based on £150 per hour, per week for practices that have achieved the 5 As for Access status on 1st January 2012. Payments will commence from the start of the service.

9. Practices that decline the offer to participate, will not be eligible to apply within year at a later date. Eligibility will be considered the next financial year subject to funding and Health Board approval.

10. The service provision would be based on the number of additional GP/Nurse sessions / list size:

0-5000 = 1 hour

5001-10000 = 2 hours

10001-15000 = 3 hours

15001-20000 = 4 hours

This would then provide the total number of additional sessions the practice would need to provide outside core hours. Each session would be a minimum of 30 minutes and must include GP appointments.

Example

Practice X has 8862 registered patients.

This equates to 2 hours additional clinical time.

This could be provided by appointments available between:

GPs/Nurse = 30 minute pm session between 6.30pm and 7.00pm, 2 evenings a week

GPs/Nurse = 30 minute am sessions between 7.30am – 8.00am and 30 minute pm sessions between 6.30pm and 7.00pm

1 GP = 1 hour block am session 7.00am – 8.00am and 1 hour block pm session 6.30pm – 7.30pm

11. It is expected that the minimum number of appointments offered in any given period should be no less than:

- 5 appointments in 1 hour
- 9 appointments in 2 hours

12. Practices will be requested to provide a minimum of 50% additional access in the evening, unless otherwise agreed by ABHB.

13. Routine appointments should be a minimum of 10 minutes.

14. Approval for this LES will be agreed by the ABHB Access Group.

15. Payment for extended opening will be £150 per hour, per week. These sums will only be payable to practices that maintain their existing agreed contracted service when carrying out the enhanced service and maintain the 5 As for Access.

16. The Annual Review process will determine the level of service commissioned in the next financial year.

17. The Health Board reserves the right to withdraw the service if patient uptake is minimal. Standard 3 months notice period will be issued in such cases.

18. Payment will be made on a quarterly basis.

Audit

17. Practices will be required to submit a quarterly audit report to the Health Board (pro forma attached or computer analysis)

END

Application Service List
Claim Form
Quarterly Audit Report



Extended Hours LES Monthly Audit Report

Name of Practice _____

Month	
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Total Number of available appointments in month:

GP _____

Nurse _____

Number of utilised appointments in month _____

Number of DNAs in month _____

Number of patients seen in month _____

Number of double appointments _____

Signed

Dated

Please complete and return to Locality Office

